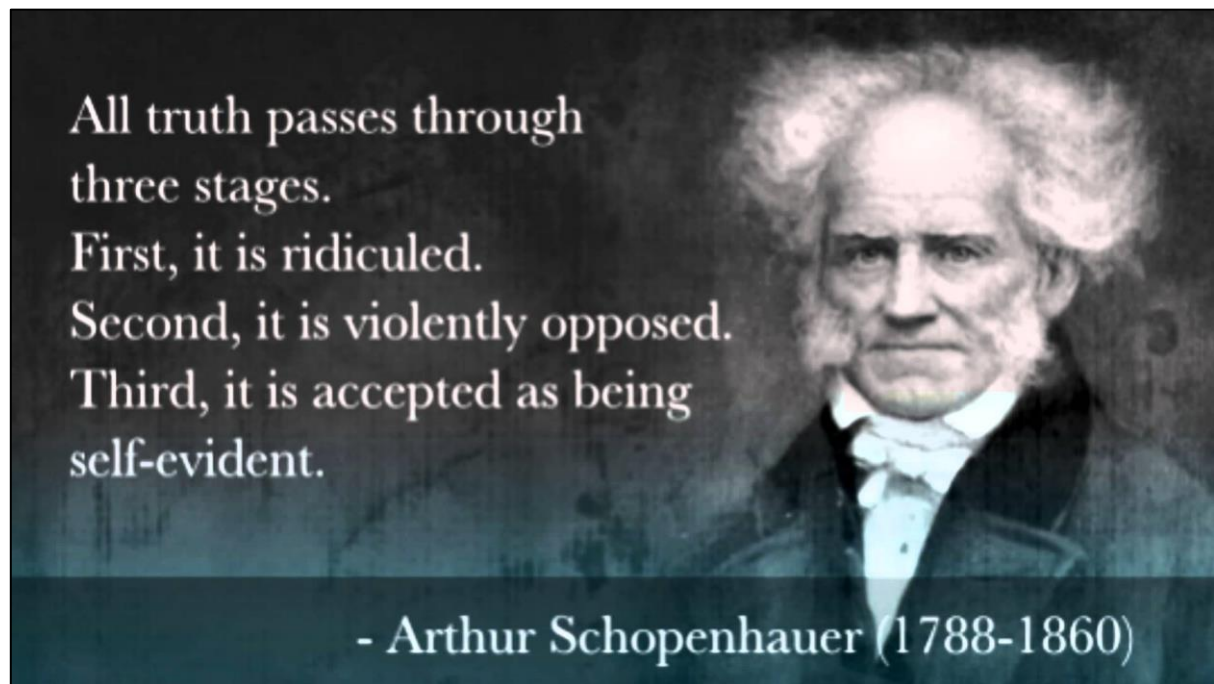


Elim Christian Centre Tokoroa – The Cult of Narcissistic Sociopaths IV.

27th of June 2018

The fourth Epistle of Richard Sivell, an unworthy servant of the Truth, to the Church of New Zealand. *I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and no lie comes from the truth.*¹ – Apostle John



The following epistle is a transcript of the meeting with ‘elder’ Colin Bridle, Barbara Taylor, Gordon Wilson and myself, on Friday the 22nd of June 2018. This meeting was also recorded and uploaded to youtube.com and can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0FV1-N0AYzA&feature=youtu.be>

“An organic church is simply a church that is born out of spiritual life instead of constructed by human institutions and held together by religious programs. Organic churches are characterized by Spirit-led, open-participatory meetings and non-hierarchical leadership. This is in stark contrast to a clergy-led, institution-driven church.”² – Frank Viola

¹ 1 John 2:21

² Viola, F. & Barna, G. (2002) *Pagan Christianity?: Exploring the Roots of Our Church Practices*. USA. Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.

Italic text indicates my afterthoughts while composing this transcript.

Colin opens with prayer.

Colin: “Lord, I just thank you that we can come here and discuss these matters and be open, honest and frank with each other. Lord we just pray that your Holy Spirit will be present with us and Lord that these matters will be treated with the honour, dignity and respect that they deserve. Lord, we’re made in your image and you care about our hearts and where we’re at. And so Lord, we look to you for the best outcome, in Jesus name, Amen.”



Gordon: “Colin, can I make a small request?”

Colin: “Yep.”

Gordon: “That noise is going to kill the conversation.”

Barbara: “Of course it is, and it will for me too.”

Colin: “Yep, no, that’s all right.”

Barbara: “Background noise.”

Gordon: “Yeah, nah, that’s right, it is hard...”

Barbara: “It’s easier than it was.”

Richard: “And now that you’ve got your hearing aids, you can pick it up even better.”

