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A STATEMENT REGARDING THE EXPERIENCE OF A. T. JONES

"Elmhaven", St. Helena, Calif.,  
February 9, 1934.

Dear Brother:

In your letter of recent date, you mention the claim that is being made that Elder A.T. Jones did not change his views or his Christian experience after he was so wonderfully blessed of God in connection with Elder E. J. Waggoner, when they led out in preaching the gospel of Righteousness by Faith during and after the Minneapolis Conference of 1888. You state that the one who thus claims, further argues that the denomination has backslidden from the acceptance of this doctrine. As to the latter claim, we cannot believe that its proponent can be familiar with the spiritual food that is being given to this people through the Review and other writings of our leading brethren, nor with the powerful appeals for holy living given weekly to our congregations.

You state that this admirer of Elder Jones uses the writings of Mrs. E.G. White to give the impression that she sustained him by her influence. It is regarding this claim that you ask for information.

As I look through the files of Mrs. White's letters to and regarding Elder Jones, I find that in 1892, she wrote what seems to have been a premonition of grave danger for both him and Elder E.J. Waggoner. This reads as follows:

"It is quite possible that Elder Jones or Waggoner may be overthrown by the temptations of the enemy; but if they should be, this would not prove that they had had no

message from God, or that the work that they had done was all a mistake. But should this happen, how many would take this position, and enter into a fatal delusion because they are not under the control of the Spirit of God. They walk in the sparks of their own kindling, and cannot distinguish between the fire they have kindled, and the light which God has given, and they walk in blindness as did the Jews.

I know that this is the very position many would take if either of these men were to fall, and I pray that these men upon whom God has laid the burden of a solemn work, may be able to give the trumpet a certain sound, and honor God at every step, and that their path at every step may grow brighter and brighter until the close of time."-- 8-24-1892

In 1895, Mrs. White was given a dream which led her to send a letter of caution to Elder Jones regarding the danger he was in of giving a misleading representation in his preaching of Righteousness by Faith. This letter is printed as one of the "Note Book Leaflets," copy of which we enclose with this.

In addition to this, many letters of warning, and counsel and entreaty were sent to him through the years. Especially was he warned against a spirit of self-confidence, and independence, and against a domineering, harsh, critical attitude toward his brethren.

While we should guard against making any use of Sister White's writings that might be construed to be an attack upon the late Elder Jones' integrity, yet when the claim is put forth by his followers that he was supported by her, it seems that sufficient should be known to meet this claim truthfully. We therefore furnish you with extracts from a lengthy letter that she wrote to Elder Jones in 1902, and from a letter addressed to him in 1911, which is the last communication to him that we find on our files.

I trust that these will furnish you the information you need, and I am sure that you will use it judiciously, and only where it seems necessary to meet misrepresentation.

Yours very truly,

*Dores Robinson*