

Regarding 19 page letter written by Rev. Bill Gothard
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Responses of Tony Guhr (TG), written December 5-6, 2008 after receiving a phone call from Gary Smalley (GS) and Rev. Bill Gothard (BG) on December 1, 2008.

The purpose of the phone call was stated by GS, BG wanted to pursue reconciliation with me and wanted to know what it would take to clear up any offenses I felt. They called with no appointment and I had people in my small office, but they insisted this was the best time to call. GS was in BG's personal office in Oak brook. I responded to their question stating there were several offenses. They interrupted and said, "Let's start with one." I said Okay, one very damaging action by BG was his wide distribution of a 19 page letter in 1981. BG spoke up immediately and stated, "I have never written such a lengthy letter in my life." I responded by stating that indeed he had and recited to him the date, confirmed his personal signature, that it was on Corporate IBYC letterhead. BG then asked "What was so offensive about the letter?" A bit reluctant because of people in my office, as carefully as I could, stated that his long letter made 26 claims that I was an "agent of Satan". BG interrupted against, "I would never write such a letter!"

BG then asked if I would fax over to him a copy of the letter. I declined stating I would rather mail it to GS so that he had a copy of it as well and that he could forward it to BG to aid his recall of the letter. Once GS and BG had received a copy of the letter, they both conference called back to me. BG declared that the letter was in fact true in every point and that he would be able to add many more charges and evidence to the already lengthy document! So much for this first step of his attempted reconciliation. GS had previously confirmed to me that the five sections of the letter that quoted GS were in fact false and exaggerated and twisted by BG to establish his accusations. To say the least, this is where the discussion ended with these men leaving the conference call.

Introduction:

A few introductory notes may be helpful for attempting to understand this most lengthy letter and its 26 arguments as to why BG believes that TG is an "agent" that works for Satan.

When the resignation of BG was accepted by the IBYC ministry's Board of Directors on July 6, 1980, a number of very public events were taking place.

1. 15 of BG's top ministry staff closest to him in work and living quarters (all believers in Christ Jesus), were dismissed from the ministry for their discovered ongoing immorality.
2. BG was discovered by his Board of Directors to have detailed knowledge of continuing immorality by the staff closest to him, details he understood over a 7 year period but had failed to report this information to them, his authority under God, and his "umbrella of protection."
3. BG was terminated as President of the ministry and suspended by the Board of Directors from teaching the seminar after learning of BG's involvement and knowledge of immorality and his deception of his "Chain of Command," his Board of Directors.
4. 50 of approximately 75 staff resigned over disgust with BG's behavior and his exhibiting no adherence to his own Basic Seminar teachings and unwillingness to follow any Scriptural teachings that instruct us in how to deal with such sin, failure, and rejection of clear qualifications required for teachers and ministers.

5. BG's Board of Directors began a series of meetings to discuss and question the very content of the teachings of BG to the Christian public.
6. 100s of public and Christian newspapers, magazines, and radio and TV outlets began to publish their findings of this scandal in their nationwide outlets.
7. Two lawsuits (I believe at values of \$10,000,000) were filed against the ministry and BG, one by a group of Area Committee Chairmen; another by staff in sympathy with the women involved spiritual abuse and sexual abuse by their chain of command in the ministry organization.

Responses by BG to the Disruption of his Ministry

To attempt to regain his own control of his ministry organization, BG did four things that became very public.

1. To answer the nationwide news disclosures of immorality at the Institute in Basic Youth Conflicts, and to distract public attention away from himself, BG wrote a letter for distribution (I believe to several million alumni of the Seminar) confessing the sexual sins of his brother! BG failed to include in this letter his own sins of personal involvement and knowledge of the details of the immorality ongoing, even though his own sins and failures were the actual cause of the ministry disruption.
2. To attempt to control the great number of staff leaving employment at the ministry and what they might disclose to others or legally exercise against the ministry organization, BG, using extortion, wrote or had written at his direction \$100,000s of unauthorized checks to buy the silence of these good people, requiring them to sign non-disclosure legal documents barring them from any further complaints, law suits or other public disclosure of facts against the ministry.
3. To regain control of his Board of Directors (that had terminated BG from President of the ministry) and to remove undesirable staff that were unable to support BG's immediate continuation of his ministry in such a failed spiritual condition, BG brought in an attorney, John McLario, as the new IBYC president and chairman of the Board or Directors.
4. To attempt to discredit the discovery of this gross immorality and the details TG had learned that demonstrated BG's own involvement in this immorality and culpability in the continuation of this immorality, BG wrote and widely distributed this 19 page letter accusing TG of being an agent of Satan. Additionally, BG sent two men to Kansas by jet aircraft to accuse TG with various false charges in secret meetings he arranged with TG's home church, all in complete violation of and rejection of the teachings of Jesus Christ in Matthew 18:15-35, in complete abandonment of BG's own teachings on this topic.

Assumptions:

BG makes a number of assumptions in this letter and they provide the basis for most of these 26 sections of his letter. Each assumption by BG is quite false and can be seen as false in the responses and evidences presented for each of the 26 sections listed below.

- Assumption 1: That TG has some secret agency or alliance with Satan.
- Assumption 2: That TG has no respect for authority or trust in God's sovereignty to install and remove the authorities God puts in places of family, ministry, or government.

- Assumption 3: TG is ill motivated, evil, wicked and has no one's good or benefit in mind other than his own selfish ambitions.
- Assumption 4: TG's primary motivation during the entire 1970s and into 1980-81 was to somehow wrestle the IBYC ministry away from BG and take it as his own.
- Assumption 5: TG was unable to entrust the IBYC ministry and the outcome of its being blessed or judged by God to the work of its Board of Directors.
- Assumption 6: That careful efforts to confront evil, wickedness, lies, and deception in the lives of believers is unbiblical, disloyal, and ungodly.
- Assumption 7: That TG failed to follow the Scripture's instructions and requirements for dealing with sins, weaknesses, and faults in the lives of believers around him and disregarded all spiritual counsel and direction from God and from faithful ministers of God involved during this time.

Some Conclusions:

As you read the 19 page letter from BG and then compare them to the details of each of my responses below, you will likely ask the same questions I have asked. What would motivate BG to write such a letter and get so much so wrong? What are the underlying spiritual problems he is struggling with that need to be addressed?

The "facts" and fairly vague references to one story or another in the main are of incidents that pre-dated a number of communications BG and the Board of Directors initiated toward me including those listed below. These do raise the question as to how BG could entrust these activities and heavy responsibilities to someone he had so much evidence that showed he was actually an "agent of Satan"?

✓ During these years, BG had asked TG to emcee up to 20 Basic Youth Conflicts video Seminars each year. BG also asked TG to develop a comprehensive training course and begin training other men to emcee video seminars. See letter of gratitude from BG to TG for his "faithfulness...and fellowship" with specific reference to a completed project at the Northwoods Retreat Center (see January 15, 1979 letter attached to this Response).

✓ April 17, 1980, with a group of key advisors, BG asked me to work closely with him in continuing to identify all the existing immorality, propose solutions, and remain in the process until corrective measures had been put in place.

✓ 1980, Spring, BG asked me to call a Gothard Family meeting and coordinate the meeting so that his brother could acknowledge his sins to all of his family members before they heard from any others.

✓ BG asked me to travel to Dallas to deliver a package of materials to Dr. Charles Ryrie at his personal home and visit with him there.

✓ 1980, Spring, the Board of Directors asked me to meet with them on two occasions, once to brief them on all I knew about the immorality and cover up of key staff and directors. The second meeting was June 5, 1980 when they asked me to present to them all of the details in a forum in which the President of the ministry, BG was invited to respond to the details and their questions in any way he wanted without any limitation of time. This meeting lasted 12 hours which ended in their asking BG to resign from the ministry for his newly discovered disqualifications

confirmed with many witnesses during that meeting.

Once you have read the 19 page letter BG wrote and then mailed to a great number of people across the nation, and after you have reviewed and understood my responses to each section below, it would be proper to then consider some Observations and Conclusions that should be considered. I will put these comments at the end of the Responses to this letter.

For a good tree bringeth not forth corrupt fruit; neither doth a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. For every tree is known by his own fruit. For of thorns men do not gather figs, nor of a bramble bush gather the grapes. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh. Luke 6:43-45

My Responses

Following is a simple review and response to each of the claims made in this slanderous and libelous letter. The responses will follow the page numbers and sequential count of “Fact” used by BG.

Cover page to my folks (Sept. 14, 1981), written or mailed out 10 days after the original letter was mailed out to a large list of people across the country. This letter with its cover was mailed directly to the farm address of my dad.

BG blames my folks and puts a guilt trip on them for allowing their son to continue the activities summarized in the 26 “facts.” BG presumes they know of BG’s sins and know of their son’s “objectives.” My dad and stepmom had no knowledge of the sins of BG or his staff. My folks did become generally aware of these sins only as some of the damaged staff visited the farm for some R&R, comfort and encouragement after June of 1980. The ministry of my folks to them was rewarded with wonderful and detailed thank you notes written to my folks by these previous employees of BG.

This cover page ends with an announcement of success (as measured only by attendance numbers) as BG’s common but unbiblical argument to support his “righteous position” taken in the letter.

For BG to send this letter to my folks was out of order, malicious and shameful, to say the very least.

The 19 page letter seems to include hand written personal cover letters by BG sent to each recipient across the nation.

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BG’s conclusions about history, motivations, and coordinated efforts he credits to information from his discussion with Dr. Radmacher, and writes this accusatory letter about TG without calling or visiting with Gerald Wiebe directly himself. Additionally he fails to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ regarding dealing with offenses by your brother, especially of one which he “could cite...many fine qualities and accomplishments...and for whom he wants the best for...”

BG charges Gerald Wiebe (GW) and “the agent” with agreeing to cooperate. This never happened and is false. GW took every one of his actions on his own and without consulting me or gaining my approval.

BG charges GW with taking his actions after “thoroughly checking him out” (the agent), and “without checking the other side.” GW in truth visited with many of those damaged by the lies, deception and spiritual disobedience of BG, and came to his own conclusions about these matters. Anyone who knows GW knows that he would never take

one person's word for anything, and surely not mine! I visited with him only on a few occasions, discussing very little detail with him at all. GW also graduated from Wheaton College as did BG, lived in Wheaton for many years, had known very well over many years Dr. Hemwall, the ministry Chairman of the Board, was familiar with the IBYC organization and was simply concerned that problems in a ministry that represented Jesus Christ be cleanly dealt with.