Barbara: “Yeah. You know what it picks up? The air whistling in the top of the car doors, you can hear where the seal doesn’t quite fit.”

Colin: “Is that better for everybody?”

Barbara: “We’re ready, everybody can hear clearly.”

Colin: “Ok, my understanding is, that this meeting, has been asked for by yourselves in regards to the letter and because you’re recording it, we’ll read the letter out, so you’ve got a full thing. Does that make sense? The letter’s dated the 18th of June but I received it on the 19th when you guys last came to visit. And it says, “The above names, request a meeting with the eldership of the Tokoroa Elim church, at a time that is suitable to all parties. An important stipulation is that Brian Hagger and Lorraine Hagger not be present at this meeting. We would ask that the minutes be recorded for the meeting, please contact Gordon.” And then there is Gordon’s phone number. “To arrange a time and venue, kind regards, Gordon, Richard and Barbara.” For the benefit of the tape, the meeting that we had a couple of days ago seemed to be amicable and I’ve always found, when we are in situations like this, that we’ve got to do it right and do it well. And so with that, for the sake of the tape again, there’s some documentation that I was given. The minutes taken in regards, by Carole Clark, re meeting held Wednesday 9th of January at the Elim church. Elim Christian Centre Tokoroa, the cult of narcissism and psychopaths, 29th of January 2018.”

Richard: “Elim Christian Centre Tokoroa, the cult of narcissistic sociopaths.”

Gordon: *[laughs]*

Barbara: “You forgot to say the year of the minutes.”

Colin: “Oh, 2018.”

Barbara: “No, the minutes.”

Richard: “2008, wasn’t it?”

Colin: “The date is Wednesday the 9th of January, it doesn’t actually give the year on this copy that I’ve got.”

Gordon gives Colin another copy of the minutes.

Colin: “I’ve just been given a new copy which gives the date of the 9th of January 2008.”

A woman opens the door and walks in.

Colin: “At the moment Gendy, can you just give us some time? I’ve got a meeting. *[laughs]* Give me about half an hour. Thank you. I might just lock the door, eh?”

Richard: “Lock them out.”

Colin locks the door.

Colin: “Ok, um, so there are...”

Richard: “No, I don’t think Brian and Lorraine are psychopaths, but I do think they’re sociopaths.”

	Psychopath	Sociopath
Suffers from:	Lack of Empathy or Conscience	Antisocial personality disorder
Impulsivity:	High	Varied
Behavior:	Erratic	Controlled
Criminal behavior:	Tendency to leave clues and act on impulse	Tendency participate in schemes and take calculated risks to minimize evidence or exposure
Criminal Predispositions:	Tendency for impulsive or opportunistic criminal behavior, excessive risk taking, impulsive or opportunistic violence	Tendency for premeditated crimes with controllable risks, criminal opportunism, fraud, calculated or opportunistic violence
Social relationships:	Unable to maintain normal relationships	Tendency to appear superficially normal in social relationships, often social predators
Predisposition to Violence:	High	Varied

Colin: “Ok, all right, ok. So we’ve got three documents, one dated, four documents actually. We’ve got the meeting minutes from the 9th of January 2008. Some material that was emailed out the 29th of January 2018, 5th of June 2018 and 17th of June 2018. Everybody happy?”

Barbara: “Yes.”

Richard: “Yep.”

Colin: “So people understand what documentation I’ve been given. My understanding is that this documentation has also been emailed out to a range and a number of parties, throughout the country, through the Elim movement. Is that correct?”

Richard: “Yep.”

Colin: “Has it gone to anyone outside the Elim movement.”

Richard: “Yep, local pastors. Well, a number, it’s gone to Gary Coffin at Activate church, it’s gone to the AOG email and it’s gone to the Baptist church. Apart from Gary Coffin giving me some initial feedback, telling me to shut my mouth and the whole lot, no one else has, so I’m not too sure if they’ve received it or not.”

Colin: “Ok.”

Richard: “But it has been sent to local churches because he is head of the local Christian minister’s association and so I think it’s important they know what’s being said about him.”

