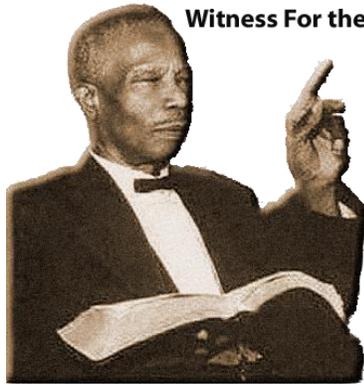


IS GOD SUING COGIC?

October 1

Leonard Lovett, Ph. D



Witness For the Prosecution

Yes,
Father,
I taught
them what
you said, but
they would
not take
heed

My routine begins around 5:00 AM with prayer for my family, the church and the nation. Several months ago I was worried about the future of the church. God challenged me with a question: *“what is that in your hand?”*...Only a pen. God said *“use it.”* And to sanctify myself before writing so that no flesh would glory in His sight. When I am at the computer, I can feel the strong presence of the Lord, Bishop CH Mason,

Mother Roberson, Coffey, Bishop Jones, Crouch, Clemmons Dr. Mallory, et.al. encouraging me in spirit to press on. I struggled several days for a title. Then, I heard the Lord say through **Micah 6: 2**, that *“He had a controversy (KJV), accusation, indictment (MLV), case, complaint (LBV) against His people. And He will prosecute them to the fullest and let the mountains and hills be called to witness the complaint.”* Finally, I am liberated. I have no *“axe to grind”* *“no enemies to punish”* and *“no friends to reward.”* My writing is based on difficult research and I do not publish hearsay.

I understand that in a real sense every civil court is a court of last resort because neither party would be there if there was any other way to resolve the dispute or controversy. Once a plaintiff files a suit and the defendant understands that the plaintiff is really serious, a compromise could save time and court costs. A lawyer should only be contacted when either party feels that there is no other remedy for a wrong. Before a lawyer is retained one must prepare for the case. Documentation must be assembled, facts must be verifiable, etc. With enough evidence a complaint (or petition) describing the circumstances will be drawn up, naming the defendant. A summons is issued, the decision is made to negotiate or proceed. The decision is made on either a jury or a sitting judge. Sworn depositions (statements relative to the case) will usually be taken by both attorneys are given under oath. Both attorneys prepare a trial memorandum stating their view of the the case citing relevant laws, precedents, statutes etc. keeping in mind the appeals court. A subpoena is issued commanding the witness to appear at the trial in order to give testimony. The final ruling is made by the judge.

The prophet Micah in the text cited above envisions a courtroom where God has outlined a complaint against Israel. There is enough evidence to issue an indictment. The problem then as now was not belief in God...but rather idolatry. The mountains, and high places where vain sacrifices were offered would be the witness in a divine trial. It is one thing when any one of us brings an accusation against the church. But when God brings a case against the church it is time to pay attention. Why would God even take time to bring a case against COGIC? On the surface, doesn't everything appear to be in order? Isn't the pomp and pageantry of our ecclesiastical robed ornate "high church" liturgical processions on Official Days enough to make even our worse critics blush? Is this the same church that was once positioned at the vanguard of the Holiness-Pentecostal movement a century ago? Are we consecrating Bishops based on the degree of notoriety they generate? Is this about money, power and control? Is this who we are? Why hasn't God selected a leader in COGIC since the death of Bishop C.H. Mason? The leadership we inherited emerged by default.

Please explain how our Presiding Bishop terminated two (2) well known ministers, one for personal behavior and one for financial impropriety with regards to a large check. Both were consecrated as Bishops and are now running for a major National office. How does one explain the Board of Bishops convicting one Bishop and exonerating the other one for a similar flagrant sexual offense? Have they ever heard of the **Fourteenth Amendment** that insists that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process and guarantees equal protection under the law? How are we allowing people under investigation to run for National offices? The risk of investigation and court litigation is that anything can emerge out of such actions that will not only embarrass but may bring reproach upon the name of the Lord. When leaders enter the arena of civil or criminal litigation they invariably face the risk that the allegations may be proven to be true under oath. In recent years we have literally watched big name leaders literally bite the dust in criminal and civil court cases. Pray that our General Assembly Chairman will be consistent in implementing the policy that you must step aside when there are flagrant allegations against such persons seeking national offices. Be careful when you cross the line and go against the wisdom of Scripture to gain the favor of people.

How does leadership allow a brother with his spouse to maintain dual membership, i.e. holding a pastorate of an Apostolic church while simultaneously maintaining membership in the Church of God in Christ which is a constitutional violation? The same person was given a National appointment and receives a substantial salary, paid by hard working pastors who are barely holding on in order to survive? How does leadership approve a

1.2 million salary for themselves and only \$700,000 for Missions annual budget? No I am not angry, however, I am righteously indignant in the spirit of Jesus cleansing the Temple because holiness as we once knew it is being trounced as personal greed has become the order of the day.

In a divine case against COGIC I can envision Bishop Charles Harrison Mason our founding Chief Apostle appearing as the primary witness for the Prosecution. I believe he would cite *Haggai 2: 3v*. “*Who saw the church in its first glory, and how do you see it now?*” I believe that he would state under the oath that when he departed the earth in 1961 the church was nearly together. That they strayed when they wanted to be “*like other people.*” Israel made a similar mistake. God allowed them a King as an insult to His divine sovereignty and they were never the same as they were later led into captivity. It is quite obvious that COGIC more than likely would be found “*guilty as charged.*” What are we to do?

1. Pray for massive Repentance within Leadership
2. Honor, but do not worship leadership. Stop trying to buy favor by paying high honorariums.
3. Do not be afraid to confront misdeeds and bad behavior in your church. Do not listen to these “spineless, jelly fish” leaders who will grin (a sign of anger) and turn the corner and assail your character.
4. Do not be intimidated by titles. I hear comments such as, what’s the use. Once you are frightened you will settle for corrupt leaders with no vision.
5. Pray for leadership
6. Pray for God’s will within Leadership
7. Demand restorative and remedial justice in the Supt. Milton Joyner Pacific Mt. Olive Church case.

Conclusion: 2 Chronicles 7: 14 - “If my people which are called by my name shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and heal their land.”

After a pause ... I believe that after we repent as a body there will be a voice from the stillness of eternity whispering... Case Dismissed Follow me at www.theagora.net (marketplace) “where truth is spoken and never compromised.”

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