

# DEVIATIONS FROM THE TRUTH IN THE TEACHINGS OF DONG YU LAN<sup>1</sup>

Note: Many of the quotations below contain false accusations made by Dong Yu Lan and his co-workers. The purpose of this document is to simply present the deviations in truth and the false accusations as spoken.

## **Deviation Concerning the Inspiration and Authority of the New Testament**

Matthew, Mark, and Luke were not in the Spirit when they wrote their Gospels; Paul wrote his epistles in a “judicial” (i.e., legal, doctrinal, in the mind) way and lost his commission from God; all of the twelve apostles neglected the matters of Spirit and life.

That purpose was not presented in the gospels of Matthew, Mark nor Luke because when they wrote they were not in the Spirit, because [yet] the Spirit already was. The Lord Jesus, after His crucifixion, He became the Spirit. But, probably, they did not apply that Spirit. (Dong Yu Lan, Sumaré, Brazil, February 11, 2005, *quoted in a letter sent to Brother Dong from 21 Coworkers, June 4, 2005, page 4*)

What God commissioned him [Paul] with was His New Testament economy, but he wrote it down in his epistles in a judicial way and sent it to the churches. He failed to figure out a way to practice it in the church. Therefore, he lost his commission from God, and God let him go. Later he was killed by the Roman Prince, by the Roman army. We can say that his judicial ministry was terminated right then. (Dong Yu Lan, Sumaré, Brazil, September 7, 2007)

All of the twelve apostles—all of them had their own things from their reading the Bible. The Lord trained them for three years and a half, but they all applied it according to what was the most beneficial to them, while neglecting the inward life and Spirit. Therefore, John eventually brought to us the matter of this life and Spirit. (Dong Yu Lan, Belem, Brazil, November 19, 2006)<sup>2</sup>

## **Depreciation of the Apostles’ Teaching and Ministry**

The ministry of the twelve apostles was “traditional” and the ministry of Paul was “judicial” (i.e., legal, doctrinal, in the mind); only the “organic” ministry of John continued; God allowed Peter and Paul to be killed to terminate their ministries.

John had a turn from the traditional ministry and from the judicial ministry to the organic ministry! We already have said that the traditional ministry is the ministry of the twelve apostles. The legal ministry, the judicial ministry is Paul’s ministry. (Dong Yu Lan, *Daily Food: Growth in Life for the Kingdom*, Week 5, Tuesday)

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<sup>1</sup> The quotations in this document are translated directly from the original spoken language. This is particularly important to understand related to the translations of Dong Yu Lan’s speaking, which was in Chinese. In many cases the real-time translations of his speaking into other languages by his co-workers were not entirely consistent with Brother Dong’s speaking, so they do not exactly match the translations here. In cases where the variances are large (and therefore what a large part of his audience heard was significantly different from what Brother Dong actually said), his translator’s speaking is included in a footnote.

<sup>2</sup> Dong Yu Lan’s translator said:

The twelve apostles had twelve ministries; they had twelve different ministries. The Lord trained them for three years and a half, but every one of them applied according to what most interested them or what was more convenient for them. But many of them lost the main thing, which is Spirit and life. That is why John at the end of his life brought forth the matter of the Spirit and life.

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This is why in the 70's A.D., the Lord allowed Roman Emperor Titus to eliminate the traditional ministry and the judicial ministry. Peter, the leading one in the traditional ministry, was killed. Paul, the leading one in the judicial ministry, was also killed. John was not killed, because although he was also one of the leading ones in the traditional ministry, he only followed Peter. According to the Roman law, Peter was the principal, and John was only an "accomplice". Therefore, Peter was killed, but John's life was spared and was put in prison. All this was arranged by God so that John might be reminded of all of the Lord's speaking to them. (Dong Yu Lan, Sumaré, Brazil, September 8, 2007)

Paul should also know that God gave us the Spirit so that we would practice the truth. Unfortunately, in his third journey, Paul himself was not in the Spirit, so he was unable to promote practicing the truth in the church life. As a result, the truth was not carried out. (Dong Yu Lan, Lima, Peru, January 13, 2008)

When John was with the other apostles, his ministry was still suffering under the traditional influence, but after many years of experiences with the Lord, of revelations and exile, his ministry became one of Spirit and life. (Dong Yu Lan, *Daily Food: The Organic Ministry of John*, Week 5, Monday)

### **Replacing the "Judicial" Ministry of Watchman Nee and Witness Lee with the "Organic" Ministry of Dong Yu Lan**

Watchman Nee's ministry was "judicial" (i.e. legal, doctrinal, in the mind).

