

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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CORRECTION

ON JULY 30, I SENT OUT A SPECIAL PGR REPORT, "A NOTICE AND APOLOGY."

AT THE TIME, SEVERAL MINISTERS HAD COME TO ME CLAIMING TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE MUSIC WAS CONTINUALLY PLAYED AT THE SEP CAMP AT ORR, MINNESOTA.

THE NEXT MORNING, JULY 31, I FLEW UP TO ORR. FOUR MINISTERS AT CAMP TOOK THE OPPOSITE VIEW, AND BACKED UP THE SEP PROGRAM AT ORR COMPLETELY, FEELING GREAT INJUSTICE HAD BEEN DONE. I HAD ALL THE RECORDS AND TAPES OF MUSIC AT ORR BOXED AND FLEW BACK TO PASADENA, CANCELLING OUT MY PLANNED TRIP TO CONTINUE FROM ORR TO THE CAMPS AT LOCH LOMOND AND STRASBOURG, FRANCE. I AUDITIONED THE MUSIC.

THE BOTTOM LINE IS THIS: THERE ARE MANY CONFLICTING IDEAS AS TO WHAT IS GOOD OR BAD MUSIC. THERE ARE MANY IDEAS ABOUT ROCK MUSIC. THERE ARE MANY SHADES OF SO-CALLED ROCK, FROM VIRTUALLY MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD POPULAR MUSIC TO HARD ROCK AND ACID ROCK. VIRTUALLY ALL "TOP 40" MUSIC OF THE WORLD RUNS THIS GAMUT.

GOD HAS NEVER REVEALED TO US SPECIFICALLY WHERE TO DRAW THE LINE, OR WHAT IS "GOOD MUSIC" IN GOD'S MIND. BUT JESUS SAID, "BY THEIR FRUITS YOU SHALL KNOW." MUSIC BEARS FRUITS. IT IS A CAUSE OF RESULTS IN THE MANNER OF EMOTIONAL OR OTHER FEELINGS, MOODS, ETC. WITHIN HEARERS' MINDS.

IF YOU ASK ME HOW FAR I COULD DRIVE A CAR TO THE VERY BRINK OF A PRECIPICE WITHOUT FALLING OFF, I WOULD SAY I WANT TO KEEP VERY SAFELY AWAY FROM THE BRINK. IT'S LIKE ASKING, HOW CLOSE TO SATAN'S WAY CAN WE GO AND STILL GET INTO GOD'S KINGDOM? HOW FAR MAY WE COMPROMISE WITH SATAN? THE CHURCH IS "CALLED OUT" FROM SATAN'S WORLD ALTOGETHER.

MANY MINISTERS MIGHT EVEN LIKE THE MUSIC PLAYED AT ORR, ALTHOUGH MANY HEATEDLY DENOUNCED IT.

GOD'S CHURCH CANNOT DETERMINE HOW MUCH OF SATAN'S KIND OF MUSIC IS ACCEPTABLE. AS GOD'S MINISTER HE LEADS ME TO STEER COMPLETELY AWAY FROM THAT GROUND WHICH IS THE "GRAY AREA." LET'S SEE HOW CLOSE WE CAN GET TO GOD, AND HOW FAR AWAY FROM SATAN AND HIS WORLD. I HAVE HAD TO REJECT TOTALLY ALL THE MUSIC THAT HAD ACCUMULATED THROUGH THE YEARS AT ORR. I WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SELECTING MUSIC THAT IS GOOD POPULAR MUSIC. MELODIC, TUNEFUL, ENJOYABLE, UPLIFTING. THE "MOD" ELECTRONIC BEAT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE. SOME SAY, "THE KIDS WON'T LIKE IT." KEVIN DEAN AGREES WITH ME THAT, WITH PROPER INSTRUCTION, INCOMING CAMPERS WILL LEARN A BETTER KIND OF MUSIC, AS WELL AS A BETTER KIND OF "FUN" THAN DRUGS, ALCOHOL, SMOKING, PREMARITAL SEX, AND OTHER THINGS THEY HAVE "ENJOYED"--OR SUPPOSED THEY DID. I WILL SELECT THE MUSIC FROM HERE ON. BLAME ME, NOT MR. DEAN.

KEVIN DEAN IS JUST AS ANXIOUS AS I TO CORRECT ANY OTHER SUPPOSED FAULTS AT CAMP.

I AM CANCELLING OUT COMPLETELY WHAT WAS REPORTED IN THE PGR SPECIAL OF JULY 30. A LITTLE SPARK OR TWO HAS NOT BEEN ALLOWED TO IGNITE A BIG FIRE. COOPERATION AND TEAMWORK WITHIN GOD'S CHURCH CONTINUES SOLIDLY ON.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stanley H. Armstrong". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font with a long horizontal line extending to the left and another extending to the right.