Colin: “In the documentation, oh, I want to go back to the last meeting that we had, so that there’s some clarity. At the last meeting, it was agreed that, because the request was, for me to set up a meeting with the eldership of the Tokoroa Elim church. I need to explain that Carole Clark, who has been an elder for some time and was an elder at the key time of some of these events, is unable to be with us. She is ill and sick and it’s because of her health, you guys and myself, we don’t want to put any strain or pressure on her while she is ill. I promised you that I would talk to my wife, as she is the other elder. Claire felt that given the information that is here, that she would follow my lead as her husband. Ok. In this documentation, there are concerns raised, in regards to pastor Brian Hagger and there are concerns raised about my conduct and my wife’s conduct. And, so, because of those issues, you guys made it clear, or because of what’s in here, there have been accusations levelled which need to be answered and addressed in a whole open and honest way. I have a different view to some of those events, as they’ve been put in this paper work. However, on the 19th, myself and Richard talked. And would you say this is a fair summation of what we talked about? In that, uh, you and I talked and the word says if you’ve got fault against your brother, sort it out basically. And I’m of that ilk because that’s Biblical pattern, rather than going and talking to a whole lot of people, I like to sort things out one on one, front and centre. We had an open discussion, a frank discussion, didn’t we?”

Richard: “Yep.”

Colin: “And the main issue that you raised with me, was the issue of the kangaroo courts.”

Richard: “That’s right.”

Colin: “And I explained to you, that at the time, that there were matters raised, that I was there as a witness to what Brian was saying in relation to some personal matters and stresses that you were under at the time. I am reluctant to say what those issues are because it is being taped and

unless you give consent for that. All right. Because, having been a social worker as well, I have a code of conduct, which requires me, to keep your information confidential and so, because I don't have written consent from you, it makes it very difficult to talk about those issues without you granting me consent to talk about them."

Why are you continuing to flog a dead horse Colin? I'm not on trial here, I've already been judged and punished. You apologised to me regarding the kangaroo courts in that meeting. We shook hands and I told you, "We are at peace." I also told you, "I haven't forgotten how you helped me out, when you worked for the Salvation Army, with food parcels etc." - We only had that meeting because you got my number off Gordon and called me. You asked for the private meeting, as a prerequisite before you were going to organise a meeting with the elders.

Richard: "I didn't grant Brian consent either, but he was quite happy to spread it around town and through the congregation and through other churches."

I privately confessed to Brian that I had looked at pornography, following Scriptural guidelines confessed my sin,³ assuming Brian being a pastor, would honour his position, keep it confidential, pray for me and restore me in a spirit of meekness.⁴ This did not happen.

Colin: "Ok, so my question to you is, at any point..."

Richard: "Like I said to you at that meeting, I don't think it was you."

Colin: "Yep, ok, so I want to establish the fact, that to the best of my knowledge, I have not spoken to all and sundry about the difficulties that you were facing. What I did do at the time when you were facing those difficulties, was that, I did my very best to help and assist.

Richard: "I remember that and I acknowledge that. I don't have a problem with that, you did help me out, you came to minister to me and you did your best, when I was in a pretty dark place. So, you know, and like we said, at the personal meeting we had last week, you and I are at peace."

Colin: "Ok, thank you. So, that's for the benefit of the tape."

Richard: "Yep, so that everybody knows."

Colin: "This is about process."

³ James 5:16

⁴ Galatians 6:1

Gordon: “We’re not doing it for the tape.”

Colin is doing it for the ‘benefit of the tape’, whatever that means? We are doing it for the benefit of Tokoroa, to prevent others from being abused by Hagger and co. in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. And praying for an anointed minister of the Holy Spirit to take his place.

Colin: “Yep, I realise that. So, while we’re sat at this table, so that, for clarity, again for the tape, I don’t believe that, I have any issue with you, Gordon, or yourself Barbara, is that correct?”

Barbara: “Correct.”

Gordon: “That is correct Colin.”

Colin: “Thank you.”

Richard: “And I would also state that, you were not an elder at the time; that what went down with Barbara and Gordon, you weren’t present and were not an elder.”

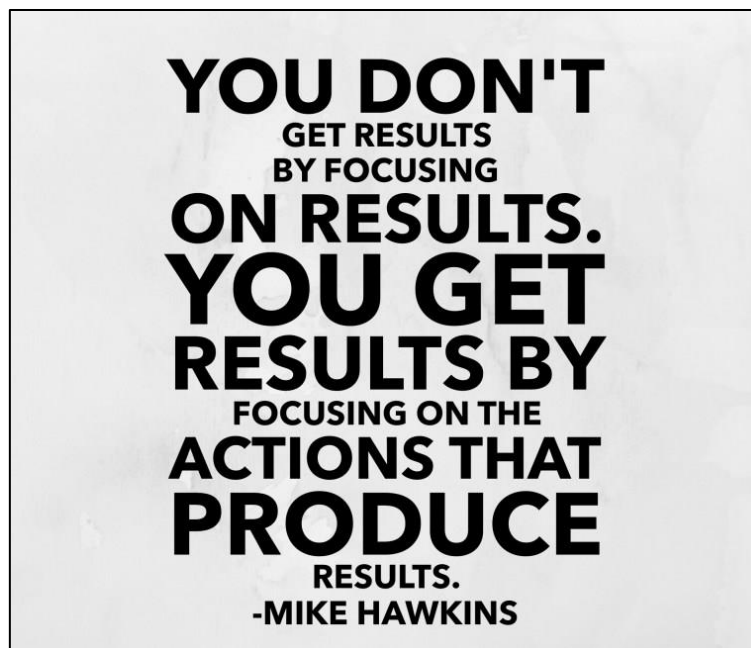
Colin: “Ok, right, so, that leads me to the next point and I know that I might be monopolising the conversation and I...”