And Brother Witness Lee told us that Brother Nee's room, even on his bed, was full of books. So we can say that was a transfer there. He took all the writing from tradition and brought them to the judicial realm. (Dong Yu Lan, *Daily Food: Growth in Life for the Kingdom*, Week 1, Friday)

Witness Lee's "judicial" ministry, like the "judicial" ministry of Paul, has "passed away."

Brother Lee's judicial ministry has passed away... (Dong Yu Lan, Piracicaba, Brazil, September 29, 2007)

If Brother Lee's ministry were like John's ministry, it would have been possible to last until the Lord comes back. But he passed away and took with him all the riches. (Dong Yu Lan, Piracicaba, Brazil, September 29, 2007)

The "old messages" are "doctrine," and the saints in the "judicial" recovery have been brought into the mind by studying the truth.

They kept talking about doctrine, doctrine, doctrine. We all know about it very well. No need to re-speak those old messages. We have been brought into the spirit. (Dong Yu Lan, Sumaré, Brazil, September 7, 2007)<sup>3</sup>

In the judicial [recovery] they only care if the doctrine is presented correctly. "For the heart of this people has become fat." They are stuck in their soul. They do not pay attention to the growth of life, because they are not in their spirit. All those judicial people are in their mind.

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<sup>3</sup> Dong Yu Lan's translator said:

Because they lived in their souls and kept discussing doctrine and more doctrine and more doctrine. These things we already know. Don't keep digging the old messages to have something to speak about it. Now we have been brought to the Spirit.

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They focus only on the interpretation of the truth. (Dong Yu Lan, Piracicaba, Brazil, September 30, 2007)

Instead, they took “the Spirit” as merely a topic of study and discussion. What kind of “Spirit” is this? Is it the Spirit of Jehovah, or the Spirit of Christ, or the Holy Spirit? All this is in the mind. (Dong Yu Lan, Sumaré, Brazil, September 1, 2007)

Dong Yu Lan’s ministry is the continuation of the “organic” ministry of John.

Not only did Brother Lee have a ministry, not only did the twelve apostles have a ministry, not only did Paul have a ministry, but we also have a ministry; and our ministry is a continuation of John’s organic ministry. (Dong Yu Lan, Sumaré, Brazil, September 1, 2007)

When we were under the judicial leadership in the churches in the recovery, we all fell into the judicial realm, where we focused very much on the truths in the Bible, especially those in Paul’s epistles. But they merely studied and discussed those truths, fellowshiping about what those truths are. Thank the Lord for bringing us forward into John’s ministry. (Dong Yu Lan, Sumaré, Brazil, September 3, 2007)

Dong Yu Lan is God’s commissioned one; to go against Dong Yu Lan is to go against God; to speak against Dong Yu Lan is to blaspheme the Holy Spirit.

And what we see, we who follow brother Dong, we see that there is a commission of God over him, and when he says something, you take this as God’s speaking, it happens, it happens. (Pedro Dong, Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 2, 2005)

...but these riches (in Witness Lee’s books published by Living Stream Ministry) are like the riches that Paul left to us. They do not produce the move. God needs someone living here to produce the move. Don’t argue if someone is more educated or not, if someone knows more or knows less. Just argue if a person is commissioned or not. Has God commissioned someone among us or not? If he is commissioned, it is like God doing things through us. God is speaking the word in our midst. If you go against what this person is speaking, you’re going against God and the move is not produced in you. (Peter Dong, Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 2, 2005)

If you go against Brother Dong, you are going against God. Read Numbers 12. (E-mail from André Dong to a brother in Chile, July 24, 2007)<sup>4</sup>

“Therefore I say to you, Every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, neither in this age nor in the one to come.” Dear brothers, some people are too insolent; when they are attacking Brother Dong, they are attacking the Holy Spirit. (Dong Yu Lan, Piracicaba, Brazil, September 29, 2007)

### **Carrying Out a Different Ministry**

Brother Nee’s and Brother Lee’s messages are no longer applicable today; Dong Yu Lan now has “the present truth.”

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<sup>4</sup> Numbers 12 recounts the story of Miriam’s being judged with leprosy for speaking against Moses:

[8] ...Why then were you not afraid to speak against My servant, against Moses? [9]And the anger of Jehovah was kindled against them, and He departed. [10] And when the cloud had departed from over the tent; there Miriam was, leprous, as white as snow. And Aaron turned toward Miriam, and there she was, leprous.

The clear implication is that to disagree with Brother Dong’s ministry and work is rebellion resulting in leprosy.

