

STATEMENT READ AT BEGINNING OF JULY 20, 2005, TGJ BOARD MEETING

[**Note:** Michael Hatcher, secretary of TGJ Board, read the following statement at the beginning of the meeting on July 20, 2005, in which Dub McClish and Dave Watson “resigned” under duress as editor and associate editor of *TGJ*, respectively. The statement was addressed to McClish and Watson.]

The board deeply appreciates each of you and the time, effort, and interest in the paper which you have demonstrated. The recent events that have occurred as a result of the correspondence relating to Bert Thompson and the two email messages from Dave Watson have created a situation which has given the board the impression that the continued existence of *The Gospel Journal* is in jeopardy. **The board has thoroughly discussed the situation and has unanimously determined that a change in the editorial staff may be necessary** (emph. supplied).

Before making a final decision, we would like to hear any comments that either of you desires to make. It is not our intention to turn the meeting into a question and answer session. After the board has heard your comments, we will meet in a closed session and as soon as possible return and let you know our decision. If you would like to take a few minutes to consolidate your thoughts, please let us know at this time before we proceed. I will be the only spokesman for the board during this portion of the meeting.