
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>GENERAL ASSEMBLY</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>2024 ASSEMBLY</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>SPIRITUAL AWAKENING OF THE</u> <u>BRETHREN AND MINISTRY</u></p>	<p>31/March/2024</p>  <p>Circular nº 187/2024</p>
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Dear brethren,

The peace of God.

There is a great concern about the future of the work of God, given the spiritual conditions that we live in and the trends that are shaping people's lives. Modern life is taking them ever farther from God, despite constantly talking about Him. Although they may speak honorably of God, their hearts are far from Him. They are more concerned about their earthly life than their need for consecration for the salvation of their souls.

Because of the challenges and expectations of the people today, the ministry often feels the need to preach words of consolation, joy and hope for tangible things instead of counseling them on the spiritual realities of the Gospel of Christ.

In ministering the Word, we are living at a difficult time; on one hand we need to console people who are in affliction, and on the other hand, we must teach them the full knowledge of the true grace of the Son of God.

Consider what Solomon concluded regarding the Word:

"The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth. The words of the wise are as goads, and as nails fastened by the masters of assemblies, which are given from one shepherd." (Ecclesiastes 12:10-11)

In fact, we share the consolation and joy of the people. But surely, if we are guided by the Spirit of God, we can fulfill our duty before God and the people with wisdom and intelligence.



When King Hezekiah sent messengers to invite the people to return to the Lord, many mocked and ridiculed them, not believing what they announced. This was Hezekiah's message:

"...Ye children of Israel, turn again unto the Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and he will return to the remnant of you, that are escaped out of the hand of the kings of Assyria. And be not ye like your fathers, and like your brethren, which trespassed against the Lord God of their fathers, who therefore gave them up to desolation, as ye see." (2 Chronicles 30:6-7)

The corruption of Christian values is cause for great concern. The lack of a spiritual foundation leads to marital infidelity and intolerance, culminating in domestic abuse such as verbal, moral and even physical aggression between spouses, parents against children, and children against parents. This can lead to serious consequences such as immoralities, lust, virtual sins, and vices of all kinds including gambling.

In today's world, people are so occupied with vanities, entertainments and distractions that they neglect congregating and nourishing their souls. The lack of spirituality and vigilance makes it easier for them to gradually assimilate customs prevalent in the world today.

We fear that the same spiritual falling away that occurred in past centuries will repeat itself in our time. Soon after the first outpouring of the Holy Spirit, there was a great spiritual battle in the church. New leaders rose up who set aside the simplicity of the grace in exchange for a corrupted gospel. False apostles

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and prophets preached heresies, attracting the people to themselves, turning them away from the true Gospel and extinguishing the Holy Spirit. Soon the church was divided. It was during this time, toward the end of his life, that the apostle John in his third epistle lamented that Diotrephes didn't receive them and wanted preeminence over them.

The remnant that remained faithful suffered persecutions, arrests and martyrdoms. Paul was disappointed that the Galatians had abandoned the true Gospel of Christ for a distorted gospel that was being taught with mistaken interpretations.

Therefore the church continued, under persecution that inflicted great suffering and death on the faithful.

Many centuries have passed, and the church has not succumbed, but has remained firm in the faith and grace of the Lord, facing opposition of what is falsely called science, as the Apostle Paul predicted.

The simplicity of the Gospel of Christ can gradually be lost due to the ambitions of men. Some apply themselves to theological knowledge for financial gain; others seek worldly glory to satisfy their vanity. In many places there are disputes driven by the desire to dominate.

There are also those who promote themselves through their charisma and pleasing manner, but don't teach the people to abstain from doing what displeases God. Those who behave this way are separating themselves from God and undermine the real work of Christ.

Remember what is written:

"Woe to thee, O land, whose king is a child, and whose princes eat in the morning. Blessed are you, O land, whose king is the son of the nobles, and whose princes eat in season, to regain their strength, and not for drunkenness." (Ecclesiastes 10:16, 17)

Those who seek to understand the times we live in, according to the Word of God, will see that today, just as in the past, we see the gifts of the Holy Spirit on those who seek God in sincerity. We are living in a time of great manifestation of the power of God. We are witnesses of marvelous spiritual works and miracles in our midst.

To our God, through Jesus Christ, be all glory, praise, and honor forever!

Your Brothers in Christ,

Council of Senior Elders