



From: Mike Bickle [REDACTED]
Subject: MB to Jack Deere about Paul Cain and chapter 13
Date: June 10, 2022 at 10:26:58 PM EDT
To: Jack Deere <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Mike Bickle [REDACTED]

Jack

I may be wrong but I feel certain that your publisher would honor your request to remove that chapter if you insisted on it. When I say "that chapter" what I mean is the 70% of chapter 13 that is about Paul Cain. I really appreciated the first two pages of that chapter. There are many examples throughout history and in the Scripture itself to illustrate the realities about false prophets without vilifying Paul.

I decided to write out a few of the reasons that I am deeply troubled by what you wrote about Paul.

Yesterday morning when I read chapter 13, pain and grief hit my stomach and it stayed with me all day yesterday. I wrestled with it through the night, and woke up today with the same pain and grief. It feels similar to what I experienced in 1990 when Ernie Gruen wrote his expose of Bob Jones (yes, he hit me too, but most of his document was about Bob Jones). I was deeply pained for Bob and so was he.

I see no redemptive value in defaming Paul Cain. I agree with exposing ministries that we believe are predators.

We do that to protect innocent young people from being manipulated by them. I see that as redemptive. But a dead man is not a predator. People do not need to be protected from a dead man.

I refused to publicly mention Paul's ministry even once for 15 years (2004 to 2019) when he was alive. After he died I have referenced a few of his prophetic words that I believe are genuine and helpful to the body of Christ.

Paul Cain is rarely ever mentioned in the conversation of the body of Christ at this time. He has all but been forgotten—but this chapter will energize many to talk about him. This puts Paul back in the conversation of the body of Christ in a big way. That seems so unnecessary to me, and even harmful.

I am concerned about the trouble chapter 13 will bring **to you, to me, and to many in the body of Christ.**

1. Trouble for You - it becomes a defining narrative of your ministry

When I read chapter 13 my first thought was that "you are bitter." To me your chapter seemed vindictive. I shared what you wrote with Diane and her first comment was "Jack very hurt and bitter." Just this morning, one of my main leaders asked me "if I heard the Jack Deere interview about Paul Cain" that occurred about 2 months ago (?). I told him that I had not heard anything about it. His first comment was that "he was surprised to see how bitter Jack Deere is." I did not prompt or solicit that comment from him, nor from Diane.

I feel sure that the majority of the people (who love the prophetic) who read chapter 13 will conclude you are bitter and not really trying to help the body of Christ but that you are venting your pain and anger. That sincerely pains me.

Jack you have written some of the most helpful books on the prophetic but I believe this one chapter will be

what you will be most known for in the coming years. I believe you will be remembered for this one chapter even more than your many years of really good teaching and your excellent books.

Ernie Gruen wrote 200 pages against Bob Jones and me 32 years ago. He led a mega church for 40 years but today (even in Kansas City) he is most known as "the guy who attacked Bob Jones with angry accusations and bitterness and jealousy." His one angry document is the most defining narrative of his ministry—after 40 years of ministry his thousands of helpful sermons and even his multiple affairs are rarely mentioned.

Because I love you, I would hate this to be one of the primary narratives about your life in the years to follow.

I regularly recommend your books to pastors who visit IHOP who are being stirred to embrace the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Your books are truly classics. I believe this one chapter will shift "the narrative" about your books.

It will be the part of your writings that will be remembered most. That sincerely brings pain to my heart.

2. Trouble for Me - many wasted hours in answering for you and my silence about you

Because of Ernie Gruen's one document—for the last 32 years I have been asked over and over to comment on Ernie and what he wrote and why he wrote it. It is wearisome to me. It never goes away.

Many visiting pastors and the parents of the students of our ministry school want to know my views on Ernie—*why did he say what he said* and more. Of course, I do not speak negative about Ernie. I see no redemptive purpose in it. I mostly say that "I have no comment."

