

January 20, 2005

Dear members of the NASU Steering Committee,

The brothers and sisters of the Greater Los Angeles Unamended Ecclesia wish to inform you that we reject the unity package and will continue to break bread on the basis of the Unamended Statement of Faith. We do not recognize the authority of the NASU and we feel that this effort will lead to further division rather than unity. The harmony and autonomy of the individual ecclesia are more spiritually important than any considerations of a larger body. The endeavor of taking a democratic process to create a larger unified body is worldly in nature. We unanimously refuse to be part of this process and we consider the request for voting statistics to be divisive.

We reject the NASU document for two reasons. The first is that the Birmingham Unamended Statement expresses precisely what we believe. The second is that we do not feel that the NASU document sufficiently addresses the divisions that have historically separated our two communities. We believe that the issues that divide us are substantive and that the unity proposal does not sufficiently represent Unamended tenets.

We do not believe that God will raise any enlightened rejecters prior to the re-establishment of his kingdom. We recognize that some Christadelphians believe that He will and we also recognize that God may raise any He chooses. We do not necessarily consider this point to be a matter of fellowship; but any reunion statement that we could accept must PLAINLY classify this question to be an "open" one as it was considered prior to the amendment. Going further, we do consider a barrier to fellowship the notion of those individuals raised outside of covenant relationship being at the same judgment seat as the saints.

We believe that mankind is born estranged from God due to a federal relationship to Adam. "By one man's disobedience many were made (constituted) sinners." Jesus, being born of a woman, and thereby sharing in this inheritance, was constituted a sinner in Adam. His death was therefore a just one and it was a necessary step for his own salvation. This core belief of ours is in opposition to the wording in the "Adam's Sentence" section of your statement.

The above two paragraphs express our understanding of the topics and the way that we will continue to teach them. We further believe that these beliefs are communal among the vast majority of Unamended Christadelphians and that this majority will also reject the proposal. Any reunion based on the NASU document would force us to hide our understanding behind tricky wording. Any fellowship in which these topics are controversial or too 'sticky' to discuss would be untenable. We ask that you count us among those rejecting the proposal and that you remove us from any phase 2 efforts.

The brothers and sisters of the Greater Los Angeles Unamended ecclesia.

CC. Unamended Christadelphian Ecclesias in North America