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Brother Lee has gone to be with the Lord for many years; can his messages still apply to us today? Brother Lee urged us to get into the present truth, as we see in 1 Peter 1 [sic]. Why could Brother Lee no longer use Brother Nee's truths such as head covering and laying on of hands? Because those were the truths of that age, not the present truth. (Dong Yu Lan, Cochabamba, Bolivia, August 2004)

Even after Brother Lee went to be with the Lord, the Lord continued giving us revelations and showing us many truths. (Dong Yu Lan, *Os Escritos de Joao: As Quatro Grandes Visoes de Joao* (EAV: 2006), pp. 65-66)

2 Pet. 1:12 says, "Be established in the present truth." What is the present truth that the Lord has given to us in South America? Simply, to practice spirit and life by calling on the Lord and pray-reading the word...The present truth is not the outdated truth, not the "judicial" truth, but the organic truth...[T]he American co-workers want us to submit to them and follow their command. We cannot have our own conferences; we can only listen to their messages in the conferences. If that is the case, how can we have the present truth? We should not turn back to the outdated truth. (Dong Yu Lan, Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, September 16, 2007)

Brother Lee and Brother Nee did not see what Dong Yu Lan has seen; Dong Yu Lan has gone higher and further than Brother Nee and Brother Lee did.

We can say that today we are standing on the shoulders of the United Brethren, Brother Nee, and Brother Lee. Everything they saw, we see today. However, now the Lord has shown us more. (Dong Yu Lan, *Os Escritos de Joao: As Quatro Grandes Visoes de Joao* (EAV: 2006), p. 105)

John has a much greater meaning than what Christianity thinks, and it has even more than what we in the recovery think it has. But today, brothers, we rediscovered John...Brothers, this is not a small thing. This is not a small thing. Sorry to say, even Brother Lee has not spoken this! Watchman Nee did not speak this! Witness Lee did not speak this. When I was listening [to Brother Dong]...I said, "The Lord is sealing this ministry"...No one has ever said this before! No one!...Not even Watchman Nee or Witness Lee spoke about this. The Lord is really raising up a new phase. We have been brought into this new phase. (Pedro Dong, Sumaré, Brazil, May 20, 2007)

Those who do not follow Dong Yu Lan's ministry have left the position of Philadelphia and have become Laodicea.<sup>5</sup>

Today we heard a message spoken by Brother Lee in 1994. He was eager that the brothers exercise their spirit by calling on the name of the Lord. Especially, he expressed his concern for those in Taiwan and North America. [He said,] "If you would not release your spirit, you are very likely to fall into Sardis and Laodicea." Look, he was very much concerned for these two major regions. However, did the brothers put this word into practice? Have we seen them do that? He [Brother Lee] once intended to bring what he saw in Brazil in 1984 to the United

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<sup>5</sup> Aside from being actual historical churches, Philadelphia and Laodicea are prophetic symbols of the recovered church life and the degraded recovered church (Rev. 3:7-22). Being Philadelphia or Laodicea is not a matter of position but of condition. Nowhere in Scripture is there any ground given for dividing from others based on whether or not to follow a particular minister. In fact, Paul expressly rebuked the believers in the church in Corinth for identifying themselves as belonging to particular workers (1 Cor. 1:12).

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States and Taiwan; but the brothers didn't receive it. (Dong Yu Lan, Sumaré, Brazil, September 3, 2006)<sup>6</sup>

Saints, perhaps in the beginning of the twenty-first century, the great spiritual event is the appearing of Laodicea. When Laodicea appeared, there began to be a separation between Philadelphia, who wanted the door open, and Laodicea, who wanted the door closed. (Dong Yu Lan, *Daily Food: He Who Believes, Out of His Innermost Being Shall Flow Rivers of Living Water*, Week 1, Saturday)

Do you know what the Lord does? He separates those who want an open door here and those who want the door closed there. Here is Philadelphia and there Laodicea. The Lord is coming. There is no use praying for Laodicea to be together with Philadelphia....

Perhaps in the beginning of this century the great spiritual event is the emergence of Laodicea. When Laodicea appears a separation will start [between] Philadelphia, those who want an open door and Laodicea, those who want a closed door, but when we take the way of the Lord, the Lord comes to show us something. (Helcio Almeida, Sumaré, Brazil, July 19, 2007)

Those who follow Dong Yu Lan's ministry and are in the position of Philadelphia should not have contact with those who have become Laodicea, thus establishing a basis for division.

We need to let the churches know that the ones from Laodicea left the position of Philadelphia. They were the ones that left. We need to recover and heal those who are both confused and damaged. And we should stay away from those who are decisively in Laodicea; don't have contact with them. (André Dong, "The Orientations of Brother Dong, to be put into effect now, through his son André," July 16, 2007)<sup>7</sup>

God initiated a new stage in His move and in His ministry with the passing away of Brother Lee; the essence of the Lord's recovery has changed; those following Dong Yu Lan are correcting the deficiencies in the Lord's recovery.