BG claims this 19 page letter copied to many others is a "report," which it is not at all. His letter accuses me of being an "agent of Satan" based on 26 so called "facts" written on IBYC Corporation letterhead and signed by the President, the Chairman of the Board of IBYC, as well as Pastor Hovey of the LaGrange Bible Church. BG makes reference to these men in his attempt to bolster the idea they are independent and reliable third party sources for his own views when in reality these two men are not additional "authorities" overseeing the life and ministry of BG, but are two men who were fully compromised by their own full dereliction of duty to deal fully with the sins and spiritual disqualifications of BG, one being his personal pastor and the other the chairman of the Board of Directors of the ministry. BG nor the Chairman, nor Pastor Hovey ever met with me on these 26 charges, nor verified whether or not they were indeed factual, leaving them each a signatory to slander and libel.

BG immediately focuses his blame on me as "destroying what God has done and wants to do." In seven years of work and ministry at IBYC, BG never complimented me on any "fine qualities and accomplishments," except on two occasions. Interestingly enough, the second one came by way of a small note, dictated through his executive secretary that was on our team at a seminar location that I was emceeding. I believe this complimentary note came at this particular time immediately upon BG learning that I had interviewed several of the staff women and had learned of the ongoing immorality of his brother, the Vice President of the ministry and closest confidant of BG.

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BG is unable to hide the ludicrous attempt to "help you be more objective" by using a title of "agent" rather than my personal name. The entire language and content is inflammatory and libelous on the face of it, so the attempt fails, though it was obviously never intended to "be more objective."

There is no such title in the Scripture, "agent of the Holy Spirit." The believer is indwelt by the Holy Spirit and is instructed to walk by the Spirit of God, being controlled by Him. So the comparison is non-existent and increases focus on the intention and sensational position of BG claiming what he believes is a person working as "an agent of Satan" for over 7 years right inside of BG's very own ministry!

BG intends for "future readers" to receive and have this IBYC Corporation "document" which he has produced for wide dissemination with all the "authority" he can muster. His intention is clearly to cause great damage by this letter far into the future.

BG assumes the correctness and righteousness of each of his statements, referencing them as "facts". He expects the reader and future readers to agree with him, as always, with the "facts". BG intends for this "future" audience (that he circulated this letter to) to take or at least accept his position that I was indeed an "agent of Satan". Otherwise he would have chosen other terms than "facts" to invite honest inquiry and required confirmations of these treacherous claims in a Biblical process taught to us by Jesus Christ (Matthew 18:15-20). If he did want to invite all future readers to consider "a Biblical process", he would have chosen a term such as "in my opinion" or "my accusation" or "faults," "weaknesses," "observations," "evidences," or "arguments." It would certainly read differently, would it not? Rather he wanted all readers to join him in his judgmental position and condemnation of someone he chose to blame as his and now certainly God's new enemy.

FACT ONE:

There never was an interview by BG or any other, for a “staff position” as I finished Moody Bible Institute. If he had such an idea in mind, he did not communicate it when we did meet at the school. Did BG already believe I was an “agent” of Satan in 1970? Or was it already clear to him then that I was an “agent” of the Holy Spirit as I studied the Scriptures at Bible School and eagerly attended IBYC seminars bringing 100s of friends and neighbors?

Why did BG not disclose in this section that I took his advice, went home, came under the authority of my dad, and saw God restore a wonderful relationship with my dad and my extended family? Why would he leave this “fact” out? He knew the details of this wonderful experience in good detail. In the late 1970s, BG had even asked if we could write up the wonderful story of our family’s healing for one of his ministry periodicals. See attached letter. His very “FACT ONE” is actually and clearly false, deceptive and wantonly discards the telling of God’s wonderful work in this very account!

I did not make any inquiry about work with the IBYC ministry until contacting Gary Smalley at a Chicago seminar in about 1972-1973 when it was suggested there might be some work available in Denver where I lived and worked. BG and his team asked me to assist them in setting up an office in Denver (IBYC wanted their office placed in my home, to save them the expense I suppose of paying rent for an office, no rent was ever offered or paid!) and help the local committee promote the upcoming seminar. As Gary knows, IBYC failed to pay my wages for the first 3 months, without any complaint from me, though I was selling off personal assets to pay the rent and buy food while I worked full time for IBYC. During the 1973 Denver seminar, BG and his brother did interview me for further work and hired me to drive truck for IBYC and required me to move immediately to Chicago the very next week.

FACT TWO:

BG here begins a series of violations of “ministerial confidentiality” which continue throughout this letter. He acknowledges his agreement to “not use this information publicly” and then immediately violates the confidentiality, and with maliciousness on a nationwide basis! He presents the story as if no lessons were learned and as if no trust in God and respect for my dad had not developed during this time, which it all did wonderfully. This is not a fact at all but is rather a great distortion by BG of the redemption and glory of God’s good work in our lives as a family. And BG knew in great detail of the great healing of my family that had happened and which continued to develop by his own clear and direct reference of that fact in his January 15, 1979 letter attached to this Response. His accusations in this libelous letter are not based on facts but grow out of his own bitterness of personal moral failure, loss of ministry credentials, and a growing fear of losing his reputation and work if the public ever learned of his true spiritual condition.

FACT THREE:

BG continues his malicious violation of his “ministerial confidentiality.” And if that is not enough, he further violates his own teaching of “not giving a bad report” and purposefully poisons any relationships that should exist between Christians. Plus the story is false and twisted in his telling. The story he referenced did not have anything to do with a “practical Christian work assignment at Bible School.” It was simply a story of my own continued work during the summer period after graduation from the school, not subject to school authority or oversight, ministering the Gospel of Christ to gangs in the slums of Chicago as I loved to do. The school was opposed to the students ministering to “black people” that involved bringing any of them near or onto the campus

which was disallowed (BG's interpretation is that this would "not be God's will" to spend our summer period presenting the good news of the Gospel to children and youth). It was simply easier to minister to these people we loved by living in the community with them, which we were glad to do during the Summer period.

FACT FOUR:

BG is incorrect that I "continued working on his goal of getting on the Seminar staff." I did only occasionally communicate with Gary Smalley, a friend with whom I shared common acquaintances in Rockford, IL. I did see Gary once in a while as I continued to bring 100s of friends from Kansas to seminars in different locations, though mostly the Chicago area seminars.

BG did not "assume" anything about my spiritual life or experience in my obeying God's Word and learning the lessons God had for me. These ongoing experiences and blessings were known to Gary Smalley and were quite available to any inquiry BG wanted to make. Additionally both BG and his brother interviewed me carefully while they visited the first seminar ever held in Denver, which was the first project I had worked on for them as an employee. In Denver I had led a team of volunteers to promote the seminar and invite successfully nearly 10,000 persons to attend a 32 hour video conference, the first time a video conference had been attempted (rather than a live performance by BG). During this seminar, BG hired me to drive a truck for the ministry. During this large seminar event for which I ran the Denver area office for the IBYC ministry, they instructed me to also find time to study for and go pass a truck driver's test before the end of the week, which I did. I was also told to abruptly end my apartment lease, and make arrangements to move my belongings to Chicago, all which I did with God's help.

My careful coordination with each of my "authorities" during this Denver period should have been helpful to his considerations. BG and his staff seemed pleased and surprised as they cancelled 3 previous smaller venues that would no longer hold the 1000s of people we were pre-registering. After leasing the largest venue in the city (Denver Coliseum) they still had to close all further registrations weeks before the event. All that we invited to come were invited to come watch a video tape, pay \$55, and sit on steel chairs for 32 hours over a six day period.

FACT FIVE:

BG exhibits here a completely "unclear impression" colored severely by his judgmental makeup and nature. My roofing boss, the company owner, taught competitiveness, high volume and high quality work, enforced every day with every one of his employees. That is how he made his profit! Not knowing one thing about the roofing business, and making a number of mistakes on the first and second day of work, he threatened to fire me if I did not get it figured out and produce more volume while putting down perfect roof jobs! He fired all the rest. He and I loved each other and still do today! He hired my mom (whom I had moved from Chicago to Denver) to take care of his ailing and dying parents. We have always had a very close relationship. I learned much in this roofing job and from my roofing boss, to do as near perfect work as possible and honor God in all that you do, no matter what the cost or effort required.

My personal commitment was to work even harder and do as near perfect work as possible for the ministry of BG, which is what I did every day for seven wonderful years. It was my highest privilege to do so.

FACT SIX:

My job assignment was my fourth assignment (not my first), after my one year of working/running the Denver area office and first seminar there, and after my assignment of training to be a truck driver, and after flying to Los Angeles to assist the team in managing the Advanced Seminar at UCLA the week following the first Denver seminar.

My work with Gary Smalley was to carry out assignments he outlined to assist him in hiring, training, and operating 50 area offices around the United States and Canada. Some of my work was traveling to each of these offices and learning their needs and requests, which I simply reported back to Gary's office for his consideration. Many of these reports were in writing so they could be understood and reviewed for his decision and direction. This work was precisely the tasks of Gary's department and the assignments he gave for me to do. Understandably, the daily needs and questions of 50 offices did become overwhelming to Gary as well as us all from time to time. There were times both Gary and I do remember where new job assignments were not ready and there was down time which were a challenge to adjust to for a young and eager employee. Gary at times would invent busy work for me, which was his prerogative to do. I simply enjoyed the challenge of rushing them along to completion with nothing else on the docket to do. To assign a malicious or evil intent of an "agent of Satan" to this strong work ethic is way out of bounds, false, and destructive by its very nature. I have heard Gary very often recall this same story to others as a warm and gracious compliment as he introduces me to others. It reveals the clear difference of the heart between these two men.

At no time did I ever make any demands to BG or the Board of the IBYC ministry "to stop the ministry until all of the lists were worked on to my satisfaction." This is completely false, never happened, and all of the evidence and witnesses are to the contrary.

Subsequent to my first private meeting to confront the brother of BG about ongoing immorality among staff women, and after my first and after ongoing meetings with BG and his brother over another two weeks about their knowledge of and involvement in sin, immorality, and deception, a meeting was scheduled with additional men to be involved. On April 17, 1980, on a Thursday afternoon in Long Beach, California, BG himself, and his brother, along with a group of their ministry advisors, asked me if I would be willing to direct and coordinate 3 tasks:

1. To uncover and isolate all of the related problems going on in the ministry related to the widespread immorality of BG's closet staff and management.
2. To propose solutions to correct the various situations involved.
3. To remain involved in the process until all solutions and corrective programs were in place.

I reluctantly agreed, with concurrence of all the men in the meeting, only after reassurances that my employment would not be put at risk and that BG wanted and needed this important work to be done. Before these several witnesses (all still living and available as witnesses), BG was clear he wanted me to do this important work.

My visiting with the ministry staff soon revealed from their disclosures to me that 15 key management staff were involved in serious immorality, destructive perversion, financial irregularities, and purchases of movies which promoted violence against women and sexual immorality which were being viewed and used in ministry facilities. As I reported this information to BG on an ongoing basis, BG's primary instruction to me was to make sure the ministry's Board of Directors did not find out about this and that he would handle the information himself with his Board.