Barbara: “You have to.”

Colin: “...have to give room for comment, ok? Because the accusations have been raised and they’re in print and because they’ve gone broader, than the immediate people around this table and because I didn’t get an opportunity to resolve those issues with you prior to the stuff going out to everybody. I am left in the position where, unfortunately, it has gone beyond me. But, I am quite happy for people to scrutinize myself and my actions and Claire is quite happy also to have her actions and behaviours scrutinized as well. We have a different version to what’s in here, I understand, at the time Richard, that you were under considerable pressure, particularly when you wrote the first one, you were angry and upset and hurt.”

Richard: “Well, it wasn’t only what happened to me, as I stated, when I was talking to Trevor and Chris from Elim. It’s that this is an accumulation, it is an accumulation! There is a history of this bullying that is happening under the Elim banner. And to get results, I purposely, intentionally, sent it out to as many Elim pastors as I could. Because I knew, I had gone down with Mr. Burston to seek reconciliation, make peace with Brian and there was nothing. And nothing has happened with Barbara and Gordon, there has been no peace made with them and there’s other people that I’m meeting too. Look what’s happened and if you read those documents, I’ve mentioned Ruth, I’ve mentioned Flo, you even had Pam that was down there

for many years serving Brian and then she ended up leaving and becoming a bloody Jehovah Witness! You know, after all those years! There's an issue down there and it needs to be addressed and that's the only way I could see getting some attention, was to do that, to put it out there. Like Gordon said to Trevor, when Trevor said, "Hey, there's a way of doing this." Gordon said, "If we hadn't done this, we wouldn't be having this meeting." There's truth to that."



Colin: "Ok, so from that. Because statements have been made. I'm in a position where because of what you've said, from an outside perspective and from other people looking in, I have a case, there is a case to answer against me or to at least to be investigated thoroughly and properly. And so with that in mind..."

Richard: "What's the case against you Colin?"

Colin: "Well, you've made statements in here, that I've gaslighted etc."

Richard: "Brian Hagger gaslighted, I didn't...oh, I might have mentioned you in the..."

Colin: "Yes you have, there is a number of things in here. And because those statements have been made. It's kind of, it means that, I need to follow good process because part of the complaint is about good process as well. About how things have been handled, whether they've been handled properly and correctly."

Richard: "Exactly."

Colin: “Ok. So, for this matter to be handled properly and correctly, I need to send all this information to the national leadership team.”

Barbara: “Yep.”

Colin: “And to Trevor who is the area senior pastor, so that, they can continue an investigation, that I’m understanding, happened at an earlier date, when they’ve come and spoken with you. And I wasn’t privy to all the things that went on there, so, I’m not going to pretend to know how all that went, ok? But what I can say is, that everything you’ve given me here, including the most recent information, I will pass on to Trevor and Chris Bethwaite and ask them to revisit the issue. I will also ask them, to make a judgement on my fitness to be an elder and to continue in the function of that office.”

Barbara: “All of you though. See, my point particularly, is that, when it all went down, I had been to Carole and told her the entire story, but I had never talked to anyone previously about Brian’s helping me in to the house before we decided I would buy it because he asked me not to. And therefore, when there was trouble, I thought, someone else besides me, has to know. So, I went to her in confidence and I said, “Would you listen to a story?” Told her the whole thing and she never stood up for me when I was accused of being a liar. That’s my point, she’s the only one that knew. Now, she’s ill, I understand, but she was my only back up. Somehow, she needs to confirm that she knew, even if it’s verbally to you.”

Colin: “Well, because of the way this has gone down, I will ask Trevor, to please talk to Carole.”

Barbara: “That will be enough.”

Colin: “Ok, I have no problem with that at all, so I will need a copy of the tape so I don’t miss anything. Does that make sense?”

Gordon: “Not a problem.”

Colin: “Because I want to do things, faithfully and correctly.”

Barbara: “See, that would have stopped the whole thing when it started. And that had been my intention, but it didn’t happen.”

Colin: “Ok.”