Finally we saw the up-to-date word. Since 1998 until today, this is what the Lord has given us. The Lord has given us many items that are on one hand to correct the path of the recovery and on the other hand for us to advance till He comes. (Helcio Almeida, Sao Paulo, Brazil, May 9, 2008)

Since '97 to now, since Brother Lee went to be with the Lord, we have considered how to effectively realize what the Lord has done and evidently, with the passing away of Brother Lee, to initiate a new stage in God's move and in the very word of God. So, we see a correction and a new direction of the Spirit. We have seen the deficiencies in the recovery and we were able to realize, based on what the Lord produced since '98 up to now, exactly

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<sup>6</sup> Dong Yu Lan's translator said:

Today we were reading a book of words spoken by Brother Lee in 1994. He was eager that the brothers exercise their spirit by calling on the name of the Lord. And he spoke a word about his concern about North America and the Far East. And he commented saying that if there is not a proper release of the spirit, the condition would fall into Sardis and Laodicea. He was very much concerned with these two regions of the earth. But the point is: did the brothers take this word to put it into practice? Even up to now, we can see that they didn't mean business with this word. Actually, his concern rose up after he came to Brazil and what he saw; then he wanted to bring what he saw here to North America and also to the Far East. But the brothers didn't receive it.

<sup>7</sup> This document was distributed in southern Chile as a set of directives for the workers and followers of Dong Yu Lan there in response to the decision of the churches there to no longer be associated with the work and ministry of Dong Yu Lan.

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what is the correction and the burden to bring us to complete the work of the building up. (Helcio Almeida, Sao Paulo, Brazil, May 30, 2008)

The points emphasized today by the blended brothers in Anaheim show us clearly the change in essence of the Lord's recovery, with which we cannot agree. This is very bothersome and takes away all the basis for fellowship....[I]n order for us to continue to have fellowship, the essence of what we believe must be the same. (Ezra Ma, e-mail to "manager brothers," June 15, 2007)

The points that will bring the churches into deviation and the recovery into Laodicea...The following six items were presented in an elders' training as being the six pillars in the Lord's recovery: the LSM, the blended brothers, the one publication, the seven feasts, the full-time training, and the morning revival....What the Bible shows us is opposite of what Living Stream Ministry promotes. The emphasis given by LSM, the Ministry (capital letter), is bringing much confusion. Today, the continuation of the ministry of Brother Lee is a company, LSM....Brother Lee became superior to the apostles and to the Lord Jesus Himself....Brother Lee...is considered infallible...The leadership in the Lord's recovery today is in the hands of two teachers: The leadership in the work should be of the apostles and not of the teachers: Ron Kangas and Ed Marks....The focus for the perfecting in the recovery, led by LSM, became selective and elitist: FTT, university students. (Ezra Ma, e-mail to "manager brothers" reporting points given by Helcio Almeida concerning the direction that will lead to Laodicea, June 15, 2007)

Note: EAV published a Spanish Hymnal in 2008 with 748 hymns and songs containing 492 hymns taken from the LSM's Spanish hymnal without attribution being given to LSM and without LSM permission. Eight hymns in the LSM Spanish hymnal are omitted. The translations of six hymns, including five written by Brother Lee, were modified in EAV's Spanish hymnal from what appears in LSM's Spanish hymnal. In five cases EAV added or changed Brother Lee's hymns.

Only South America will carry out God's commission; the saints in Mexico do not speak of the kingdom; in Canada, only London has been entrusted with the "organic" ministry of Dong Yu Lan; the recovery remains in the "judicial" realm.

God has revealed to the churches in South America His highest purpose—Gen. 1:28. He commissioned it to no one else but us, because he knows that only the churches in Brazil will put His word into practice. (Dong Yu Lan, Piracicaba, Brazil, September 29, 2007)

Yes, the Bible does say that the gospel of the kingdom must be preached to the whole inhabited earth...But for the time being this has been practiced only in South America, only for the time being. In Mexico, I never heard them talk about this gospel of the kingdom. They talk about the church; the church is still in that stage of the church to church. They have not seen yet that the Lord put us in the church for the kingdom. They haven't had this light yet. (Dong Yu Lan, London, Canada, October 14, 2007)

So we have a lot of hope concerning the future of the church in London, because so far, this organic ministry, the Lord has not entrusted this ministry to any other church, except for the church in London, in Canada, for the time being. (Dong Yu Lan, London, Canada, October 14, 2007)

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If you are in the judicial realm, you are still in the mind. Even all the churches of the recovery on the entire earth are still very short in this matter: coming back to the Spirit. This recovery remains in the judicial realm. (Dong Yu Lan, Sumaré, Brazil, February 21, 2007)

### **Carrying Out a Divisive Work**

To not follow Dong Yu Lan's ministry is to lose the ground of the church and become a division.