As I further learned that BG actually had detailed knowledge of much of this ongoing immorality (which he never disclosed to me) and had done nothing to bring ministry and healing to the staff women violated, I became most alarmed. As the facts unfolded, it became clear that while BG was hiding this dangerous and immoral situation inside of his organization, while he continued to send new, young girls to the North Woods Conference Center where they were exposed and violated sexually. When I learned that BG was secretly flying to different cities (flying commercial rather than his private jet) to meet with families of the violated staff women to attempt to arrange a marriage with one of them to his brother, I realized BG was working to hide again both his knowledge of sin and his ungodly efforts to cover it up from his own chain of command, the Board of Directors of the ministry.

When I finally telephoned one board member, Dr. Sam Schultz, to ask for his advice, he was most grateful for my courage to call. He was always supportive of my ongoing coordination with him and the Board as they finally became involved, although very late. I did cooperate with the IBYC ministry Board of Directors throughout their process of discovery and as they took on their responsibility for the decisions involved. Dr. Hemwall (Chairman of the Board) asked me to direct their first Board meeting regarding this most shameful situation as they met to review the first information that had been gathered and given to BG by me. The Board asked me to assist them during the July 5th, 1980 board meeting as they interviewed BG about their growing concerns, as well as the increasing complaints from staff and management. After this 12 hour Board meeting, the Board of Directors decided to ask BG to resign immediately. After BG resigned on July 6th in front of the entire gathered staff, I went down to the island on a small lake near the office, lay on the ground, and wept the rest of the day. Mine was sadness about sin and its horrible consequences.

BG, then and now, has often confused the concerns and demands of certain of his staff and Department managers as they grappled with what to do with their jobs and pressures during such a time of crises as they were observing. They had no leadership in BG (just resigned) and very little trust in those strangers being brought in to lecture them about being “loyal.” They had been taught by BG that when any minister of the Gospel (or any believer) sins so greatly and violates so deeply his trust with believers, and is rebellious in his correction, he is to be loved and cared for, but not quickly given responsibilities of trust until his character had been demonstrated and spiritual life tested once again (I Tim. 5:22). I do not know of any staff then during those days that hated BG. They did pity him and cared for him very much. They simply were not willing to be dishonest with the audiences of tens of thousands who were coming to learn of how to maintain a clear conscience, how to repair broken family relationships, how to say no to sin and pursue purity in their lives, how to better know and walk with God in peace and unity of the Spirit of God. They did support the development of integrity in this very public ministry.

FACT SEVEN:

BG here violates Matthew 18:15-18 to the very maximum possible. BG taught this doctrine of Christ often and strongly and here violates it in as public way as possible! If there was an offense he knew of over the years, why would he not easily bring that concern to me to deal with quickly and completely? Why spread gossip? Why accuse me in public about a matter he has not checked out by talking to both parties? He violates his own detailed teachings on Matthew 18:15-22 on every point! How could BG call this a “FACT”? This is a perfect example of gossip (which gossip separates very friends, Prov. 16:28) and requires every reader in the future to contact BG to get a name and phone number for someone they do not know to talk about something that is not defined! (E.g. attitudes and actions, good or evil? We do not know and it is not stated.) It does not come close to a “fact” or even close to anything helpful for Christian living or pursuing unity of the Spirit in Christ’s church. Of course, this entire letter and its wide distribution by BG without following the clear teachings of Christ is the fullest rejection of Christ and rejection of all of Christ’s teachings to His children. I would be delighted for anyone to call all fifty families across the nation with whom I stayed often over the years, forming the closest of fellowship in our shared service to Christ.

If you were able to find “one of these families” who has some complaint and had failed to call me directly about it and rather found a ready listen to gossip in BG (it seems from his testimony), I would be always glad for you to encourage them yet to call me directly!

FACT EIGHT:

BG knows that Gary Smalley (my boss for five years at the IBYC ministry) resigned from the ministry in 1977 over BG’s rejection of Gary’s attempt to get BG and his Board of Directors to deal with what Gary knew of the ongoing immorality on staff.

When Gary left, I was assigned to BG’s brother who did not have much work for me to do other than to dig deep holes in completely rocky soil to build a fence enclosure for a collection of purchased elk and to mow the expansive lawns on the properties both in Chicago and up North in Michigan. Being eager to be working each day, I did indeed ask for more to do that might be helpful. Joe Coney, a good friend for life, was surely challenged to find enough work for me to stay busy. During both of these periods, I was emceeding 20 or so video seminars each year around the country, developing more overhead kits for other emcees, and training a half dozen men to take on the video seminar emcee job. I also spent some time visiting over 50 state and federal prisons across the country and had begun training another man (Melvin Upchurch) to take my place in emceeding prison ministry seminars around the country. Most of this work was done by assignment with fairly minimal oversight or communication from any of my “bosses” during these times. I actually felt like I needed a closer oversight from each “boss” though they were plenty busy with their own jobs and activities. BG seemingly interprets all desire to be diligent, to be busy at the work of the ministry, always looking for additional opportunities to serve, to be seen as something evil and Satanic and clearly not acceptable in God’s kingdom work!

FACT NINE:

This section assumes that “the staff problems had come to light” without ever acknowledging that BG was himself one among several persons who did not want these problems to come to the light, and he came only reluctantly. Very soon BG returned to his old ways of manipulation of his Board of Directors and his control of the ministry, even when he was clearly and publicly disqualified, resignation from the ministry accepted, and instructed by his Board of Directors to seek personal help and counsel for his own life. BG makes reference that the “staff problems” did come to light but throughout the entire letter fails to explain how they came to light. By blaming me and assigning to me Satanic motivations, he works to distract any readers from the primary problem that the “staff problems” were caused by BG himself!

This representation of a “fact” by BG is as false as it can possibly be. My great friendships with all of the staff over many years and my concern for their personal lives and family needs was natural and spiritually healthy, with many of the staff being a great source of encouragement to me as well. The staff were all very tight knit, great friends, and trusted each other in so many ways. It was one of the closest fellowships of believers that any one of us ever had known or experienced and most of us miss it very much to this very day! One did not need any authority or position to take time to simply listen to these good friends, encourage them personally, and review the Scriptures with any of these wonderful staff.

BG’s direct knowledge of and involvement in the immorality and cover up of these continuing sinful activities in the ministry became known to me by simply spending time with my good staff friends. Some staff friends could not hide any longer their involvement in the gross ongoing immorality and were looking for anyone who would be willing to help them out of the mess. Several knew that their disclosure of details of immorality to BG in earlier

years had not produced any help or freedom or spiritual direction. Most expressed deep gratefulness to me then and years later for my helping them out of this debauchery and slavery to sin.

As stated earlier, on April 17, 1980 in Long Beach, California, BG, his brother and several other ministry directors asked me to do everything I could to minister to these most serious needs and the pending crises that was taking place inside the ministry. I did not “assume a position of authority” as here misrepresented by BG. It was a heavy “responsibility” BG himself assigned to me in the company of many still living witnesses/parties to this meeting. I was at the age of 30 years at the time.

Additionally, in contradiction to this “fact,” BG himself called me into a meeting to ask me to “call all of his family members into a meeting” where he and his brother could confess his brother’s immorality to his parents, sisters and brothers in law. I asked BG why he would ask me to arrange and direct such a meeting with members of his very own family? BG answered “that his family members would not come to a family meeting if he called for it.” It was clear that he realized he had enough conflicts with and disrespect from his own immediate family that they would not likely come to any such meeting if he did the inviting. While being plenty surprised by this unusual request, I was willing to help him and his family. I did call each member and they did come. BG additionally asked me to direct this family meeting which I agreed to do. It was of course a very sad and emotional time with this now very shamed and distraught family over the sins of their own family members.

It was my impression then and now that if BG actually believed I was an agent of Satan, he would not have asked me to handle very sensitive family and personal situations and the private information involved. I do believe he developed these false accusations soon after his termination by his Board of Directors, primarily as a way he needed to discredit me as a source of information about his very own personal involvement and his only possible distraction for those Christian leaders and wide public interested to learn about this chapter of BG’s ugly and destructive history of sin.

FACT TEN:

BG here simply restates the misrepresentation of FACT NINE.

BG is correct that there were some staff involved with immorality that were indeed reluctant to admit to it, confess it as wrong, and allow help to be brought to them. This included BG first and foremost. It also included his brother and several of the other 15 men and women involved in continuing gross immorality. For BG to not hear complaints about me from a certain few of these men and women staff being caught in their immorality (previously operating in secret) would have been more surprising than not! What most staff did not know at this time was BG’s own violations of morality with young staff girls, and they did not know of his knowledge over 7 years of the continuing immorality of his brother and his cover up of it, directly putting at risk and leading to the sexual violation of additional young staff girls being scheduled to move in with the brother at the Northwoods Conference Center and publishing facility.

BG is true in his statement that certain staff became quite unsettled and irritated toward me during this intense time of discovery and confrontation of so many key staff involved in this immorality. Once the wider staff learned of the reality of the situation and BG’s own involvement in it all, most of them became quite supportive of me and the need for dealing cleanly and completely with the sins and our carefully caring for those caught up in sin. Most of these are good and close friends yet today. These same many friends are not currently in Christian fellowship with BG, sad to say. It is true indeed, this is his “house” he divided by his own hands.

FACT ELEVEN:

These statements by BG represent much of his imaginations rather than any facts, which will become obvious to any who consider these points:

I would have had no authority to invite random speakers to speak to the IBYC ministry staff. I might have occasionally recommended several different speakers but these invitations would have been controlled by BG himself or Department managers assigned to “chapel” duties. I had met Dr. Bob Wood only once briefly during a seminar in the region of Bob Jones University where he was a board member or professor (I believe) and did not know him personally at all. Dr. Bob Wood might have been offended, along with Dr. Bob Jones, during a tour they both led through the Bob Jones University Art Museum which included a very large exhibit hall where they keep an expensive collection of genuine false gods from the condemned religions of the Scripture. During this tour, I did ask these two men what their view was of the Scriptures where God commanded the Israelites to not collect false gods and to rather break them into small pieces. (See Exodus 23:24, Deuteronomy 7:5; 12:3). Being men of the Word and representing Bob Jones University, they were uncharacteristically quiet and completely unresponsive to this sincere and honest question. They abruptly ended the tour without saying Good Bye!

These men might have been offended when their Bob Jones University board member, John McLario, the famous Christian attorney, quickly resigned from the IBYC positions of President and Chairman of the Board (in the days after BG resigned per the request of the Board of Directors, July, August 1980). They might have learned that he, John McLario, was likely involved himself in ongoing immorality and prostitution in a Florida motel on a regular monthly schedule. When I asked Mr. McLario about this story directly and privately, and gave him every opportunity to deny it, Mr. McLario hung up the phone, would not answer the question, and abruptly resigned from his posts at IBYC several days later.

