

Copy

To Saints meeting at Thornton Hough, Greenwich,
England:

Dear Brethren,

We think it needful to say to you that inasmuch as it was "commonly reported" (1 Cor V, 1) that false doctrine was maintained by one of your number, Mr. F. E. Raven; and again, that when this was brought home to you at a meeting by the difficulty met with by some of your number elsewhere (Beachill, May 23rd); and again in the letter from the gathering at Beachill June 8th, in answer to your letter of enquiry of May 30th, we judge that the responsibility was fully laid upon you to "enquire" (for thou shalt hear say.....then shalt thou enquire etc., Deut. XIII, 12-14) and so clear yourselves. 2nd Cor VII, 11.

Further, that having looked into the doctrine of Mr. F. E. Raven, and the questionable statements as to the Personality of Eternal life, we cannot but refuse them as unscriptural, and as dishonoring to the Person of our Lord.

The shocking and irreverent statements concerning our Lord's life and Person, which have come to light during the time in which these doctrines have been promulgated, we judge to be the fruit of said doctrines, specially of the one—that Christ did not manifest Eternal life to the world, and though we have heard that many of these statements have been judged (and we are thankful for it) we have heard nothing whatever of this not having been judged.

The correspondence between Mr. Raven and Mr. Barker, concerning the sentence in the conclusion letter, now that said letter has come to light, presents Mr. Raven to us, in a light in which

we cannot consider him clear from the charge of guile and prevarication.

In the strict letter of what Mr. Raven says, it is true, he did not use the exact "words" and the woman of Samaria said to our Lord "I have no husband" which in the strict letter was true, but she said it to conceal the truth. Can more be said of Mr. Raven's answers to Mr. Barker?

Now we have not been able to find in your letter to Bechill of May 20th, nor yet in that of June 23rd what would count as that there was on your part the disposition to "enquire"; &c; and to clear yourselves, and so we consider it incumbent upon us as gathered to the name of the Lord Jesus, to inform you that at an Assembly meeting held on Oct. 27th, it was the unanimous judgment that we can no longer consider you to be an Assembly in which we can have confidence, as maintaining what is due to the name of Him who is holy, Him who is true; and that consequently we cannot hereafter command to you or receive from you, as from an Assembly on divine ground.

That a real judgment of the will in the exercise of conscience before God may be wrought is our earnest desire.

On behalf of the Assembly gathered to the name of the Lord Jesus Christ at Ottawa, Canada.

[Signed] J. Tracy

W. A. Foster

Alex. McEwan

W. Geo. Henry

L. Van Coughnet

Andrew Fallett

Matthew Orme