Barbara: “But either way, we now have written proof, so…”

Colin: “Ok.”

Barbara: “And that’s what Trevor wanted by the way.”

Colin: “Ok, so do you have a copy of the contact details for the couple, so I can pass those on to Trevor?”

Barbara: “We do, don’t we?”

Richard: “I do have their contact details but two statutory declarations from Gordon and myself should be sufficient enough at this stage. Like I said in that third epistle, I’m going to protect their ministry, this is not their fight and depending on how you play your cards, that information might need to come out later on but at this stage, we don’t think it’s necessary. We want to protect their ministry, you know, they are ministers themselves.”

Gordon hands Colin the original statutory declarations.

Colin: “Yeah, I’ve got those copies, of those documents.”

Gordon: “Yes, but you need to sight the originals Colin and be satisfied they are true and correct.”

Colin compares the copies in the third epistle with the originals.

Gordon: “The reason why, is those are admissible in a court of law and I fail to see that you would need more than that.”

Colin: “So, the first one, statutory declaration, Barbara’s is right.”

Gordon: “Barbara’s one is not a statutory declaration anymore, but she has signed it, that’s her signature but it’s not witnessed. It’s not really admissible in a court of law, it would have to be re-done.”

Richard: “But that’s not a problem.”

Colin: “Yeah, yeah, yeah, no, no, that’s fine.”

Gordon: “For us, we know that Barbara...”

Colin: “You asked me to sight them, so I’m following process, ok? Which was the one thing you guys were really concerned about. Yeah, looks like a true and correct copy.”

Gordon: “That one’s a little bit hard to read, the copy, but...”

Colin: “Yep, but, it’s clear enough to read. I can read it, so, even without my glasses, so...”

Barbara: “Trevor wanted me to prove...”

Colin: “Ok, the second thing I asked for was whether there was a copy of the sale and purchase agreement.”

Barbara: “Why would you need that? That’s what I would need to know.”

Colin: “Ok, the only reason I asked for that was, it just shows what price the house was sold, that’s all. I was trying to cover all my bases. That’s all.”

Barbara: “Well, you don’t need that because Brian backed off and I bought it for the original price.”

Colin: “Ok, that’s fine.”

Gordon: “Carole wrote it in the minutes. And that is a true account.”

Colin: “Ok, yeah, yeah. No, we’ve got a copy of the minutes so I’m not...”

Barbara: “I couldn’t work out why you wanted it.”

Colin: “Ok, so my promise to you, is to forward this information on, to allow myself to be fully investigated and my wife to be fully investigated and for Brian and Lorraine to be investigated by the national leadership team.”



Barbara: “That’s fair enough.”

Colin: “I am sad that it has taken so long for something like this to work its way through. But, as you can see, at the point that you came to me, I did not muck around, I got on with it.”

Barbara: “We understand that.”

Gordon: “We’re not here to hang Colin Bridle, we’re here to hang Brian Hagger.”

Colin: “You’re here to deal with the issue and the issue needs to be...”

Gordon: “I would say that the issues are near criminal. They’re not but very close to it. Certainly for a church, to have a man without integrity, in leadership for ten years, is a problem. He’s had ten years to sort it out and has not. He has had ten years to reconsider his complete lack of integrity about the way he handled Barbara, the way he handled me, the way he called me a robber, it just doesn’t make sense.”

Richard: “And it’s a bit concerning too, that he comes in to the church and there is a handful of elders and now we’re dealing with one person.”

Gordon: “And the church has grown, we’ve got more people, less elders.”