After May 28, 1980, Dr. Hemwall met several times with myself asking me to assist him and the Board in examining all of the facts and issues involved in their scheduled July 5 Board meeting where they would be interviewing Bill Gothard in considerable detail. These facts are well known by all and directly contrast BG’s statements in this section. While I was quite willing to acknowledge proper authority and those who were taking on responsibilities for the ministry, the current president (BG) was clearly compromised by his inability to lead a staff which were increasingly aware of his direct involvement in the whole problem of widespread staff immorality and its cover up by him. Discovery by the staff of BG’s traveling to find parents that might give up their morally violated daughters for marriage to his brother did not increase any trust of his spiritual leadership. BG’s normally expected position to participate in “restoration of the staff” also had come to a “decisive end” by a shared response of staff to BG’s ongoing disqualification to provide any trustworthy spiritual help and leadership. If anyone was not acknowledging his God given authority and chain of command, it was clearly and obviously BG himself by his rebellion and rejection of the decisions and counsel of the ministry’s Board of Directors.

Four months after May 28, 1980, I was living and working on the family farm in Kansas, having been unceremoniously terminated from employment by the temporary president of the ministry, John McLario. My focus during those months was to direct the many men and women involved in the immoral affairs at the ministry (most who no longer had any help available to them) referring them to resources for counseling they so desperately needed. I also responded to contacts from other staff friends who had resigned and were attempting to find employment and understanding for this most destructive spiritual episode in their lives.

Two \$10,000,000 lawsuits were in the works, one by some of the 1980 employees and one by some of the Basic Seminar city Area Committees, each pursued without my involvement. In their communications with me, the parties to these lawsuits were contacting me for information to support their legal complaints. Out of a genuine interest to continue any possible Christian “peace making” (Matthew 5:9) and to find ways to possibly deal with the

hurts, bitterness and anger that was eating at so many good friends, I was still willing to make the attempt to encourage the ministry Board to work through these issues on a spiritual basis rather than a legal process in public courts.

BG assisted greatly in “keeping things stirred up” by subpoenaing me into a 40 hour deposition in Chicago with his many lawyers, at my expense. Their legal process to examine my every thought and my personal notes was spectacular, to say the least. It was indeed hard to move away from Illinois and attempt to stay uninvolved with this much ongoing turmoil and conflict by the actions of BG himself.

BG assisted in “keeping things stirred up” by flying two men to my home church in Kansas to falsely accuse me before that body, preventing me from attending or hearing the accusations he was presenting and making sure I had no opportunity to respond to those accusations. Some church leadership, not knowing of BG’s own involvement in the immorality at the ministry, initiated attempts to have me excommunicated from the church in a well attended large and loud business meeting. It is indeed true...

Where *there is* no wood, the fire goes out;
And where *there is* no talebearer, strife ceases.
As charcoal *is* to burning coals, and wood to fire,
So *is* a contentious man to kindle strife.
The words of a talebearer *are* like tasty trifles,
And they go down into the inmost body.

Fervent lips with a wicked heart
are like earthenware covered with silver dross.
He who hates, disguises *it* with his lips,
And lays up deceit within himself;
When he speaks kindly, do not believe him,
For *there are* seven abominations in his heart;
Though his hatred is covered by deceit,
His wickedness will be revealed before the assembly. Proverbs 26:20-26 NKJV

BG used every possible tool to tell people that I was the liar regarding BG’s personal involvement in immorality and his detailed knowledge and cover up of immorality leading to the moral failure of 14 of his key ministry staff. Over the years I have been cornered and quizzed by secular and Christian papers and magazines and media outlets, called by many Christian and Church leaders to determine the facts about BG and his involvement, pressed by past staff and Area Committees members who served the IBYC ministry faithfully who were looking for any evidence to allow them to continue to support the ministry. I was contacted by large Donors to the IBYC ministry who wondered whether or not to continue to contribute funds to the BG ministry. Many that telephoned me stated they had first spoken to BG about their questions or concerns. Many of these persons were simply checking out the facts from both sides so they could make their own decision about whether to continue support or involvement in the IBYC ministry operations.

To this very day, BG has not acknowledged publicly his own involvement in immorality nor has he acknowledged his possession of the details of immorality over at least a 7 year period (before May, 1980) and his failure to provide care for those damaged individuals involved. BG has not acknowledged publicly his sending new young staff girls up to the remote ministry owned retreat center where they also became sexual victims. BG has told all and persuaded many that I am the liar and I am the unrighteous and wicked one.

As you can plainly see, this statement “written by the agent” does not sound like the agent writing about himself. It is written about “he” (“the agent”) and “...reaffirmed his recognition...” which would indicate someone else is writing or fabricating this paragraph and getting the date wrong. And giving it the weight of a “promise.” Did BG fabricate this quote himself? Why? At any rate, to simply state that “Bill Gothard is recognized as having the full responsibility and accountability before God for any and all future decisions for all matters and questions related to the direction of the ministry and the integrity of the message” is a statement I could easily make then and can make even now. This is not some evil “fact” but rather a good explanation of my understanding that God is in control and will discipline and judge His children and can be trusted to do so. I would have gladly made that statement at that time to clear up any of BG’s or his Board’s misconceptions about my motivations or intentions. BG was already attempting to alarm people and distract their focus and concerns by falsely accusing me of wanting to shut down the ministry or somehow working to take it over, which was never a thought or temptation I had to deal with. It may well have been the thoughts of others. But certainly not mine.

I am quite glad to trust God to hold any man responsible for his own rebellion and maliciousness toward God’s children, which we observed plenty of (II Thess. 1:5-9). It is also clear BG does have some considerable difficulty with the concept of “authority” believing that as a spiritual leader he cannot and should not be held accountable by any other Christian. In his case, BG was quite unwilling to be corrected or be held accountable by his own chain of command, the ministry’s Board of Directors. This will be illustrated below with a number of quotations of IBYC ministry board notes provided by ministry Board member Dr. Sam Schultz, dated December 11, 1980.

In all of my communications with BG and the ministry’s Board of Directors, I carefully followed the instructions, rules and spirit of Scripture, especially I Tim. 5:19-21; II Tim. 2:24-26; and Matthew 18:15-20.

FACT TWELVE:

By Dec. 12, 1980 I was seeing enough continued wickedness, deception and lies by BG to make the entire situation much more serious and complex. It is proper and Biblical to carefully examine the life of a pastor, elder or spiritual leader before you install him into a position of trust and ministry to the lives of the church of Christ. John McLario had been installed as President and Chairman of the Board of the IBYC ministry without any discovery of his personal life that obviously disqualified him from such a leadership position. And there is considerable evidence BG was himself orchestrating the quick installment of this new administrator, to meet his own objectives. BG himself was quickly re-installed to the position of President and spiritual teacher of the IBYC ministry so soon after his termination by the ministry Board as to not have adequate repair and ministry to his own soul and life and requalification by a clear conscience and a pure heart and clean hands. This simply set him up for further spiritual failure and darkness. I Timothy 5:22 is clear that we are not “to lay hands upon anyone too hastily and thus share responsibility for the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin.”

The IBYC Board of Directors in Dec. of 1980 (after accepting his resignation only 5 months earlier) were again discussing the same question: “Has Bill demonstrated to the Board’s satisfaction that he is under their authority as he teaches others should be under authority?” Dr. Sam Schultz in that same meeting asked his fellow Board members, “Gentlemen, I ask you, can we with a clear conscience before God endorse Bill for public ministry for 1981?”

But the same careful examination of a Christian leader’s spiritual qualifications carried out for the motive of revenge would not be correct or righteous. And that is the focus of my letter of Dec. 2, 1980, from my residence at the family farm in Kansas, simply stating that I did not want to involve myself in any activities that would involve revenge. I plainly wanted BG and his Board of Directors to know they would need to give account directly to God for their continued failure to deal with sin and their continued mistreatment of Christian brothers and sisters. BG is

having some difficulty here separating my carefulness and commitment to not be involved in hate and revenge, and be involved with responsibilities the Scriptures clearly give us to “tell it to the church” and “those who continue in sin, rebuke in the presence of all...” Matt. 18:17, I Tim. 5:19-25

There is some evidence that BG’s IBYC Board of Directors did finally address their responsibility in relationship to the sins and failures and rebellion against authority being exhibited by BG. While BG was blaming his staff for rebellion and reporting the views of visiting Christian leaders that the ministry staff was being “disloyal” and rebellious, BG’s own Board of Directors reported what they viewed as the root problem, also in their Board notes of Dec. 11, 1980:

“Bill has not demonstrated that he is under the authority of the board. On May 14 (1980) when his administration collapsed, he publicly stated that he was under the authority of the board. Repeatedly we have advised him and urged him to leave the headquarters and evaluate his record and his possible restoration. Throughout the summer and fall, he was constantly involved in developments and telephone conversations that resulted in more problems for us to solve. His credibility could have been restored to some extent if in July when in a letter from Christianity Today he was advised that IBYC should have its books audited by a nationally known firm; he would have demonstrated leadership in advocating an audit by a nationally known firm. However, he repeatedly objected to having the books audited, opposing the engagement of Price Waterhouse to the last minute. Because of this delay, we will not be in a position to answer many of the questions that have been asked until these reports are available next year.” These same Directors of the Board continue to note...

“By October 19th, we realized that Bill had not heeded our admonitions so we passed two motions stating explicitly that he should abstain from his extended involvement with others by telephone and that he should absent himself from headquarters. How realistically he conformed to this directive should be a matter of our concern.”

One more section from the Dec. 11, 1980 Board of Directors notes comment on their concern about financial questions and their inability to get BG to submit to their authority: “Bill’s ineffectiveness in attempting to establish wholesome relationships with people on staff during the last five years was repeatedly evident in the meetings with staff members at various times. In an effort to clear his relationship, he even endorsed a \$50,000 check *without board approval or authorization* (my emphasis). This kind of irresponsible action has resulted in almost endless payments of thousands of dollars which in secular language would be called ‘hush’ money or bribes.”

The Scripture is clear that as believers, we do have a God given responsibility to deal with sin and doctrinal error in the lives of other believers by love, gentleness, careful teaching, patience, prayer, and as needed rebuke and reproving (II Tim. 2:24-26; I Tim. 4:1-6; 5:19-25; Titus 1:7-16).