If you publish chapter 13, I am sure I will be asked over and over for many years—*why did Jack Deere write what he wrote about Paul Cain*". I do not imagine that I will ever agree with you that you wrote this because of following the leading of the Spirit, nor that you were just trying to be helpful.

In other words, I will be forced to say "no comment". Of course, they will understand that I did not agree with you. I will not tell them that I thought you were motivated by bitterness, nor will I say that I disagreed with you, nor that I was grieved by what you wrote, nor that I strongly appealed to you to not write it.

I would never say anything negative about you but I am sure the main thing I will be asked is "Do you think Jack was bitter?" I will have to say "no comment" and they will get it. This conversation will happen many times in the years to come—this one chapter is far more damning than Ernie's document. Therefore, I know I will be asked over and over about this—in a similar fashion to how I have been asked about the Ernie Gruen document. UGH!

I am pained beyond measure on how this will play out in my world. I will waste so many hours collectively in conversations about this. I will try to avoid this but having walked through this for 32 years I am sure this will cause me much unnecessary trouble. I will not lose friends or supporters over this—but I will waste many hours and *I will be silently making judgment on you by saying 'no comment.'* I hate being put in that position for many years to come.

I will not recommend your amazing book anymore, because of this one chapter. I do not say that as a threat. (I would never threaten you ❤️). I am sure this will not affect your sales at all but it will pain my heart to not promote your book anymore. I really do recommend it strongly to pastors with a sense of pride in how really good it is and how proud I am in being your friend. You really are a great man and I love you dearly. Your tenderness and humility has increased as the result of your humble responses to the Lord in context to Leesa—this brings tears to my eyes when I tell people about you. I am blown away by this grace operating in you over the last years.

3. Trouble for Others - the increase of the spirit of accusation

There are several ways that I believe that this chapter will harm the body of Christ.

1. This one chapter will be extracted from your book by "the Hank Hannegraff type" ministries. This one chapter will be "a gift" to them to validate their accusations against many prophetic ministries. And since it comes from YOU as the most educated and experienced man in the prophetic, they will more boldly accuse and broad-brush many other prophetic ministries with "the falsehood of Paul Cain" as exposed by Jack Deere.

This one chapter will supply these type of ministries **with fresh and potent fuel** to accuse prophetic ministries in increased ways. The increase of the spirit of accusation will be harmful to the body of Christ in various ways.

2. I believe your example will embolden people to rail against other believers. The "woke culture" that has accelerated so dramatically over the last few years has given many believers license to accuse and expose other believers in the name of honesty, transparency, and justice. Jesus' command to follow the Matthew 18:15-18 process of going to your brother **in private to win him** is being set aside almost entirely today by millions of believers as they attack one another viciously without even pretending to serve a redemptive purpose in winning their brother. The increased harm in the body of Christ of millions being emboldened in recent years to vent their anger on other believers that have offended them is one of the most troubling trends accelerating in the body of Christ today. **I believe this one chapter in your book will emboldened them**—if Jack Deere does it, then why can't I do it? Since Jack knows the Bible so well and since he is so experienced in spiritual things, it must be okay to publicly expose others who offend you. Again, this will result in an increase of the spirit of accusation, which is so harmful to the body of Christ.

3 Multitudes of people who have received spiritual strength and hope by true words given to them by Paul will suddenly question the validity of the word they received. I know many who find real hope in prophetic words given by Paul. Their cessationist friends and family members who warned them about the prophetic will pounce on some of them with "I told you so" arguments that mock the prophetic. Again this will result in an increase of the spirit of accusation, which is so harmful to the body of Christ

As I wrote in my email yesterday, I emphasize that whatever you decide in this is between you and the Lord.

It will not change my love and respect for you. And I do not presume that I would ever "win an argument" with you and so I would not even try 😊. So you really do not need to answer to me for any these points. If you make sense of what I wrote in this email then I am blessed, if you do not then I leave it "between you and the Lord" but I will know that I wrote this out of love and respect for you and tried to be helpful.

Much love, Mike

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