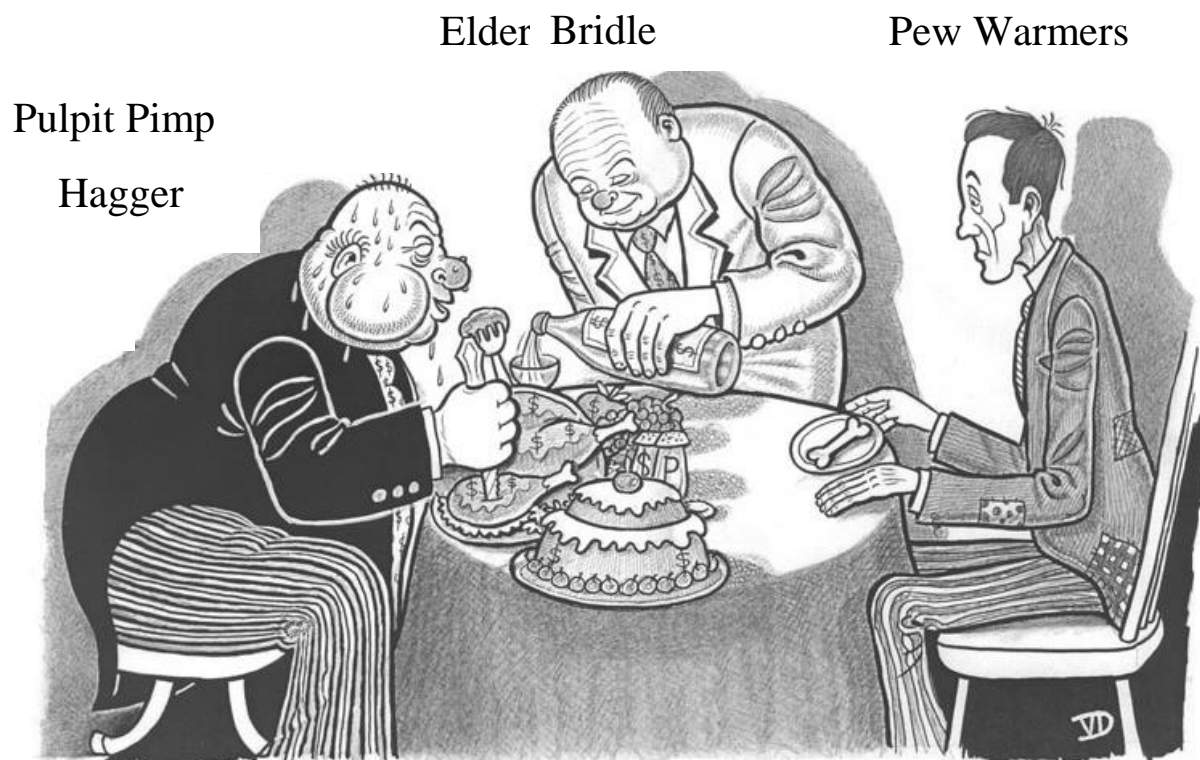
Richard: “Which is centralising power and it’s not healthy. There needs to be accountability. You’ve got a man like that, you’re supporting him and you’re under him and that influences you, you know, if there’s a little bit of yeast at the top, it will filter down.”



Colin: “I will answer that. For the benefit of the tape. In most organisations or groups, change takes time. The way the structure and the way the church is run is quite different from what it was eight years ago, or in 2008. I’m not going to defend the structure or go much further than

to say that, the structure is what it is, and this matter is not so much about the structure of the church or how the church is run. The matters before us are about process around what happened with the house with Barbara and the matters raised about conduct here. Ok, so let's not elongate things out and go broader and broader and broader and broader. We need to deal with the issues first and foremost that are at hand. Ok, we need to do this right and it has to be done right and the only passage or way I have to move this forward, is to place it in the hands of others, to make those determinations because I don't have authority to do so. Because you've put me in a place where I am now part of the problem and so I have to be judged accordingly, as well in this situation."

Of course this is about "the structure of the church and how the church is run." You have tyranny not fellowship, you have a dictatorship. As I discussed with you Colin, in the private meeting, the kangaroo courts, you as the elder, supported Brian while he bullied me, I wasn't given the opportunity to have anyone present as a support person, its spiritual abuse. It's evil.



Barbara: "Yeah, we understand that."

Colin: "Ok and my actions, my responses. What I do want to say is, I care about you guys. I care about where you're at. I personally, know what it's like when things go tough."

Gordon: "And I know."

Colin: “And so, I have empathy. Please hear me, I am not duck shovelling it off and saying, oh well I don’t want to deal with it. I would love to be able to deal with some stuff here but my hands are tied because of what’s gone on before and what’s in this paperwork. And, so, anybody who is accused of something has to face the music and I’m prepared to face the music.”

Richard: “Yeah, well you need to. Damage has happened, you’ve got Gordon here, who’s been 35 years in the church and he’s never going to go back. You’ve got Barbara who has only just started going back to church and I haven’t gone back. And, that’s because of our dealings with Brian Hagger.”

Colin: “Yep and I hear you. And so, the good thing is, what we do is we pass it on to those who are charged with the responsibility of dealing with it.”

Barbara: “I’d like to point something out relevant right now.”

Colin: “Go for it.”

Barbara: “Trevor kept using the word, this is your ‘opinion’ about what happened. Well it certainly wasn’t, I told him the facts. However, he said, it’s Brian’s opinion that and it’s only your opinion without paperwork. We now have proof, so he must step up and say, “It’s fact, not opinion.” Stop using that word ‘opinion’.”

Colin: “And that’s why one of the reasons why I asked for the contact details of the mortgage broker. Because I think one of the pivotal things for me, if I was investigating but because I’m going to be investigated, but if I was investigating, one of the things I would be doing would be wanting to talk to that person and that’s why I asked.”

