

Testimony of Doug Dudgean By Samuel Sutherland

Samuel Sutherland:

Broadcast from one two three four, let's see how this sounds. Alright this is a conference with Doug Dudgean, in regard to a situation that we decide to give information on, in connection with uh Dr. McBirnie. Doug if you would be kind enough to start back about your conversion, and how you got, uh tied up there. We would appreciate it. Go ahead.

Doug Dudgean:

I became a Christian last August when I came out here in California, I roomed with a professing Christian lady, uh who was quite interested in Dr. McBirnie and his radio ministry, mainly because Dr. McBirnie was a conservative, and from my background I was quite conservative. And when I became a Christian, which was at the First Baptist Church West LA, in Dr. Thomas' church, I went to a prayer meeting with this lady. In uh Pacific Palisades and they were the people from the United Community Church in Glendale. And I--

Samuel Sutherland:

Is that McBirnie's church?

Doug Dudgean:

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Right, so. And the Reverend uh Robert Graham was a pastor, minister there. And I shared with him my conversion experience, and so he invited me to the church. And so I went to this church, and being this was the only one that I knew about in the L.A. area, except for the West L.A. Baptist Church. And at that time I thought the interdenominational was a good thing, and I still do. I became a member of the church, so as I grew there in the church I became quite familiar with the people in the church, and as a new babe in Christ they helped me along a lot. The Christian education director there was a lady who is a very strong Christian, and she was very good, and she helped me more than any of them, because she was right in her theology anyway. And uh, so I wanted to go to Bible school, I felt the Lord was leading me back to college. I had gone to college before. And so I wanted to go to Bible College. So I found out about Biola, at this time I was working at the radio station too, working part time.

Samuel Sutherland: Oh what radio station?

Doug Dudgean: TBBI.

Samuel Sutherland: Oh were you?

Doug Dudgean: I went to work right away down there, and this was led by the Lord and I found out about Biola this way. So I find out Rich Bueler and Don Ransome and these guys, and we talked, I just want to go back to school. Found out about Biola. So, uh, I came out here. But the school, but the, but the church, he started me working right in the church, and it was a growing church. And at the time I think there was about seven or eight hundred members. You mean, it

started six years ago. So it was a real fast growing church, but yet they needed a lot of people to work in the different positions because a lot of them that came were the conservatives, and they came on Sundays you know to hear about the communists in this time I think, and then they would leave. So I had a chance to get in right away and work in the church. So I became close with the church. And, and I was up there a lot. And I even worked part time for the church every chance I can get. So, uh, I came here to school. Bob Graham, I came to him and I said I want to go back to college. And Bob said "Well you got too many bills you better wait awhile." So I told this to Gail Thomas who was a Christian ed director, and she said, "You really want to go to school, is it the Lord leading you?" and I said yeah, and she said "go". So I went down here and applied, and got in. But um, you know I didn't have any money at all.

So then what the church did, the Lord, boy He led this, He led the church--which had confidence in me and interest--give me a loan to come down here. For-and paid most of the tuition for last semester. So I was quite indebted for them to do this. So, uh I also needed work part time, so I worked at the radio station, and then I worked at the church, so I become quite familiar and intimate with the church, with the different staff members, and by this time I was starting a junior high program up there. So, unfortunately the church was not a heavy emphasis on the spiritual and um, I can see this as I grew on the Lord, it was mostly church membership. We'd have an invitation for church membership, and kind of going along the line we'd have one for people who want to accept Christ. Now they wanted people that were saved there, and this was because we had a couple of people that that knew the gospel that were on crusade staff, uh campus crusade staff, and, but there was just very few of us that were actually preaching the gospel. They actually had a tremendous witness up there, because you don't tell about my

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conversion and just share it with them, and I didn't really know how to witness that well, but I saw some food at the church because of it.

Samuel Sutherland:

Well what was the burden of his ministry, of his message?

Doug Dudgean:

So as he, uh, he preached on uh, on hatred, and uh Dr. McBirnie knows the Bible. No doubt about it. Uh, I read his books, he's got many books out. And he's a very smart man, but he's one of these guys that just, like the Reverend Mitchell says, the intellectual. He worship the intellectual, and he got a lot of degrees. And so he preached, he used the word. And but he made his whole message uh around, uh I would call it, not exactly the hate concept, but when you don't have love, you got hate. And then putting the people in the church naturally were hating the communists, and anti-communist, and liberals, and anybody else who didn't go along with the conservative way. And, but like I said, there was enough-it had the form of Christianity, but denying the power thereof. And this is what I saw in the churches we grew. Now many of us saw this because the ones that were spiritual banded together on this thing. So they helped me a lot on this. So by this time I got to know Dr. McBirnie intimately, and and I became to know that he didn't have too much concern for anything besides his "voice of Americanism" program. We never prayed together, you know, just everything was done in that worldly way, the businesslike way.