Note: After many of the churches in southern Chile turned away from Dong Yu Lan's ministry, his son André issued a statement concerning Brother Dong's "orientation." In it he instructed any saints who wanted to stand with Brother Dong's ministry to continue to break bread separately from the church. He wrote:

We told them: You didn't leave. You should continue breaking the bread, even if the rebels continue to do it at the same time. That's their problem with the Lord. ("The Orientations of Brother Dong, to be put into effect now, through his son André," July 16, 2007)<sup>8</sup>

Note: Later that month, André wrote an e-mail to a brother in Chile that included the following passages which indicate that those who did not follow Dong Yu Lan's ministry were in division:

For some people brother Dong is not an apostle but for Chile he surely is. You want to change ministries after thirty years. You can't do that; because if it is the Spirit's work no one will destroy it....[W]hy are you having a conference in Victoria with some Americans?...How could a rebellious church take on the sacred and pure testimony of our Lord Jesus Christ? What is your basis to carry on the oneness of God's sons? Is it division? What kind of table is this? It's an unclean breaking of the bread because it's done out of sectarianism, division. They went after deception and closed themselves to themselves. However, the Lord has reserved for Himself those who belong to Him in each locality. They don't want to follow the rebellious leaders. They want to go on....They are the qualified ones to break bread. Yet, if you want to continue breaking bread in division, you may do so. Even the denominations break bread. Let us each one follow our own path. (André Dong to a brother in Chile, July 25, 2007)

Dong Yu Lan's workers and followers have set up divisive second table meetings in cities where there are existing local churches.

These divisive "table" meetings have been established in over 30 localities in the following countries:

- Spain
- South Africa
- Kenya
- Uganda
- Argentina
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- Chile

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<sup>8</sup> See note 7.

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- Columbia
- Ecuador
- Peru

Dong Yu Lan's workers travel to various places to contact saints apart from the fellowship of the co-workers, the churches, or the elders of the churches; they seek to secretly draw saints away to meet with groups following Dong Yu Lan.

Note: Ezra Ma, a co-worker of Dong Yu Lan, traveled in the United States from November 13-25, 2008, and secretly visited saints from at least nine localities in six states on the East Coast apart from the fellowship of the co-workers, the churches, or the elders of the churches.

All the work carried out in Mexico by Dong Yu Lan's co-workers has been done in secret. After receiving a letter from the co-workers in Mexico regarding their concern over the independent work, André Dong wrote an e-mail in which he stated that the news of their work spread fast, so next time they must "keep it secret." (André Dong, e-mail to an undisclosed recipient list, September 30, 2008)

Similarly, Dong Yu Lan's work in Canada, Central America, South America, Europe, and Africa has been carried out without fellowship.

### **Denunciations Made to Dong Yu Lan's Followers Concerning the Release of the Ministry in the Lord's Recovery and the Co-workers**

#### Against Living Stream Ministry

Living Stream dictates rules to the churches, defines who is in the ministry, who is not in the ministry.... Everyone has to ask Living Stream if they approve or not. Living Stream sends co-workers to establish or take elders out of their duty, things like that.... To declare, when he [Brother Lee] declared to the local churches, that there should be only one publication, Living Stream is coercing all the saints in all the churches to be conformed with this declared position, that is, all the saints and all the churches everywhere must be restricted to one unique publication in the Lord's recovery. (Ezra Ma, Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 2, 2005)

What the Bible shows us is opposite of what Living Stream Ministry promotes. The emphasis given by LSM, the Ministry (capital letter) is bringing much confusion. Today, the continuation of the ministry of Brother Lee is a company, LSM. (E-mail from Ezra Ma reporting points given by Helcio Almeida concerning the direction that will lead to Laodicea, June 15, 2007)

#### Against the "seven feasts" in the Lord's recovery.

Today some people talk about the feasts. We may say that they have gone back to the Old Testament. Actually in God's move, He never goes back. He always goes on; He goes forward. (Dong Yu Lan, *Daily Food: Growth in Life for the Kingdom*, Week 1, Tuesday)

Are there any rules and regulations in the church today? No one would answer. The church cannot have any rules and regulations. So you do not need to go to the U. S. seven times a year for the trainings. Is there such a law in the church? No one can impose the seven annual feasts on anybody. That way the law is brought in and Christ is gone. (Dong Yu Lan, Cochabamba, Bolivia, August 2004)