The reference BG makes to an Area Coordinator that represented BG and IBYC in his city was a common activity of many Area Coordinators who later became involved in a law suit against BG and the IBYC ministry. Initially these godly men were simply motivated to understand the problems and the solutions regarding this ministry which they represented in confidence over the years to their individual cities. That is a proper concern and responsibility for them to have. It is after their meetings with BG and the Board that their concerns seemed to continue and increase. While several did contact myself and others who had left the ministry, these men were quite capable and superior in their business and spiritual lives to work through problems and communications with the IBYC ministry Board and Administration and come to their own conclusions. Most of these men developed many more questions than we ever had or would have on our own. Here BG is accusing me of something without evidence or “fact” of a name or provision of information to determine if this is true or false. But he does go on to make his critical

judgment that these Area Coordinators would have no concerns at all about BG or the ministry or have any important questions to ask without my involvement! This is simply and entirely false.

FACT THIRTEEN:

In the interest of “facts” why would BG not list the “few others on staff” that developed questions on finance? Various Department directors surely had much more knowledge of financial issues and had greater concerns than I. I had no knowledge of the finances of the ministry and would have been unable to help anyone develop any questions about such finances or any irregularities. My one question about ministry finances was to learn who paid for the movies that include violence against women, profanity, and nudity which BG and others wanted me to return to the ministry because it was “their property”!!

In this “fact,” BG is claiming that I serve Satan by being concerned about the possible abuses of finances by a Christian ministry. He fails to reference his own Board of Directors’ same concerns and wider questions about the same financial mismanagement. Does BG believe that his own Board of Directors are servants of Satan? On this basis, he must!

In the ministry Board of Director’s meeting of Dec. 11, 1980 (6 months after I left IBYC and moved to Kansas), the Board discussion notes comment on this very topic:

“So Bill is our problem. He is our basic problem. We dismissed the staff involved in immorality and gross pornography with pornographic films ordered by IBYC personnel under Bill’s jurisdiction. Dozens of staff members have left with deep seated grievances against Bill, not only since May but during the last five years, because of Bill’s failure to apply the biblical principles he taught in public. Over four years ago, many tried to communicate to Bill and his father the concerns they had about Steve but like Eli in biblical times, these warnings were ignored.” “A house divided against itself shall not stand.” Matthew 12:25

I was quite aware that many staff, Donors to the ministry, Area Coordinators, as well as the general Christian public had many questions about the IBYC finances because they were held in secret and never made public. In the interest of peace and development of trust with staff and the Christian public, I am sure I was on record encouraging an audit and the inauguration of regular financial accountability common to most good ministries around the United States. This should not be considered a “fact” to prove some evil motive or agency of the Devil!

It seems from this letter that the IBYC ministry in fact did eventually employ an audit firm to conduct a study of its finances, recommended and urged by BG’s own Board of Directors, which seemed to be a good thing. And it appears that the ministry has since also joined the ECFA membership allowing more transparency and accountability from which to build trust by the Christian public. Why such concerns or these solutions are considered “evil” come from only one man.

FACT FOURTEEN:

BG here demonstrates even further how false his claims are against me. The questions he lists here about finances do not include even one of my own questions. They were the questions of many others on staff, but were not my own. I would not have known any facts and did not have any evidence or details that would have caused me to even ask these questions. I did not “seize” on any of these questions, though as it clearly evident BG’s Board of Directors did continue very much to have the very same specific questions about BG’s reckless use of ministry funds without and against their own authority and position.

FACT FIFTEEN:

BG here does confirm that there was “official cooperation” from ministry staff and Board as we worked through some very serious issues and horrifying damage to some very wonderful staff and their families. Indeed, official cooperation had been granted. And it was soon very plain to see (and quite troubling) the increasing effort by BG to cover up his own sins and involvement in the problems being discovered. By BG’s own rebellion and great efforts to blame others (his brother, the staff women involved, myself, along with others), he made every attempt to appear righteous and qualified to continue to control “his ministry.” This attempt included his continued deception of his own “umbrella of protection” the ministry’s Board of Directors after June of 1980.

The story he has invented here is not true and was typical of how he twisted the motives and words of so many to come to his own conclusions and his vindictive behavior toward others. I don’t know anyone (other than maybe Absalom) who would be able to think through and then boldly say out loud, “I will first make them loyal to myself and then, if my authority was worthy of their trust, I would encourage them to be loyal to that authority.” In fact, the only other person who really thinks about “authority” in those terms, and teaches it by example is BG himself. First it does not make sense, and second of all, most common people would see easily that it would never work. I can recall his presentation to me regarding ”his confusion” about my understanding and respect for authority, and I did indeed ask him to not repeat his confused understanding and very wrong conclusions to this group of Area Coordinators. His ill-motive was obvious to see. BG’s sense of being “discredited as someone in a position of leadership” surely was being felt by him who was indeed the source and the cause of such great disruption and which was now becoming obvious to all. Even so BG was making great efforts to prevent Area Chairmen and visiting Christian leaders from learning his own direct involvement over many years in the widespread immorality of his closest staff!

And of course, here again, BG features his desire to “comply with my wishes” to not give him permission to explain his confused and wrong views about my way of thinking, but by this letter violates his “confidences” and tells the world. So much for trusting this man’s word or confidences! This account of his imaginations’ demonstrate perfectly his willingness to deceive, outright tell lies, all to destroy anyone who will not be “loyal” to him and “submit” to his instructions to cover up the sins and hide the matters at hand. This effort was designed to confuse and distract all others from any evaluation of his many and clear disqualifications from any trusted ministry of God’s Word and spiritual care for young people entrusted to him by their parents.

In the ministry Board of Director’s notes (page 5, Dec. 11, 1980 notes), the Board again discusses their same concern about their fear of what BG was thinking, living, and teaching to the public on the topic of “authority.” The notes from this meeting state: “Some of the principles Bill is committed to are not Biblical. His principle on the chain of command and authority need careful evaluation in the light of God’s Word. Bill asserted before the Board on November 19th that the fifth commandment – honor father and mother – is the most important commandment in the Bible. This has no support in Scripture and certainly the credibility of the Board is at stake if this kind of emphasis is promoted by Bill. If Bill, at age 46, claims to still be under the authority of his father, it seems to me we have a serious problem...He seems to be dominated by a legalistic philosophy that is expressed in his control of the ...Board.”

FACT SIXTEEN:

BG’s statement here is completely false and malicious and again is an attempt to distract readers from the reality that the parents of staff women were no longer trusting their daughters to this Christian leader, Bill Gothard, who had asked for entrusting of their daughters to him for “his protection” while they were in his employment and under “his Chain of Command.” Violated and broken, morally shamed and confused spiritually, these wonderful

staff women and their parents were as distraught and angry as any group could be. Once the parents of the staff women (who had been violated sexually) learned that BG was even then flying around to meet with certain of these parents to gain any one of their approval of their violated daughters to marry his brother (perpetrator of the sexual immorality with seven of the women), there was a considerable backlash and new and deep distrust of BG and the entire IBYC administration. No one could explain the value system exhibited by BG during these months, except as his great effort to cover up his sins.

Because of years of friendship with these staff women and with their parents, my relationship with these families had never been questioned or violated by any actions I had ever taken. Because of my careful and gentle inquiry to each of these 7 women (as well as the other 7 staff members involved in ongoing immorality), they were both grateful and glad to have someone they could trust to walk them through this crises in their lives and their abrupt departure from the ministry they were no longer employed by. To facilitate much greater help for each of these women, I encouraged and welcomed the involvement of Gary Smalley and his wife in their coming to Chicago to meet with these women, offer counsel, and provide comfort and some direction. This was actually what occurred to the long time benefit of these women with such great needs during this time. I had also requested Gary's help and involvement earlier in the year for my first private meeting with BG's brother regarding each of the situations of immorality.

FACT SEVENTEEN:

BG again reveals his great effort to deflect the focus of the problem away from himself and blame anyone else for what was going on. In this great effort he in this section exhibits problems in what he is attempting:

Use of the word "seems" belies his own wavering this may not be a "fact." And "seems" is used a second time, hand written in later by BG to attempt to soften his typing of "were the result of distortions and falsehoods."

BG has no knowledge that any "letter" from Area Committee Coordinators (ACCs) resulted from any involvement by me or influence by me. And he offers no evidence.

I may have met with several ACC men after I was released from the ministry, but I certainly did not meet with "many" as here claimed. A number of these men were contacting me on their own initiative because of their own obvious and genuine concerns about the responsibilities they held in representing BG and the integrity of his ministry to their great cities. It is not clear how he would know that I alarmed them with "distorted facts and partial truths." These men had access directly to all of the staff who were fired or who resigned and were directly in contact with many of the men and women involved in the immorality and who could explain to these Area Committee men BG's knowledge of the immorality and his cover up over the years.

This letter from ACC men "appeared to be drafted by him (this agent of Satan)," which again is not a "fact" and if this is still a question, I can state confidently it was not drafted by me. Again BG's representations here are entirely false.

For the Area men to suggest some "special committee" to assist them and the ministry in some effort to correct its current failures would have been at least one of several possible and expected ideas under these circumstances. After their meetings with the Board of Directors they would have observed the Board was still struggling mightily with the great disruptions that were continuing. For the Area men to list several men they trusted to be involved in this committee would also have been expected and normal. Certainly not Satanic.

To my knowledge (having not seen the letter), the letter does not seem to claim or call for this committee to “become the ultimate authority in this ministry” and require the Board of Directors to submit to this committee. And no proof of this is offered here, so again this cannot be considered a “fact.” It does illustrate though, quite perfectly, the state of mind that BG had at the time, and many fear that he continues to maintain today.

BG’s major and minor premise in this section are completely fabricated and false and of course malicious. He concludes that “this proposal would...have left the ‘agent’ as the driving force and ultimate authority in the Seminar ministry.” This is complete conjecture of his wild imagination and possibly a genuine fear he struggled with for years, knowing his own clear disqualifications to be a trusted minister of the Gospel.

This entire section has no “facts” at all in them. Only fears of a very guilty man, feeble guesses, and passing of blame by BG, again “without checking out the facts,” revealing again his own distorted view of what was actually going on.

FACT EIGHTEEN:

BG is correct in stating that a good number of persons called me and met with me to learn what my understanding was of the condition of the ministry and its leadership. Having known these men over many years and having stayed in many of their homes over the years, they were sincerely interested to know why I had been fired.

It is also correct that I did not know why I had been fired. I was fired by a temporary President and Chairman of the Board, John McLario (whom I had never met until the hour he fired me) and board member Rev. Sinclair. John McLario was a nationally known Christian attorney, who himself bragged to the staff in a great threatening tone of voice that he had “never lost a legal case in his professional career,” and that he expected the staff to get in line, and promptly! His fancy automobile featured a vanity license tag “LEGAL ONE.” Mr. McLario was a board member of Bob Jones University and was apparently recommended to this post by BG’s friend, Dr. Bob Jones.