So I could see this, and he asked me to go to work for him. And by this time I was starting to hear rumors, and I didn't know if I want to be connected that close with him and his voice Americanism office, although I did work for him, and in a sense that I worked at his home and this kind of thing. But to go actually with the voice of Americanism and travel with him, I just didn't know, because I was starting to get rumors about his past. And this was about the time when the, um... Well it all started from the time when Brown and Reagan were running against each other, and this television stations come around here divulging his past about down in Texas. Well I had a lot of skeletons in the closet too, until I kinda, threw off this, but you know God probably forgive him. But as I came to a point where I got to knowing that, heard about his extracurricular activities here in Glendale, and, therefore I wondered if he really did repent. And I started, questions coming through my mind. Well I got to know his wife real well because she was going under tremendous pressure at this time.

And it cu-seems that, his experience down in Texas was, uh he had a lovely wife for about 18 to 20 years. And he ran off with a wealthy woman, who was his wife that I know out here in California now. And so there was a big stink about that all over Christian circles. So when he came out here to California, he was working with the Chiropractic's Association and a couple other things, and connected with wings of healing also. And uh, so some of the people that were conservatives in the Glendale area, I think about five or six families, decided they wanted to start a church and they-and he was quite a speaker, a dynamic person, and he broke his church down in Texas from 90 members to over 3000 members in a few years. So he's a tremendous Church builder, a tremendous dynamic personality. You can tell listening to him on the radio. And uh, so they started this church six years ago called the United Community Church, and started an-a

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Tuesday afternoon club in Glendale. Uh, now I was not there when all this happened, but these are things that I heard from the members and people that actually started, the deacons, the wife, through McBirnie himself, and this type of thing, piecing all these together.

So, it started and naturally the church grew. He started the radio ministry. He's got a tremendous outreach and he plans, he's a-he knows the, uh how to [unintelligible] how to handle these things. [Unintelligible] people get it out. So he started quite a following and people started coming to the church. And it grew like lightning. And-and now, it's uh over a thousand members, they had a big push, uh, was before the so-called split. So anyway, here is this guy building this church. All of a sudden, now people are starting to realize who he is. He's trying to get power again now, he's starting to run with the politicians. Uh, becoming intimate friends with Governor Reagan, and this type of thing, coining the creating society. And these things are good in themselves, uh tremendous conservative uh, for us, knowing theology and as far as conservatism.

Samuel Sutherland:

He coined the phrase creating society?

Doug Dudgean:

Mhm. He's the one who actually put this together to actually sell it for Reagan. I mean Reagan came up with a lot of the ideas, I mean Bernie was the one that tied things together, and actually worked very close with him. So I wasn't there when the--there's many that are involved with, you know, with the-- McBirnie's actually the one that put this thing together. So he had tremendous

ideas. And like I say, from-you look at him from the outward standpoint, he's a great man. But when you get to know him, you find out that he's hit the facade. Anyway in my life, now I don't know what others have found, I can't speak for them. So anyway, people found out that they started this church, it grew. And uh... he started spending most of his time not with the church. Well then come to find out, that somebody came to consult with him. Uh, lady. Mrs. Garland Moore. And she was another young, beautiful blonde. Just like his first wife was about eight or ten years before. And she was having problems with her husband, from what I understand. And, so he talked with him, and just like he fell before, which was the same situation identical down in Texas, he fell for her, apparently. So he had before long anyway, she was working as his secretary, an executive secretary.

And before long that, she was traveling with him and real close with him. Now the rumors were starting to fly. Because why-when I first came into the church she was in Hawaii for a while to get away, and I didn't know why she was in Hawaii, but then a few months later after I got to know her, I found out she was a tremendous strain and [unintelligible]. She was under conviction that she had sinned and-and-and uh, blew up when she was down in Texas. Which of course she did. And she could see the same thing happening here in her life. So she wasn't going to take it anymore, I mean and she was just about at the point where she was a nervous wreck, and had a nervous breakdown. He didn't care, he lived by, practically by himself, in the home and treated her like nothing. And just was so busy of the whole time and with this other woman, and it made a fool out of her. So come to the point where she was going to get a divorce. Well now she got to voice the church, he didn't want that. Mac did not want this because of the problems it would

have with the people again. So they strung her along and promised her a few things, and he said he'd get rid of Mrs. Moore.