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Brothers, is it right to use the American holidays so that the whole world has to go to attend a conference? Brothers, no one can obligate anyone to do this. It is impossible to do. Do you have the money to go seven times to the USA? Do you have the money? (Pedro Dong, Sao Paulo, Brazil, July 3, 2007)

### Against *The Holy Word for Morning Revival*.

Brothers, if Santa Cruz does not use *Daily Food*, the way they are taking ... how can they be one with the churches? Brother, consider this. It is not a matter of me agreeing or disagreeing with *Holy Word*, but since they started using *Holy Word for Morning Revival*, there have been more divisions in the church.... No need to give reasons; just check: since you began to use *Holy Word for Morning Revival*, there have been problems arising in the churches.... Yesterday in the first session, a sister shared [concerning *Holy Word*]. When things like this happen, not only does Brother Dong suffer loss, but Christ also suffers loss. It matters little that I suffer, but do not let Christ suffer! Do not cause more damage to the churches! If you personally want to use it, then go ahead; but do not promote it in other places, causing other churches to suffer and causing Brother Dong to suffer too. (Dong Yu Lan, Cochabamba, Bolivia, August 2004)

I don't know how you can use the *Holy Word for Morning Revival*. And how can you enjoy it and have a line of direction? There is no direction because *Holy Word for Morning Revival* does not have any. (Pedro Dong, Sao Paulo, Brazil, July 3, 2007)

The difference is that the *Daily Food*—why the *Daily Food*, why the *Daily Food*? Because, brothers, it is from someone who is living and that the Lord has sent, the Lord has commissioned to our region to give us direction, to bring forward the move, isn't it true? So what is the *Daily Food*? It's like the apostle Paul when he wrote two letters to Thessalonica saying it is this, and that, and that. And the move happens. All other materials, all other books may contain wonderful riches, but they don't carry out the move in this moment. (Pedro Dong, Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 2, 2005)

### Against the Recovery Version.

Note: Dong Yu Lan has taught against the Recovery Version in the following points: to study the genealogy of Christ is to fall into the mind; the interpretation of “fire” in Matthew 3:11-12 is incorrect; the interpretation of Matthew 5—7 as “the constitution of the kingdom of the heavens” is “judicial”; the interpretation of “the salt of the earth” in Matthew 5 is “judicial”. In addition, Helcio Almeida and Cezar Menegucci are teaching that the subject of Galatians (“Christ Replacing the Law and Being Versus Religion and Tradition”) is incorrect. (Helcio Almeida, Perfecting Conference, Sao Paulo, Brazil, May 9, 2008; Cezar Menegucci, Email, July 28, 2008)

Note: The Portuguese translation of the Recovery Version of the New Testament was the next translation work begun after the publication of the Recovery Version in Chinese and English. After 18 years EÁV had only published the four Gospels (in 1999). In the same time span, the entire Recovery Version of the New Testament had been translated, published, and distributed in ten other languages (see <http://www.recoveryversion.org/portugues/>).

We have six young brothers who went to Taiwan for their gospel move with the view to learning from them about preaching the gospel. I will not go into detail, but I am very disappointed. Instead of pray-reading the verses in the Bible, they only pray-read the footnotes in the Recovery Version. What a pity! The Bible is the Word of God. When we

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pray-read it, we see Brother Lee's light and are filled with Brother Lee's riches. They pray-read the footnotes in the Recovery Version just like other books...like the books of Confucius. However you read them, you will not touch the Spirit. You will only get knowledge in your mind, but no Spirit whatsoever. (Dong Yu Lan, Piracicaba, Brazil, September 29, 2007)

Many times we get too filled with knowledge, Bible knowledge, not the organic word. We have too many messages. When we hear a new word—"Oh, no, Brother Lee didn't say this. Oh, this is not in the Recovery Version of the Bible." We cannot take the new words. (Dong Yu Lan, London, Canada, October 13, 2007)

### Against the full-time training.

Note: Since 2005 Brother Dong and his coworkers have discouraged the saints from coming to the trainings, including the FTTA and FTTMx. Those who have the desire to come are contacted by Brother Dong and/or his coworkers and told that if they come they will return to Brazil negative or that they should attend Brother Dong's CEAPE instead.