In a one hour meeting McLario had called me into, he spent most of the first one hour asking me if I would resign. I repeated myself for the hour how the Lord had led me to work at the ministry, how God had blessed me with many great spiritual benefits from the seminar and teachings of BG. I repeated to them over the one hour that I had no leading from the Lord or peace that I should resign and leave the ministry if I could still serve it in some ways as I had over the years.

The attorney, John McLario then brought out a piece of paper, a letter pre-signed and dated, stating that the Board was firing me from my job. I then asked them on what basis I was being fired. They did not give any response to that question repeated several times. And no cause was given in the letter that I recall.

I did telephone John McLario, the new President of IBYC, a few days later at his Milwaukee office. He did take my call. After a brief greeting I asked John McLario if he could deny or verify if a story circulating was true or false. He asked what that story might be. I recounted to him that the story detailed his monthly stay at a certain motel in a certain city in Florida where he spent the evening with a certain prostitute, and that his wife and daughters were not aware of these visits. I asked Mr. McLario that if this story was true, that I thought he should resign as President of the Institute in Basic Youth Conflicts and as Chairman of its Board of Directors by Friday at noon. And that if the story was not true, that he would simply tell me then that it was not.

Mr. McLario did not say good-bye. He did not say “thank you for asking.” He simply hung up the phone. I heard that he resigned 2 days later from both positions at the ministry.

If BG and some of his followers understand “loyalty” as men who will look the other way when evil is being perpetrated and covered up, and will accept a life of deception and lies, and must quickly reject any information that could potentially guide true Christians to care for those who are caught up in sin and failure, my personal view is that these men have missed the opportunity to serve Christ and serve His children and are in fact participating in and are equally complicit in the continuing sin.

II John 8-11 “...anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God...if one comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting, for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.”

FACT NINETEEN:

This section can hardly be included as a “fact.” It makes accusations based on unknown “shocking and disturbing illustrations,” unknown “various points,” that only one on earth but John DeBoer “knew the actual facts.” He makes additional reference to an unknown “illustration” and an unknown “distortion.” How it was “skillfully and purposefully designed” is also unknown. DeBoer’s “realization” here becomes the truth.

This puts the reader of this “document” at some considerable disadvantage to consider this series of “facts.”

It is true that BG then used John DeBoer (along with another man) to fly to Kansas, insisting on a meeting with my home church. There these men, apparently under the authority, direction, instruction and financing of the BG organization, falsely accused me before the pastor and church leadership and we believe delivered this 19 page letter of libel. These false witnesses insisted that I not be allowed into this session, I was not allowed to hear their accusations, and I was not allowed to offer any responses to these accusations. It became also apparent that these men and BG worked to persuade this church to discipline and excommunicate me from my life-long home church in BG’s attempt to wreck revenge on me further.

It is clear that BG and John DeBoer wanted to avoid any proper Biblical consideration of these concerns or their accusations and have used every method to spread their accusations except those instructions taught so clearly by Jesus Christ, so that “every word can be confirmed” (Matt. 18:15-21). John DeBoer stands guilty of rebellion against the teachings of Jesus Christ and himself is fully complicit with speaking false accusations.

In recent years, Dr. James Kennedy (of Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida) assembled a group of his best men to study what they had collected as many charges against BG and his spiritual disqualifications as a spiritual teacher and leader. Dr. Kennedy and his Ft. Lauderdale church had hosted the IBYC seminar for many years and had learned of a number of serious charges against BG. When this group began to contact me to confirm if certain pieces of information were true or false, they acknowledged they were meeting with BG about each of the same questions and issues. We carefully discussed each one and I provided to them the information they requested each time. This continued over many months as they researched their concerns from many different sources and resources. Their complaint to me was that the parties (BG versus everyone else) seemed to completely contradict each other and it had become a “he said, she said” scenario to them. I recommended to them that they follow the plain teachings of Jesus Christ and set up a meeting where BG would be invited to attend and any witnesses could join their group and together carefully work through each charge and claim and settle these concerns shared by all, once and for all. I asked them if they thought this would be Biblical and spiritually correct to do. They seemed to agree. Weeks of silence followed. And then a final word they did not want to proceed in that manner. Now whether that was Dr. James Kennedy’s decision to not examine these charges carefully and Biblically, or if BG simply would not present himself to this process is still unknown.

But this is the pattern of BG since July 5, 1980 when just such a ministry Board of Director's meeting was requested by BG's own father (William Gothard Sr.) because of the great sins and resistance to obedience that he was observing in his eldest son. Again from the ministry's Board notes, it states clearly who actually was instrumental in calling BG to accountability:

“...and IBYC claims to be an organization advocating biblical principles. Did Bill not have any sense of accountability in this matter? We have been beset with endless problems plaguing us throughout last summer as a result of Bill's policies – very likely under his father's direction. For four or five years, some of these unresolved relationships festered until they finally erupted when the immorality that prevailed under Bill's jurisdiction was brought to light. This necessitated the involvement of the Board – but not at Bill's request. It was his father who told Bill that he should convene the Board. Apparently, Bill did not have a sense of accountability to do this himself.”

FACT TWENTY:

This is not a “fact” to support that the “agent” is serving Satan.

This section does include major deception though which is still at the root of the hidden sins of BG. BG here states that “the sins have been thoroughly exposed; and there has been repentance, confession, asking for forgiveness, dismissals, and major policy changes to safeguard any repeat of such a situation.”

The truth of the matter is that all of the sins have not been exposed or confessed. BG continues to “cover up his sins” of personal immorality and violation of a staff woman (as reported correctly on Wikipedia the web based Encyclopedia in its article on Bill Gothard (2011). And BG has failed to be honest and forthright about his detailed knowledge of ongoing immorality over a 7 year period and his failure to deal with it or arrange proper spiritual help for the many staff women he knew were involved with it.

BG has not yet confessed or even acknowledged his rebellion against authority and his repeated and long violations of his chain of command by his complete disrespect and disregard for the IBYC's ministry Board of Directors.

“...lest, when I come again, my God will humble me among you, and I shall mourn for many who have sinned before and have not repented of the uncleanness, fornication, and lewdness which they have practiced.”
II Corinthians 12:21

FACT TWENTY-ONE:

Again, this is not a “fact” that supports the “agent” being a servant of Satan.

Here BG does refer to a “Management Team” that he is cooperating with during 1980, which raises some questions about who these men are and how are they different from the “disloyal” ones he has referred to earlier in this letter.

Here BG claims to be one, “including myself, has been eager to cooperate with efforts that would bring true healing and restoration.” In this same paragraph he makes reference to the “providing of funds for several who were working toward restoration” which includes those “hush money” funds the Board of Directors were so unhappy he was spending without authorization from the Board. If anyone did see the list of many and very large checks BG was writing to the loudest and most painful of his failed staff relationships they would be quite astonished, as was his Board.

I would say this. Initially BG was cooperative in 1979 and early 1980 as I reported to him what I was learning about the widespread immorality in his ministry and the resulting problems continuing with staff in the ministry. But as soon as BG realized I had details of his own knowledge of this long immorality and his own personal involvement in immoral treatment of staff women, his cooperation ceased. He demanded that I not disclose this information to anyone and especially not to the Board of Directors.

I will also say this. Mr. Gothard Senior (BG's dad) and BG's brother were always cooperative and supportive of me personally, from the very beginning to the very end of confronting the awful sins and moral failure involved with so many in this particular ministry. And I will always be grateful to each of them. It was their personal encouragement to me and gratefulness to me during these 18 months that kept me confident we were doing what God wanted done even though BG no longer was happy with the proceedings that increasingly exposed his own rebellion toward God and ongoing rebellion against God's Word.

I will never forget the day I drove to Dallas, Texas in early 1980 to find BG's brother at a hotel to personally and privately ask him about the details of what I was learning from a number of the staff women involved in the immorality. Mr. Gothard Sr. and BG were also there where BG was speaking to a large pastor's conference in the city. As I walked from my parked car through the hotel parking lot, I noticed BG and Mr. Gothard coming out of the hotel. They saw me and were surprised to see me knowing that I had applied for a vacation and was supposed to be in Kansas.

Mr. Gothard Sr. left the group and walked across the parking lot toward me, walked up to me, offered his hand which I took, and he said, "Take good care of my son." No "good morning," no complaint as to why I was there, no question as to why I was there. Mr. Gothard Sr. knew in his heart why I was there and that God was at work to deal with a most complicated situation. That day and that hour Mr. Gothard Sr. blessed me in this service to God in the important work that lay ahead.

FACT TWENTY-TWO:

BG here belabors a point that he has continually confused and where we find him repeating himself. So this section is hard to measure as a new "fact" at all. What bothered BG at this point in his life is that the "information" which I did have, which contributed to his Board of Directors terminating BG from President and as teacher of the IBYC ministry, was by the date of this letter, still being denied in public by BG and still not confessed to God by him. Because of the large number of persons who attended the July 5, 1980 Board of Directors meeting and who took notes and became witnesses of the details of BG's personal immorality and long time personal knowledge of the immorality and sins of other key staff personnel, these "facts" were continually being circulated far and wide without any effort on my part. Newspapers nationwide were running articles about BG and his failures, Christian magazines, papers, and various radio and TV media outlets were investigating and running untold articles about the "sex scandal" at BG's ministry.

By September, 1981 I had been away from the IBYC organization for over one year. I had been subpoenaed by BG's attorneys to Chicago for 40 hours of deposition; BG's attorney's had a copy of my personal notes, correspondence, and interview accounts of over 500 pages that related to the discovery of the problems within the ministry including the details of BG's involvement. They had all of my "information" which they could confirm as true or not true. It has never been pointed out to me by anyone as to what details of information in the 500 plus pages of notes are of any error or exaggeration. And that is a fact to this day.

After July of 1980 there was no interest or attempt by BG or the ministry to involve me in any solution or cooperation, so this statement by BG one year later is mute and of no meaning.

FACT TWENTY-THREE:

BG has no evidence, clear or factual, that I had any “program to close down the Seminar ministry.” BG here simply supposes in his own imagination that the “agent” had a program, that it involved closing down the ministry, and that the “agent” would only reopen it when it passed his inspection. These are all fanciful fears that had no basis in fact but that were occupying a guilty and fearful man caught in his sin and striving mightily to regain control of his own ministry Board of Directors, his new replacement staff, Christian public opinion, and ongoing revenue from sales of seminar attendance and printed materials.

First and foremost, I had no plan or intent or a program to close down the Seminar ministry, before June 5, 1980, or after. I did not participate in any plan to attempt to shut down the ministry. There were Board and staff managers who had direct responsibility for such decisions and I know they conducted most of their meetings without needing to consult with me!