Richard: “But you can understand why we are refusing to because we went and saw these people face to face and they are not part of the Elim church. They are part of a different denomination but they are ministers in their own right and I can understand from their point of view, they do not want to get dragged in to this, they could be seen as supporting taking down another pastor. And that is not their intention, they don’t want it but they confirmed that it was the truth. And that is why Gordon and myself went and did the statutory declarations and didn’t mention them because we want to leave them out of this as much as possible.”

Colin: “Well, I’ve asked anyway, so that matter is a matter for you guys to work through.”

Barbara: “And that is all that Trevor asked for.”

Gordon: “If you want to investigate the mortgage broker, you’re welcome to do so but please understand that if it came to a court of law and if those statutory declarations were used and it was proven that we misspoke and that we represented wrongly, we could be charged with perjury.”

Colin: “Yeah, yeah, yeah.”

Richard: “So we put our neck out there.”

Gordon: “We put our necks on the line, so you guys have got sufficient evidence to say, without going to the mortgage broker, that this is what happened. And you can challenge it in court and we will lose if we lied.”

Colin: “Yeah, yeah, yeah, no, no. But, I’m not of the ilk of taking your brother to court. That is not where I was coming from.”

Are you doing this for the ‘benefit of the tape’ Colin? Because you told me at the private meeting you requested on the 19th of June, that you were going to talk to some powerful lawyer friends you knew in Wellington regarding defamation.

Gordon: “I know that but we’re thinking ahead. I would love it to go to court.”

Colin: “Ok.”

Gordon: “Actually, because I know what I’m standing on.”

Colin: “Yes, ok.”

Gordon: “And I know what’s right in this situation. I’m not perfect but I know what is right in this situation and I think you do to.”

Colin: “Ok, so, I think the process from here, has anybody got anything else they want to say?”

Barbara: “No, that’s all I wanted to say, to make it clear.”

Colin: “Cool. Ok, so are you able to download the tape and send it to my email for me?”

Gordon: “Yes, I will forward it.”

Richard: “Yes, I will even send you an email, I’m going to do a transcript of it. So I will give you a copy of that too.”

Colin: “As soon as you get that to me, I will email that off to them. Along with...”

Gordon: “You don’t need to send that to them, they’ve got it already.”

Colin: “Ok, so if you send that on and then I hope they will come back with some plan of how they’re going to work through and interview and stuff like that because obviously interviews will need to occur.”

Richard: “Trevor said he did interviews, so I assume that he has already spoken to you.”

Colin: “Well, he spoke to me but I’m not going to talk about that conversation, because that’s not my place to. And the other thing is, I don’t want to prejudice how they investigate me either. I want to be totally open so that the questions can be openly asked and stuff like that.”

Barbara: “Yep.”

Colin: “It’s about doing it right and if I could do more I would, but my hands are tied at this point.”

Barbara: “Look, if it goes through with Elim doing something right, it will be a shock to me.”

Gordon: [laughs]

Colin: “Well, Barbara, I will promise you that I will do what is right...”

Barbara: “This is why we’re sitting here with you.”

Colin: “...to my knowledge and ability, all right? I’m not perfect, I’m not infallible but my heart, I want you to see my heart...”

Barbara: “We wouldn’t be talking to you if we thought otherwise, you understand?”

Colin: “Yeah, I realise that and that’s why I want to make sure we work it through.”

Barbara: “Yeah.”

Gordon: “Also, in fairness to you Colin, if I had known that you were the only person standing before us, I probably wouldn’t have done it. Because, it is not fair to you, to have to carry something like this. Ok, I was with you when you went through that stuff at church, so many years ago and you don’t need it again. I didn’t know it was only you and some ladies as the eldership. I’m sorry, but that is wrong. That is wrong.”

Colin: “The reality is, we play our cards the way they lay. And the fact is, that you know that in talking to me you will get an honest, straight from the hip answer. I don’t have to hide from anything because I don’t believe I’ve got anything to hide from and I’ve always tried to lead

my life as an open book and there are parts of my life, if you look right back, that were really messy and not so good.”

Richard: “Oh, me too, you know I’m not perfect either Colin, you know that.”

Colin: “Yeah, yeah and I’m quite happy for them to go through me again, I know that my heart is right, I know that I am walking with the Lord as best I can and my aim is to seek resolution and where possible make sure restoration occurs to the best of my ability because it’s about relationships and it’s about faith in God and it’s about doing it right the best way you know how. Sometimes, we can’t always all agree, however that shouldn’t stop us from caring for each other and making sure that matters get dealt with properly.”

