

PILGRIMS COVENANT CHURCH

"THESE . . . CONFESSED THAT THEY WERE STRANGERS
AND PILGRIMS ON THE EARTH."

HEBREWS 11:13



January 20, 2010

Dr. John MacArthur
Grace Community Church
13248 Roscoe Blvd.
Sun Valley, CA 91352

"But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed."
Galatians 2:11

Dear Dr. MacArthur,

In light of his having signed the ecumenical Manhattan Declaration, that highly publicized document which presents and promotes a false gospel as well as apostate religion, will Dr. Albert Mohler still be speaking at your church's upcoming Shepherds' Conference this March 4? I noticed that he is still listed as a speaker on your web site. I am certain you are well versed in the many Scriptures which command us to break fellowship with those who teach or promote a false gospel as well as those who walk disorderly, corrupt the church, and lead the Lord's people into error. In light of those Scriptures, I cannot see how you could allow Dr. Mohler to speak.

I note that the Shepherds' Conference is being promoted as a time to "sit under the teaching of godly men—men who have proven themselves to be passionate teachers of God's Word and faithful shepherds of God's people." How can it be that Dr. Mohler is a faithful shepherd of God's people when he has publicly yoked with Roman Catholic and Orthodox priests and leaders, as well as apostate Anglican personalities, and told the whole world that such are not only "Christians" and "the church" but also that their gospel is "the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ"? Certainly, from the Scriptures we know that our Lord Jesus Christ and His apostles would not hold Dr. Mohler, at this time, to be a faithful shepherd of the church which Christ "hath purchased with his own blood." Quite the contrary. Thus, for the glory of God and the good of His people, I hope and pray your conference will not present Dr. Mohler as an example of a faithful shepherd.

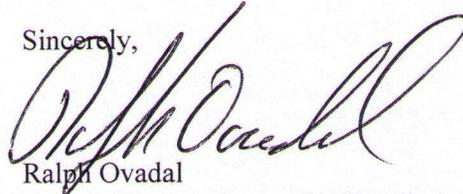
I also note that the Shepherds' Conference Sunday worship service is billed as ". . . an opportunity to see the principles taught during the week put into practice. Join with the saints as we exalt our great God and Savior through worship in music and preaching." I do not mean to sound sarcastic, but what principles will the Lord's people see being put in practice if you allow Dr. Mohler to speak at your conference, and how will his being included exalt our great God and Savior? At the very best, his presence can only sow confusion. But worse, his presence will disciple at least some Christians in hypocrisy, irreverence, subjective reasoning, and bold disobedience. In fact, it will not be so only for those who attend your conference but also for the many more who hear about and read about it.

If you allow Dr. Mohler to speak at your conference, you will be putting your imprimatur on his grievous error and compromise. In this, you will then be not only desensitizing Christians to his error, but you will also be sharing in that error and leading the Lord's people astray. Plainly put, the lesson given will be that the authority of God's word, the purity of the gospel, and the welfare of Christ's blood-bought church are not at all of first importance and essential but in reality are very secondary, non-essential matters.

I hope you will ask Dr. Mohler to repent for signing the Manhattan Declaration, publicly announce that he has erred and that he is removing his name from the document. Otherwise, I trust you will not allow him to speak at your conference. Based on the word of God, I do not hesitate to state that you have no other obedient and righteous option. You are a very influential man. If you do what is right in this matter, you will be doing a great service for the cause of our Lord Jesus Christ and His people. It will also be an act of love toward Dr. Mohler, unlike the alternative.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would reply to my inquiry and let me know what course of action you will be taking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph Ovadal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "O".

Ralph Ovadal

Pastor, Pilgrims Covenant Church