Can you imagine you were a ministry Staff person, if on Sunday, July 6, 1980 in a meeting hurriedly called for all Staff, you heard the ministry president resign as President and as a teacher, and that the Board of Directors had asked him to resign, you would have some thoughts about your Monday morning job and the 25,000 people attending 3 seminars on the very next day, Monday! BG in this letter assumes there should be no concerns by any of his staff and that any concerns would have been “disloyal.” This view is so limited as to be ludicrous. The truth of the matter is that the Board of Directors, staff, Area Committee Chairmen, and a host of support folks were all in quite an uproar as to how to proceed the very next day with 100s of decisions that had to be made without any President, without a Vice President, and with 15 key management of the ministry all involved in gross immorality and perversions.

Ideas were being solicited by BG and by the Board for options related to ongoing seminars scheduled and for ideas for wording, for how to communicate, how various scenarios might be treated. His quotation in this section is simply one of those suggestions which he has seized upon to support his fears and his need to create an enemy of God for him to oppose. In this case the enemy was not me which BG and his Board discovered soon enough.

Nine months before this letter, BG’s Board of Directors struggled with the same question, should the ministry be suspended or terminated because of the disqualifications exhibited in an ongoing way by BG? Notes from this IBYC ministry Board meeting state:

“By efficient administration we could continue business as usual for 1981 mechanically. However as a board we must seriously recognize our accountability to God. Can we conscientiously endorse Bill as God’s messenger above reproach and of good report...? No organization or establishment is indispensable. The religious family of Eli was severely judged because of its immorality. The fear of God was missing in their pattern of living. If we as a board lose that sense, we are subject to the judgment of God. God’s judgment came suddenly and swiftly upon the family of Eli, the ark was stolen, and Shiloh was destroyed. Ichabod – God’s glory has departed – made the headlines the next day. Could it be that this will be the final pronouncement in IBYC? Gentlemen, I ask you, can we with a clear conscience before God endorse Bill for public ministry for 1981??? (Dr. Sam Schultz, Board member since 1965, long time close friend and confidant of BG).

FACT TWENTY-FOUR:

This section reveals again BG’s confusion and fears about my involvement in the discovery and reporting of the problems of the ministry and fails to get the basic facts correctly put together. As you have seen in previous

comments on similar points above, but to address his specific charges here, I will summarize again what should by now be getting clearer:

1. Mr. Gothard Sr. called for and forced BG, his son, to convene the July 5, 1980 Board of Director's meeting.
2. I did encourage the Board of Directors to hear all of the information and details in one meeting so that each concern and specific problem regarding immorality could be listed for them, examined by them, for their own evaluation and considerations of how best to proceed. And they were always very respectful of me and seemed quite ready to do just that. I had met with the Board of Directors a few months earlier at their invitation, to disclose to them the earlier details that were being discovered. They did not invite BG to sit in on the earlier meeting.
3. I did encourage the Board to have BG at this July 5 meeting so that they could ask BG specific questions they had and where BG's answers seemed to vary from the live witnesses, correspondence and other physical evidence, they could utilize this time with BG in person to examine his truthfulness about each fact. The idea was to attempt in every way to comply with Matthew 18:16-18, Christ' instructions to "confirm every fact with 2 and 3 witnesses."
4. While this July 5 meeting was "carefully" prepared, it was not designed to be an "attack" that involved "mixing facts, partial truths, and misinformation into questions which he had various people prepared to ask." BG was given every opportunity to comment on and answer each question without any constraints or time limit. And as the Board of Directors have noted in their own meeting notes, this meeting was not "basically a rehash of things we had already covered in meeting after meeting!" While the information was old hat to BG, it was quite new to his Board of Directors from whom he had hidden so much over 7 years.
5. I did influence the meeting in this regard; I asked that anyone who was presenting a concern or a charge that involved BG, do so in the form of a question rather than an accusation. And this I did myself during the several times I was permitted to present what I had learned over the previous 18 months of discovery. I believed that this approach would help prevent emotional outbursts and allow for much more emotional control as well as allow for the best environment for a careful examination of the facts and of those persons involved.

My questions were presented to BG in relationship to each piece of information and responsibility that he had as President, teacher, and counselor to each of the staff involved in the ongoing immorality over the past 7 years. BG was asked to respond with a "yes" or a "no" and with any supporting information or argument he might want to present. If and when his responses to each issue and concern varied from what we believed to be true, we asked several of the women involved in the immorality and some which he had interviewed years earlier in some detail about their immorality, to come into the room to be interviewed on the same points by the Board of Directors. These women were willing and most courageous, though quite overwhelmed emotionally by this experience, to say the least. It was through this process the Board of Directors was able to demonstrate and prove before their very eyes that BG was attempting to lie to them even then, with overwhelming facts and details to establish it beyond a doubt.

It was for these reasons the Board of Directors accepted his resignation and worked out an agreement for him to resign publicly that next Sunday morning, which he agreed to do. BG announced his resignation to nearly 100 staff assembled at the headquarters building that very day, July 6, 1980.

6. On July 6, 1980, I do not recall ever meeting with or speaking with any members of the Board of Directors. I was not involved with any discussions or planning as to how to proceed with the scheduled seminars the

following day. I was not involved in “informing the Board that all further seminars would be cancelled.” BG does refer to “the group” that were making “demands,” though I am sure there were simply a number of Department directors that were under some considerable pressure to discuss and find someone to assist them in making some very important decisions regarding staff travel, trucking, materials shipment, advertising and a host of other issues that had to be decided within a few short hours that same day.

The “demands” that he lists in this section involve several that had already occurred earlier in the day. It seems he has the sequence of events quite confused, though I am sure he was having his own day of confusing and fast pace events, having just then resigned from all responsibilities.

7. Some notes from the Board of Directors regarding this same day and process reveal what BG either does not know or does not care to recall:

“On Sunday morning, July 6th, Dr. Van Gelderen met with us (Board of Directors) at Bill’s request. He advised Bill that he had no options left but to resign. His resignation resulted in a concession by the staff that they would promote the seminars beginning the next day. Mr. Gothard Sr. who also had lost the confidence of the staff, resigned as treasurer and member of the Board. Through the services of Dr. McLario, the seminars were continued throughout July at the expense of losing a large segment of employees. This staff attrition has been and is continuous.” (Board notes of Dec. 11, 1980).

8. It was not the “agent” or in the end any of “the staff” that demanded a resignation, but Bill Gothard’s own very close friend and confidant, a local pastor, that recommended that he resign, which it seems he, BG was agreeable to do under the proven charges before his Board of Directors. And it was BG’s Board of Directors who accepted his resignation on July 6, 1980.
9. It also seems from the view of the Board of Directors that the staff were agreeable to promote the seminars including the very next day based on decisions the Board was making regarding BG and working to maintain the integrity of the ministry.

FACT TWENTY-FIVE:

Again, the Board of Directors notes comment on some of their knowledge of and concern about how these “Christian leaders and pastors knew to fly in to the headquarters to try to reason with the staff” on July 7th, 1980. The Board notes state:

“...That meeting was not held (a Nov. 18, 1980 meeting at BG’s home church to confirm his ordination) and tickets for a group from the south (some of the same group that came up to headquarters on July 7th) were cancelled. This raises the question as to Bill’s involvement in their coming to Oak Brook in July. Bill conveyed the impression that these men came on their own initiative.” “The question is such manipulation by Bill needs to be raised seriously by us; Has Bill lost his sense of the fear of God. Roy’s (Dr. Blackwood) warning seemingly had no affect on him (BG).” (Warning from Dr. Blackwood to BG regarding an ordination confirmation service BG was arranging at his church: “If the church acts in a procedural way that does not really get at the facts and if they come to a wrong conclusion, they could damn the church as well as the person they are evaluating.” This did not deter BG from calling the ordination meeting, though it seems it was eventually cancelled and these men’s air tickets were cancelled.

I personally have never met in my life with Dr. Jack Taylor or Dr. Charles Stanley. I do know the other men in this group having met them occasionally before, and while I may have greeted them or spoke briefly with them in

passing, I was not involved with any long meeting they had into the night with ministry staff. I do not recall any meeting following this late night episode where these men met with me to “reason” with me, “the agent.” It could well be that these men met with Department Directors about concerns that both groups shared.

As to decisions being made by the Board of Directors or key management staff and if they were “Scriptural” or not, we know that many of the decisions by BG that led to this entire tragedy were certainly not “Scriptural.” So I am sure it is easy for him to make this judgment on others. For readers of this letter to determine if these decisions were Scriptural or not would need more detail and examination, to be sure.

In reality, the entire staff returned to work the next day, July 7, 8 and through the week. The newly arrived Dr. McLario met with me later in the week and terminated my employment (as described in some detail above). It is only after my termination did any staff decide to resign and leave, I believe approximately 50 or so in the next few months.

The “fruit” BG is referencing here of spiritual confusion, corporate / business leadership vacuum, resignations and any sense of hurt and bitterness that might have existed was quite clearly a result of BG’s bankrupt leadership and his own spiritual failure, resistance to the teachings of Scripture, and outright rebellion against God and God’s authority in his life.

FACT TWENTY-SIX

The meetings with BG during the following week of July 13, 1980, were mutually requested by and involved 2 other staff men, Rev. Melvin Upchurch and Mike Laramie, if I recall correctly. This would have been the week after I had been terminated from employment by John McLario. These were always cordial meetings, were quite sober, involved prayer together and seeking God’s direction for BG and the ministry. The focus of these wonderful times together was on the needs of the ministry and staff personnel and seeking direction from God.

BG here makes reference to some “evidence” but fails to give any “facts” or clues as to what was alarming him. I am sure that his and the Board’s negotiations with what the Board later called “bribes” were that same week ongoing at a feverish pace as the ministry attempted to offer large cash settlements to any and all staff that were resigning if they would only sign a legal document promising never to sue the ministry over all of the issues and complaints being registered. Most did not have any funds or savings to even attempt a move away from Chicago, so it became a difficult decision for most as to whether or not to sign something they did not understand or agree to, simply to obtain enough cash to return to their original cities or wherever they were finding to relocate. These activities by BG and the ministry were clearly what the Bible condemns as extortion.

I know this became a great source of conflict between the staff and the ministry during that week and the weeks to follow. Many staff were asking for advice though I was in no position to advise them as to what their decision should be. For myself, I was quite offended by the bribing process and declined the cash being offered for me to leave.

BG then states that “He then accused us (the ministry) of not bringing about restoration of those who have been hurt.” He does not offer any information of when and how I might have done that. I do know that for a number of years after July 5, 1980, so very many of the women involved in this great tragedy of negligence and deception by BG, continued to experience enormous suffering and spiritual confusion. One attempted suicide by one of the staff women was in process and very nearly successful except for my intervention. Many men and women from this staff group are wonderful friends today and so much so because for years we offered encouragement and resources to each one who asked and would accept the help. It was clear that BG had broken fellowship and trust with most of

these staff and is today yet unable and unwilling to work to put right what he did so much to bring to ruin. His giving out large payments have simply not resolved the spiritual issues of the heart and his relationship to God Himself.