Do you want to be an apostle? Or a prophet? Or an evangelist? Then you need to be perfected. Would you be perfected at school, or in college or at the training center? Where? Hallelujah! In the CEPPEV.<sup>9</sup> The CEPPEV is for the perfecting and the producing of the colporteurs.<sup>10</sup> (Dong Yu Lan Concepción, Chile, October 18, 2008)

Paul had a burden of passing on his vision. He even rented Tyrannus' school, speaking for two years...If we had not seen John's ministry, this conference center would be a great school. These dorms would be schools to put the students to spend two years here to learn all of Paul's writings. And after that everyone would abandon the way of the Lord. Everything would be organized: how to preach, how to walk, what to say, how to speak, and we would put the Spirit in the last row inside a closed room. (Dong Yu Lan, *Daily Food: He Who Believes, Out of His Innermost Being Shall Flow Rivers of Living Water*, Week 1, Thursday)

Concerning the perfecting of the saints—Selective and elitist: The focus for the perfecting in the recovery, led by LSM, became selective and elitist: FTT, university students. (Ezra Ma, e-mail to "manager brothers" reporting points given by Helcio Almeida concerning the direction that will lead to Laodicea, June 15, 2007)

### Of seeking to control the churches in the Lord's recovery.

A group of co-workers from North America took upon themselves to make decisions and no longer sought for fellowship on how to go on. At the same time they started to have an extremely dangerous tendency, because since 1997 in the trainings they started to give an excessive emphasis on the apostles' teaching. We participated in all these trainings. This excessive emphasis on the apostles' teaching was an extremely dangerous matter, because the apostles' teaching has not been defined. (Miguel Ma, Uberlandia, Brazil, June 2, 2007)

Brothers, I have never spoken this to you because there was no need, but due to the things that have happened among us, I am obligated to speak. There is a group of brothers who took unto themselves the exclusivity of the oracles of God, as if only they could use the books of Brother Witness Lee and Brother Watchman Nee and only they could interpret those books.

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<sup>9</sup> CEPPEVs are trainings carried out by Dong Yu Lan's workers.

<sup>10</sup> Colporteurs are traveling book peddlers.

## DEVIATIONS FROM THE TRUTH IN THE TEACHINGS OF DONG YU LAN

This started to generate an exclusivity of ministry. (Miguel Ma, Uberlandia, Brazil, June 2, 2007)

But the American co-workers want us to submit to them and follow their command. We cannot have our own conferences; we can only listen to their messages in the conferences. If that is the case, how can we have the present truth? We should not turn back to the outdated truth. (Dong Yu Lan, Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, September 16, 2007)<sup>11</sup>

This matter of the [one] publication is just a banner, just a façade for something more subtle behind; that is the control of the work in the whole earth. Brother Lee is not together with us anymore. When he was among us, there was not such a thing. Now that our brother has left they have this strategy to try to control the recovery in the whole earth. (Ezra Ma, Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 2, 2005)

So today, there are some brothers who want to control all the churches. All the churches should be obedient just like the church in Jerusalem in the beginning. Some are afraid and they are under their control. (Dong Yu Lan, *Daily Food: Growth in Life for the Kingdom*, Week 1, Saturday)

### Against the co-workers in the United States.

At the beginning, the situation in Bolivia was generally fine, but the problems came in from the United States. These problems got worse and worse. I thought after Ron Kangas came here, the problems would be resolved; but rather, they were aggravated. But where is the root? The root is in the United States...The United States is the source...

Listen, I know that the source of the opposition to Brother Dong as well as to the orientation for South America is in the four-month training in the United States. (Dong Yu Lan, Cochabamba, Bolivia, August 2004)

Certain ones, in the name of the US work, came to South America to damage the churches. (Dong Yu Lan, Piracicaba, Brazil, September 29, 2007)

If we have opportunity, we should say to Ron Kangas, in a sarcastic way, "Thank you for coming to South America to work. Thank the Lord, you are just like a piece of rotten meat; all the flies [i.e., those who do not follow Dong Yu Lan] are drawn to you. We are very grateful." (Dong Yu Lan, Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 28, 2007)

James Lee is the main brother who is causing problems there to Cezar...in Boston. (Ezra Ma, Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 28, 2007)

Especially Andrew Yu, he is prejudiced against Brother Dong. That Andrew Yu, wow, he is a politician, Chinese. (Ezra Ma, Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 28, 2007)

The responsibility for the division in Chile will fall upon Albert Lim. (Dong Yu Lan, Sao Paulo, Brazil, October 28, 2007)

On the negative side, we've received a very cold water from the attitude of some coworkers from US (Gary [Kaiser] and A[l]bert Li[m]) coming in July to Brazil to give conferences to dissenting saints here in different cities... They just do what is right to their own eyes...Some coworkers in US have also helped the dissenting ones (the same who are translating the

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<sup>11</sup> Dong Yu Lan's translator said:

But the American co-workers want us to submit to them. In Brazil, we cannot have our own conferences; only they can give conferences. If that is the case, how can we have the present truth? We should not stay in the things of the past.