So he got rid of her, and apparently Mr. Moore, and I'm still not sure about this but I don't know him, real well and I know I've met him but I mean we've never talked. And, a lot of these things I didn't get too close to the people involved, because I didn't want to be that close with the people involved. But back to Moore apparently didn't know this, that all this was happening. He was kind of blinded. I don't know how, but he was. But eventually anyway, Mrs. McBirnie could not take it, he had her back. He kept messing around. Finally, the deacons were concerned about this, and the deacons were the ones that founded the church. Now a deacon, there was twenty four of them now I believe that were involved in this, but a lot of them were spiritual men, they wanted to handle this right. But unfortunately they tried to compromise, and all this type of stuff. So we had a big run around for a few months, and everybody wa-that was connected inside didn't know really what to do. This was the time that I was going to leave the church the first time.

And I went to Reverend Mitchell and I asked him about it and he said, uh, what kind of ministry do I have up there? I had a tremendous ministry out there. He said stay until you find something definite, or you know until something actually does break. So I did stay, and the Lord led me to stay there until the end, and as it came to be I became a part of the group that actually was was praying along the lines that the church would be straightened out. I started praying for McBirnie. And at first it was hard for me, but as I said, love came into me I realized that it was for God's good, and I was able to really have a ministry in the church by trying to help out whenever I could, and by being a prayer warrior. And there's many other things I'm not going into that were

around the church, but the fact is that finally, McBirnie felt he didn't have to take orders from the deacons, and he'd do it his way, because he knew that he was out on a limb. He couldn't-he either had to go all the way, or just back out. So finally his wife went down and got a divorce, or filed for divorce, on a Friday. Well, unfortunately there's two factions in the church, and there was another part of the people in the church that were out to get him. They didn't care how-you know the strife and be in division people. And before you knew what happened everybody had something in their mail box by Saturday, some of them didn't get it though.

And uh, which explained the whole situation down in Texas. The newspaper clippings, the-what happened down here. They make him really look bad, so he came to church on this Sunday. I don't know if I've tied this all together, but here's the point he built the church up, he's the same thing is happening again in his life, it happened down in Texas. His wife has filed for divorce so he's got to do something about it, because before it gets around to the people at the church. Everybody thought the Deacons would have control of the situation. Sunday, Dr. McBirnie came to church, everybody anticipated, a huge crowd was there, it was almost like a circus. And you know everybody wanting to know what's going on, and you can imagine all these anti-communists and conservatives that have no need for spiritual things there. But you don't know what's going on and it was kind of like a circus. So we're all sitting there, and I kept thinking, well, you know I heard out here at school that God's gonna get the job done, that you know McBirnie would be thrown out, and everything would work out hunky dory. Well we give a sermon on Acts about when Paul finishes ministering to these people, and I think it's in the latter part of Acts, and they walk him down to the shore when he left. And he gives such a great

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sermon that the people will practically worship, bow down and worshipping to him. And it was so great, you know I said hey this guy really is good!

[Both speakers laugh]

And he had such a way with his, uh, getting through to people. And before he got done, everybody, and all he did, the only thing he actually said, through the whole thing that I got out of it, and he said a lot of things. But he said "I can't take care of my home, can you?" And he tried to make it sound like his wife was a tool of the communist, that the communists had infiltrated his family to get her to go against him. And boy this is all he had to say to those anti-communist. Communists in Dr. McBirnie's home? We'll get rid of 'em! You know? Throw her to the wolves! And nobody cared about her, here's the poor lady under distress--

Samuel Sutherland:

Good gracious!

Doug Dudgean:

And he just threw her to the dogs. And he made it sound like she was the one that, you know, the communists had infiltrated. Because it's just like almost like Hitler, you can carry this right wing step too far. He said I'll get rid of the Communists for you, and look what he did to give a dictatorship, and that's just what Mac did. And he went against everything he preached on the radio, or anything he'd written, because he took over a dictatorship. So anyway what he said was,

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when he gets done with his sermon, he said well, said I'd like to call--he went against his word, he told the Deacons he would not call for a vote of confidence, but in a sense he did because he asked us to bow our heads and anybody that wanted him to stay, raise your hand. Well I thought it was kind of a slipshod idea already, and I didn't feel led to bow my head, so I watched and ninety five percent of the people raised their hand to keep him, and only a few percent of the people didn't. So then he knew how he had people, now the good conniver knew what he was doing.

And he said this, he said well now I don't know if I'm going to stay with you or not. Said I don't know if I'm going to stay here at the church and be the head pastor. And by this time, during the few months before, the church had actually got to be a circus because they were bringing these kings and, and different majesties from other countries in that he knew from his conservative circles, the barons, and kings, and all these people that were connected with either show business, or conservatism, or freedom, or other countries in this type of thing. And so he got farther away from the word all the time, because he didn't have confidence to preach the word, I don't believe, although he did know the word, he just...

