

Documentation

Attitude of Chinese House Churches towards the Government, Its Religious Policy, and the Three-Self Movement

Translated by Jonathan Chao

In its last issue, December 21, 1998, CNCR China Church and News Report, published two documents drafted by the house church leaders in which they issued a confession of faith and declared their attitude towards the government. We publish here only the last part of the second document which is the house churches' appeal to the Chinese government. The documents were published on November 26, 1998.

We sincerely appeal to the government.

We appeal to the government to know the facts clearly and, in a truthful manner, correctly understand the nature of our faith and the purpose of our preaching, and no longer mistake us for cults.

We sincerely ask the government to stop its persecution against house churches, such as brutal beatings, house searches, fines, detention and labor camps; we sincerely petition the government to truly implement freedom of religion.

We ask the government to free all Christians and evangelists who are detained in labor camps because of their faith or for preaching the gospel, and to do so as soon as possible...

As a matter of fact, wherever there are more believers, there is also greater social stability, higher spiritual civilization, a better social atmosphere, and enjoying greater blessings from God. May there be peace in China and among her people. May God bless China abundantly.