The Agent's Agents (page 16)

BG is not clear as to "what committee" the "agent" was supposedly assembling. It sounds more like a committee that BG was forming! I personally have never met with Dr. Ken Taylor or Dr. Charles Swindoll and do not know what other "Christian leaders" BG was assembling for this meeting. It is quite clear BG was putting together some arrangement of Christian leaders he could manage directly.

I have no record of Gary Smalley flying to Kansas to pick up "my material." All of my materials or notes I had in my possession were presented to BG's several attorneys during their 40 hours of deposition of me. And BG does not provide here any information at all as to the outcome of this meeting with BG's choice of Christian leaders and with Gary Smalley. It seems that the meeting was held, likely with Gary Smalley, but I am sure I was not involved with the meeting at all.

And I do not know who BG might imagine the "agent's agents" to be? He is not clear about this and I personally do not know of any myself. So again it is very short of being a "fact."

BG here again strongly blames "the agent" for all of the ministry's troubles and uses Scripture to warn the readers of this document to "mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine of Christ and avoid them." Romans 19:17

The actual Scripture I believe BG is referencing is Romans 16:17 "Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them." NKJV

If BG would want to use this same measurement for his own life and his own ministry, the episodes BG has referenced in this letter and the responses offered above from many witnesses would provide ample evidence that he has been the long and continuing source of great "divisions and offenses" and teachings that are so very much contrary to the teachings of Jesus Christ. It is a wonder he can make this charge to anyone else! It does remind you of what Jesus taught, encouraging His children to first take the log out of their own eye so they can see more clearly how to remove the speck in their brother's eye. "Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank *is* in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye." Matthew 7:1-5

Two Witnesses (Page 17)

BG fails to indicate who these two witnesses are. That seems that it would be important to know who they are if they are to be used as a verifiable source of a "fact."

BG also states as a "fact" that he (TG) has been "confronted personally and with witnesses," then referring to "two witnesses (who) met with his pastor and church deacons." BG by these very statements violates every Scripture on the subject and completely falsifies his statements to his readers of this document.

First BG gives the persuasive statement that "the agent" has been confronted personally about each of these 26 "facts" by BG and that the "agent" in some way failed the test or failed to respond properly to each one. This is a

false statement and is not true at all, of course. And because this is false, BG is here misrepresenting what actually happened and presents his readers that he is again righteous and did everything Biblically.

Second, BG states that “two witnesses” went to the “agent’s” home church, presumably to review these same 26 “facts” as charges that the member of their church was an “agent of Satan” and they should do something about it.

BG here fails to disclose that he sent these two witnesses, likely paid for their jet airfare, fails to identify who they are so they can be called to confirm what they might have presented to this church in Kansas, fails to disclose that BG and these witnesses set up this meeting in such a way that the “agent” was prevented from hearing the charges, prevented from responding to the charges, and to this day has been prevented from knowing what the charges might have been.

BG knows, or at least used to know, that Jesus Christ taught this caring and loving process quite differently (Matt. 18:15-21) than what BG was willing to follow. In fact BG here violates the words and teachings of Jesus Christ to the greatest extent possible!

BG at this page in his letter also states that he is indeed under “the influence and authority and discipline of the Church of God.” BG fails here to acknowledge that Pastor Hovey of the LaGrange Bible Church, BG’s home church, met with myself and on several occasions with other concerned and godly men who were asking BG’s church if they would consider hearing the charges that many had against him regarding his personal sins and disqualifications as a minister of the Gospel. This was at a time where BG was not willing to respond to his own Board of Directors nor to the spiritual men who managed the Ministers Department at the ministry.

The clear and repeated response of BG’s home church and Pastor Hovey was that these matters of sin and mismanagement at IBYC were “corporation matters” and should be dealt with at the level of the IBYC ministry board and NOT at the home church of BG. Pastor Hovey would not acknowledge these issues related to the disqualifications of a man he and his church had ordained and commissioned to the ministry based on Biblical teachings and qualifications that a minister of the Gospel must maintain and be held to.

It was these attempts to ask BG’s home church to even hear these concerns and charges that were the reference being discussed here. And as anyone will know who has studied this situation, the Board of Directors of the IBYC ministry also became involved in this very same question and issue, the review of the ordination qualifications of BG. It was and is a proper inquiry and proper venue for these very matters before a holy God as Rev. Roy Blackwood has clearly pointed out (see “Fact Twenty-Five” discussion above).

Threats by BG (Page 18)

BG here reveals his actual purpose of this letter. He first states the only reason he has written this long letter is because GW forced him to do so, and that in order to “validate its truth” to send copies of this letter to everyone named in the letter. He has clearly published this letter to a large number of people and we know to many beyond those named. To most readers with a sense of fairness and with some hind sight and information about the actual situation and relationship dynamics occurring, it would seem this letter was much more for pure revenge as well as to set up an enemy of the ministry to blame and defer attention away from BG’s own involvement in the causes and continuations of the conflicts, disruptions, and damage.

BG does invite the reader to “check out all these facts,” and with his invitation I have here written my response illustrated by the verified details and information that have many first person witnesses to each one.

BG here claims “that we can be sure that this document is totally accurate” a self claim that can now be seen as quite inaccurate, false and malicious.

Love Does Not Expose Sins (Page 19)

“Love does not keep account of evil or expose sins which have been confessed and forsaken.” And that is the remaining issue at hand with BG. BG has not yet “confessed or forsaken” some very notable sins that were eventually exposed to the light in the year 1980 (II Cor. 12:21; Prov. 28:13). And that leaves him in a position of having to “establish his own righteousness” before man (Romans 10:1-5). BG knows that he has a good number of previous close friends, all believers in Christ, whom he has greatly sinned against, and he has never yet made any attempt to put right the offenses and resulting damage by confession or an effort to put back right some of the damage done. He lives with the ongoing fear that some man or some woman will stand up in one of his speaking or teaching sessions and pull out that dreaded white hankie, and wave it, and yell out, “Remember me!”

Pastor Hovey’s statement:

BG’s pastor here wants any and all readers to know that he can “assure you of my understanding of this situation. I was present when many confessions were made.”

Pastor Hovey clearly did not attend the 12 hour Board of Directors meeting where his parishioner was questioned and found to be deceiving his “authority” (ministry Board of Directors) about a good number of sins and failures against many other believers.

Pastor Hovey may have attended one meeting where a number of confessions of sin were made by a limited number of staff, but surely was not in attendance at each one.

Pastor Hovey in reality rejected all attempts by several godly men to have the LaGrange Bible Church and its elders take on its responsibility to review the personal and private sins of its member, BG. Pastor Hovey rejected each request stating it was a “Corporation” matter. It is inconsistent and entirely false for him to state in this letter that BG is under the authority and discipline of the church.

Some Closing Observations and Conclusions:

1. BG’s own Rejection of every basic teaching of Scripture and IBYC/BG.

From 1967 to 1980 I have attended over 100 Basic seminars and have taken careful notes at each one. The teaching of Scripture and practical steps of obedience to God’s Word was one of the very largest impacts on my life and desire to live righteously in service to Christ.

BG’s specific teachings and precise actions of obedience required by God’s Word took on immense importance to me in the areas of ...

Respect for authority

Confession of sin before worship of God.

Clearing of conscience and maintaining a clear conscience.

Purity of mind and body, morality as a basic requirement of serving God

Pursuing peace and reconciliation with family members

Forgiveness of the sins of others, resolving hurts and bitterness, restoring relationships that have been broken by previous faults and sins

Church discipline and the specific teachings of Christ on how sin must be addressed

In 1980 and 1981, every action and every behavior BG personally took was a specific and repeated rejection of every teaching featured in his own teachings in every lesson and every seminar in the previous 19 years.

Bill Gothard covered up the sin of others and BG covered up his own sins. Prov. 28:13

Bill Gothard lied and deceived his own chain of authority and umbrella of protection, repeatedly.

Bill Gothard lied to his Christian brothers who came with genuine concern for his welfare.

Bill Gothard failed to maintain peace and fellowship with his own immediate family, his flesh and blood.

Bill Gothard falsely accused others to defer blame and responsibility from himself.

Bill Gothard sent false accusers to the Emmaus Mennonite Church in Kansas in 1981 at ministry expense.

Bill Gothard exhibited no genuine love, failing to make any effort to seek reconciliation

with his own Christian brothers and sisters, and has attempted to worship God ignoring the conviction of the Spirit of God. (Matt. 5:22-24).

Bill Gothard has lived with and ignored specific disqualifications of any true minister of God, failing to submit to any serious review of his credentials required by Scripture for a Teacher (James 3:1) and an Overseer (I Tim. 5:19-25). By this BG has failed to trust God to raise him up again, often referred to in his own teachings as “death of vision.” He is no longer above reproach, maintains a dirty conscience, is not blameless, does not have clean hands, and is far from living an exemplary life.

BG has rejected God’s Word, continually failing to obey the most basic and clear teachings of the Bible featured in his own public teaching.

BG has continued to lie and deceive until this very day regarding his own personal immoral behavior toward single women staff of IBYC. It became obvious his teachings on Moral Purity were not helpful to him or to the 14 ministry staff closest to BG who repeatedly failed morally over long periods of time.

Bill Gothard has not exhibited during this time or since to those from that time period, any evidences of any characteristic of a Christian person. His actions and decisions were consistently and clearly of the flesh (Gal. 5:16-21) and in opposition to what is taught in the Scriptures about a believer who is walking with the Spirit of God (Gal. 5:22-25).

2. Bill Gothard clearly rejects “authority” and is not subject to any known authority in his life. In the few short years of 1980 and 1981, BG demonstrated publicly and clearly that he would NOT subject himself to any authority at all including...

The IBYC ministry Board of Directors

His own teachings of the Basic Seminar

His ministerial peers and prophets whom God has sent to call on him

His local church which ordained him

The Scriptures

God Himself

There are a number of reasons why Bill Gothard despises authority and will not submit to it. These will be detailed in separate review of his teachings and thinking and actions in this area of authority, chain of command, and obedience to God's Word. Bill Gothard demonstrates that he hates God's Word and will not present himself to obey the Scriptures in key points of pride that he is so far been unable to overcome.

3. God is a merciful God and is faithful to work to draw all men to Himself. God is faithful even when we as believers go through a time of being unfaithful. Many pray faithfully for BG and for his repentance, for his coming to the knowledge of the truth that is in Christ Jesus.