

FROM:  
DEL RIO, TEXAS CHRISTADELPHIAN ECCLESIA

TO:  
CHRISTADELPHIAN NASU STEERING COMMITTEE

Dear Committee Members:

It is with much sadness that we received the package for the voting on the acceptance or rejection of the basis of fellowship arrived at by your committee; a strictly self appointed committee carrying no authorization from the Unamended community to work toward unity between the two main groups of Christadelphians who have been divided for over 100 years. This division was made because there were important differences in basic doctrines which differences have not changed since the time of the division but in fact have worsened with extreme teaching on both sides.

Your suggested basis of fellowship has not confronted these differences to any great degree and consequently no resemblance to unity can be reached using your suggestions as a basis for fellowship. The Del Rio Ecclesia has made our view of your efforts plain to you from the start and we know that many other ecclesias and individual members have done likewise. You have failed from the start to consider our views and have continued to push on toward your goals seemingly without serious consideration toward the result of your actions. It is obvious that what you are attempting to do will further divide the Unamended ecclesias rather than unify them much less bring unity with any of the Amended. As long as the insistence to use the Amended Statement of Faith and its errors as the basis of interecclesial fellowship there is no unity involved no matter how thick a blanket is spread over it.

We choose not to give recognition to your committee by following the instructions given in your package. We in no way support the making of further division by voting on your efforts but choose to remain as we have always stood, fellowshiping strictly on the Birmingham Unamended Basis of Faith. Any of the Amended who would like to meet with us would be required to submit to a personal examination of their doctrines and possible immersion before fellowship would be extended to them. We feel that to believe the Amended Statement of Faith and the doctrines that have expanded from it since its compilation are not the Truth of the One Gospel and those believing these doctrines are in danger of not being true members of Christ's Body. We believe that this stand would be an extension of love toward that person or persons insuring that they do indeed understand the true doctrines taught in the One Gospel.

As mentioned before; we have made our position clear to you previously even to having our stand printed in the Christadelphian Advocate earlier. Please enter our Ecclesia into your count as unanimously opposed to your efforts. Not only do we oppose your actions but we cannot pray for your success in this effort. God does not concern himself over a division among men provided that division is the result of truth versus error and we firmly believe this to be the case between the Amended and Unamended. His desire is unity on the basis of the Truth which does not exist between these two bodies in spite of the common name of Christadelphian used by both.

We hope that you will report the true results of this call for votes no matter how it reflects on your efforts for "unity". Much of your correspondence including the last package ignores the opposing views although we know that there have been many directed toward you. You have implied a much more favorable attitude by the ecclesias than we know to be the truth of the matter and such misrepresentation is definitely sewing discord among the brethren. Many weaker members can be influenced in this way even though they would not normally approve of the NASU efforts.

We are enclosing our blue "ballot" unmarked attached to a copy of this Ecclesial stand on the matter. Please do not ignore our ecclesia in your count just because we refuse recognition of your committee. We know of several more ecclesias that are responding in this manner and to ignore these would greatly misrepresent the true views of the Unamended Body and greatly distort the true feelings of a large number of the membership in this matter.

The Del Rio, TX. Christadelphian Unamended Ecclesia

Charles T. Kelley, Sec.

Cc: To all Unamended Ecclesias and members in isolation listed in the 2004 Christadelphian Ecclesial Directory.