## **DEVIATIONS FROM THE TRUTH IN THE TEACHINGS OF DONG YU LAN**

Recovery Version and morning revival) to translate, and print in Portuguese, two books against Titus Chu. The dissenting brothers here are distributing these books among the normal saints to confuse them and to take them from the normal churches in Brazil. Well, of course we got very sad about this, but we know the source of all of this (Eph. 6:10-12). The saints are aware that there were and still are evil workers (Phil. 3:1) and false teachers (2 Pet. 2:1-2). What can we do? Let the Lord judge all things. The Lord has said to the disciples concerning the good seed and the tares "Let them grow together until the harvest" (Matt. 13:30). So let us grow ... (E-mail from Cezar Menegucci to thirty-plus saints in the United States, September 4, 2008)

### Bribing saints to rebel against Dong Yu Lan's ministry.

These things [described in 2 Pet. 2:1-3] are happening not only in many countries in South America but also in Brazil. Certain ones visited the saints from house to house. Dear saints, they were in covetousness, with fabricated words.... We know where their support comes from. How did they get the money to feed and bribe so many?... Just as Balaam was bribed, the same thing is also happening among us right now.... Nowadays certain traitors are utilized by Satan to walk around bothering our people. Brazil used to be in a very peaceful condition. Ever since those three traitors in the church in Sao Paulo were bribed by the US co-workers, they have brought much disruption and problem to Brazil. They do not know that they engage in defamation by telling lies. I simply don't know how to describe them. (Dong Yu Lan, Ribeirão Preto, September 16, 2007)

### Not calling on the name of the Lord.

Why did they remain in Jerusalem and were not arrested? Here is an indication that they stopped calling on the name of the Lord. Dear saints, I would never imagine that the twelve apostles would some day stop calling on the name of the Lord. I would never imagine that so many co-workers that used to be under Brother Lee's leading, nowadays one seldom hears them calling on the name of the Lord. (Dong Yu Lan, Sumaré, Brazil, September 3, 2006)

### Not being willing to suffer.

All the ones that are judicial haven't passed through any suffering because they are unwilling to suffer. We were told that when they went to Africa to preach the gospel, they stayed in a five-star hotel, because [the place where people lived] was too dirty. So, twenty to thirty brothers met in this five-star hotel. And they spoke judicial messages: first point, second point, third point, fourth point, and then it was over. Why? Because they do not have the willingness to suffer. One of them, a leading brother in the U.S.... When the saints in Brazil still went to the U.S. [for trainings], the Mexican brothers had a fellowship in Tijuana. Tijuana is a city on the US-Mexico [border]; the church was being established. They invited the saints in the U.S. to go to their first table meeting. These brothers said they would not go, because they did not want to suffer. At that time the Brazilian brothers were staying in one of their churches, so the brothers from Tijuana came to invite me. "We will go; all of us will go!" André was my translator. One brother even told me not to drink the water in Mexico but to bring water from the U.S. You see, they are not willing to suffer. We were the ones that went to the first table meeting in Tijuana, the church in Tijuana. Dear brothers, why? Because they were afraid of infectious diseases; they would rather protect themselves from getting sick than care for others in love. Dear brothers and sisters, all this belongs to the judicial realm—unwillingness to suffer. (Dong Yu Lan, Santiago, Chile, July 14, 2007)

## **DEVIATIONS FROM THE TRUTH IN THE TEACHINGS OF DONG YU LAN**

Against saints of Spanish descent and accusing Witness Lee of despising them.

Before we had good fellowship, but Central America especially, they have the ambition. What to do? I hoped someone in America would do something. Witness Lee spoke concerning the Life-study, asking the Spanish speaking to be quiet. It seemed to me that Witness Lee despised them. Most of those gained in the U.S. and Taiwan are gentiles, but in South America most come from Christianity and they want to be the head, like in the denomination. For a period of time every six months I brought the young people to Brother Lee's training, so that they could bring the recovery to South America. But I was disappointed; they were like a freed people, anti-religion. Although they were saved in Christianity and turned to the Lord's recovery, they were free....The problem between us is always caused by the Spanish speaking brothers in South America, from the denominations, who want to be the head, who are ambitious to be leaders. (Dong Yu Lan, notes from a meeting with Dong Yu Lan, his co-workers, and some of the blending co-workers, February 19, 2008, page 10)

There is also some amount of ambition. Mainly the leading ones in South America who break off from us are ambitious. (Ezra Ma, notes from a meeting with Dong Yu Lan, his co-workers, and some of the blending co-workers, February 19, 2008, page 15)