Barbara: “Which is my point. Having been in education for long as I have, and dealt with many, many, many professional people, I did not expect some of the manipulative behaviour and lies in my church. I had always understood, that in my church, I chose a Pentecostal church with status, so to speak, would do things right and it was a dreadful shock to find out they were no better. No better than what I’ve come across in civil areas.”

Richard: “Its faith destroying stuff when you have someone in that position and you cop spiritual abuse and it does, you know, it does a lot of internal, deep damage. I wouldn’t want to inflict anything on you Colin personally. Like I said, we’re at peace, but this matter with Brian needs to be addressed because if they don’t do something about it, I’m concerned that there’s going to be more people that are going to be hurt. Like Gordon said, we don’t want their blood on our hands because we didn’t do anything.”

Gordon: “Because we didn’t speak up.”

Colin: “All right, I think that’s a good place to leave it, shall we just close in prayer, would somebody else like to close in prayer?”

Richard: “Yeah, I can pray. Father, we thank you for this meeting today. We pray that there is a light at the end of this tunnel and that all things will come out in to the light and justice shall be done. I just pray for Colin, I agree with Gordon, that he is between a rock and a hard place with this and I just lift him up to you Lord and I pray for the Elim leadership that they do have the courage to go through and do what is right and sort this matter out, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.”

Conclusion

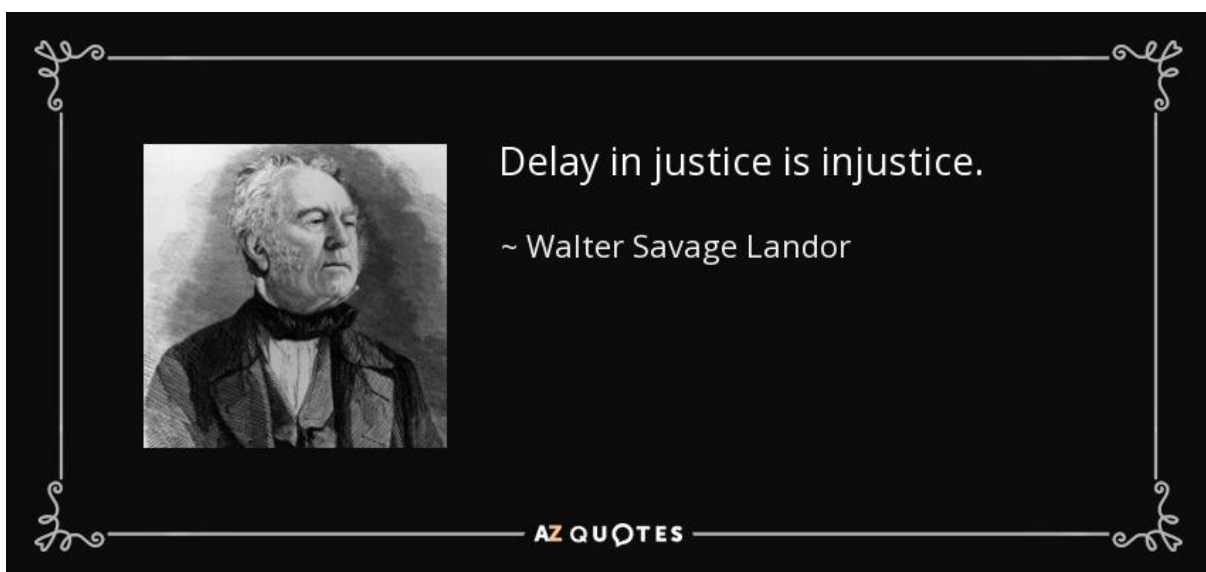
According to the Elim Church of New Zealand's statement of faith: a minister, *must not be a person who secures money or favours by intimidation or the misuse of authority.*⁵

“We’re not here to hang Colin Bridle, we’re here to hang Brian Hagger!” – Gordon Wilson

...for these offenses; basing your ministry on a lie, using your position to attempt to extort money out of elderly ladies, bearing false witness against the brethren, harshly plundering and scattering the flock, creating a cult of narcissistic nepotism, distributing propaganda from the mutilators of the flesh and desecrating the holy church of Christ, Brian Hagger, you have been found guilty. By repentance of your crimes, seek to obtain mercy from Almighty God. The sentence ought to be executed by the national leadership team immediately, I hope, this terrible example will deter others from committing such atrocious crimes against the people of God and through caution and experience, other ministers under the Elim banner, such an offence be detected and punished likewise...

"Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices-mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law - justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former."⁶

- Lord Jesus Christ



⁵ <http://www.elim.org.nz/about/beliefs.aspx>

⁶ Mathew 23:23