

July 21, 2005

The Elders  
Church of Christ  
501 Schertz Parkway  
Schertz, Texas 78154

Dear Ken and Gary:

With deep and sincere regret, I am writing to inform you at the earliest possible date of my decision to withdraw from participating in the Third Annual Schertz Lectures, scheduled for November 13–17. In light of the recent (yesterday) *GOSPEL JOURNAL* Board's decision regarding my editorship of *THE GOSPEL JOURNAL*, and because of the close relationship between the lectureship and *THE GOSPEL JOURNAL* (via the lectureship book), I believe my decision to “bow out” will be best for all concerned. I surely will not be missed very much because my participation in previous years has been minimal at most.

Had the aforementioned unfortunate developments not even occurred, I would nevertheless have had difficulty speaking on the lectureship as long as brother Crowley was still the preacher at Schertz. I have no personal problems whatsoever with brother Crowley. He is congenial and likable, and he obviously possesses considerable ability. However, I have been willing to participate in the lectureship with him as a speaker/writer in previous years **only** in order to give you brethren time to deal with a man who has caused division in a sister congregation, impenitently slandered a faithful preacher as a “false teacher,” and openly advocated his false doctrine in a lectureship. I was confident that you brethren would face and appropriately deal with these problems surrounding brother Crowley. It seems evident, however, after such a long time, that his doctrine and behavior are not of sufficient concern for any action on your part. I fully recognize the autonomy of every congregation, and my decision is in no way an attempt to influence what you choose to do or choose not to do. I simply must make this decision for the sake of my own conscience.

Cordially, in Christ,

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