

November 30, 2020

Dear Elders of BCPRC,

Men, please know and realize that the path that we have taken affords no possibility of peace for us individually or as a church. We have been unwilling to deal with the Word of God honestly. We have chosen to walk in lies. As a consequence, we pile sin upon sin. The chastisement for that is that when we open the word of God, it comes as a rebuke and as a chastening.

Men, the way forward is actually to go back. We must deal with the counsellors from the congregation (those who actually know this congregation) who have brought their concerns in letters and protests. Let us examine our decisions and make sure that we have made righteous judgments. Let us deal with the decision to bring in the church visitors and make sure that that was a righteous decision. Then let us examine the sermon in the light of those decisions that came before, but above all on the word of God.

All this before we proceed with the most critical and dangerous decision of all, to suspend our pastor from his office.

This shows the way forward for us, the blessed fruit of operating in our office according to the word of God, repenting, and making righteous judgments ("If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" 2 Chron. 7:14). Along with this comes forgiveness, peace, and rest in the congregation. The fruit of not fighting God but resting safely in his arms will bring peace and unity in the truth in this congregation.

Yours in Christ,

Elder Van Baren

Elder Dewey Engelsma