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(Confidential)

Elder Robert J. Wieland
Banning S. D. A. Church
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My dear Brother Wieland,

In your letter, several weeks ago, you asked the basis of one of my statements. Here is an example: When you met with the small group (including Brother Pierson) in Takoma Park, some time back, you apparently came very close to making a fundamental decision that would have changed your whole life--and consequently your relationship toward your brethren and the Church.

But the next morning you reverted completely to your old adamant position from which, for years, you have never budged. You seem fixed in your viewpoint, wedded to your position. I fear nothing will move or change you--if you persist. You seem completely complacent and convinced that your brethren are wrong, and you--in solitary contrast--are right. It is a place and position of peril.

I cannot tell you how deeply your brethren were disappointed over your reversion. You are seemingly devoting your main energies to defending, re-stating and insisting upon your old position, that none of the several groups who have heard you and read your statements, past and present, believe to be sound.

You evidently feel that you are more competent than they all to evaluate, that your position is wholly right, and all the rest regrettably wrong. Like Elijah of old, you alone are left in fidelity to principle as you see it--the 7000 having all flouted God's desire and expectation. The parallel is not far fetched.

Brother Wieland, I feel constrained to forewarn you that you are in a most perilous situation. This has been going on for years. But this attitude will not, I am persuaded, continue indefinitely. Either you will come into acceptable harmony with your brethren, or you will drift out--and perhaps begin to oppose us, as all others have done who have traveled the independent "I-only" path.

I can name scores, through the years, who have thus left us and made shipwreck. And what a tragedy! One can come to the place when he cannot evaluate evidence that contradicts his own thesis. What would Ellen White say to you personally were she living today?

But her counsels on adamant independence are with us still, clear and multiple.

You are not happy, my Brother. It shows in your face, in your eyes, your demeanor, your reserve. Others see it, and remark with sorrow concerning it. You feel hurt, estranged, isolated, apart. I fear a crisis will come. And I beg of you to reconsider, and join your many talents in pulling together with your brethren--not in persistent pulling off alone and apart.

Recognize that you could be wrong. Find the joy that the rest of us have in positive, constructive, joyous endeavor, working in unison with your brethren.

Others do have a conscience and loyalty, and Brother Wieland, competence in research and fidelity to the Faith and the Spirit of Prophecy. You are not the only one with spiritual eyesight. Don't, I appeal to you, continue to ostracize and isolate yourself. There is joy and satisfaction in the unity of the Faith--in constructive contribution and service. Why don't you make a real venture, and try it for once? You would never regret it.

What has your way of life and teaching done to bring a great spiritual revival, and advance, where you have labored? Demonstrate what the Holy Spirit can do through you.

You would never regret the step I have urged. Life would be vastly different thenceforth. I sincerely believe and mean this.

Most earnestly,


L. E. Froom

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