Samuel Sutherland:

Right.

Doug Dudgean:

So it was getting-so this was something, and he said that-that the kings and the queens were gonna let him into his-the palaces, oh he had an open door everywhere he wanted to go. So he'd- and the voice of Americanism is growing so big and so fast, which it is, but it's still small compared to some of them. But the was the one's bringing in quite a bit of money. And he built the Americanism center there, in-in uh, England, there right by our church. But the church had more of an emphasis for the Americanism than it did the church. But here's this guy then, saying that it's growing so big I may go with this. I may just go with the voice of Americanism. But he said I'll tell you what I'll do, I'll think about it, of course not pray, but I'll think about it tonight, and I'll let you know what I'm going to do. Well I left church with my head swimming, I had no idea what was coming up. I thought maybe God let us down for a while. And I remember driving back out here at school, in the afternoon and I prayed about it, and I said God, we-aren't the Deacons are going to say something at all? I'm thinking of stand up and rebuke this guy. I thought the deacons were against him, and the Deacons ran the church in the bylaws.

Well anyway, all I know is Reverend Mitchell was talking to me about uh, and I don't want to get too much me in here, but I think that this has an effect on what has happened because I did get quite involved here as you see in the evening. And Reverend Mitchell was telling about Nehemiah and Elijah, how they weren't wimpy Christians, and they got out, and you know they went right in to rebuke the people that were--they were they stood up for God, and about Christ, throwing them out of the temples. And so all those things went through my mind, and all I know is I said God, if there's something You want me to do, if there's anything that it would be not done in my flesh, and going and just trying to do it my own. But if You want me to stand up for Christ or do anything, why didn't You say stand up. But if there's anything that I can do to, to

help just, you know, I'm available, give me the power. So anyway, that night we went back to church. and 'course there with a huge bigger crowd there that night, 'cause everybody wanted to see what was going to happen. And so he lumbers up there to the uh pulpit. And uh, he said then that he would stay as the senior pastor. And the people went into applause. And I can't remember if they stood up or not, but I think some of them did, and I think it was just like a circus.

It was, you know, it was just, it was like we just-you know like Gulwater just won the election or something, or, for Johnson or something, one of these political meetings. And the people just gave him a ovation for a few minutes. And before they knew what was going on, he said I want two things though. And here he is, conniving again, I want no discussion on what has happened in my private life. I want nothing, you know, at all. It's all said and done, it's forgotten. And two I want another evolution, I want a five year contract. Well this was just about too much.

Samuel Sutherland:

Oh no!

Doug Dudgean:

And before he even got this out, there was a guy standing up, saying I, you know, make that motion.

Speaker 2:

Oh no!

Doug Dudgean:

Before we know what happened it was railroaded through, because he had henchmen, and by the way Dr. McBirnie has a different men hanging around him in his organization, that kind of you know, go out and feel the people out, and sit in the audience, and just movement among them.

Robert Hoekstra--

Speaker 2:

Oh, like a political campaign?

Doug Dudgean:

It's like a bad dream or something 'cause I didn't know stuff like this could happen, being a, you know. But I found out. Anyway, he had men like Bob Hoekstra behind him who was connected with that uh, a lot of the Pentecostal manmade faith healer, that little David Walker in Indianapolis, you know for years, and you know that little kid. But he was his promotional manager and they had a big fight. You can read about him in any of these court books. Hoekstra he's, ended up out here. And it seems to me, and we called it the pie club, and these gangs that were two time losers from other parts of the country kind of ended up around here, and kind of banded together. And I called it a pie club because he used to go out for pie at night and get together. Guys like, uh, Warren Walker, Dr. Warren Walker, he has a ministry on radio, but he's run off with the niece, and all kinds of things, I don't even want to get on him. But, the thing is,

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they all ended up with some hack, and Hoekstra and all these guys together, and they've all been, you know, they blew it in their own town and they got thrown out. Now they're out here.

Speaker 2:

Oh no.

Doug Dudgean:

And I used to make a joke about they all end up in Winnipeg after here, because Canada's never heard of them.

[Speakers laugh]

So, there's probably a lot of them up in Winnipeg that you know--

[Speakers laugh]

Doug Dudgean:

I don't know about now, Dr. McBirnie, I feel that, uh, well we'll go on here with the story. I'm uh talking about his Christianity. So here he says this on this night. And I'm sitting in the audience wondering what's going on. And I'm really concerned about it. So finally they-they-they railroad this thing through before you know what's even going on. And the head of the Deacons, who was the chairman of the deacons, Ben Schimmel. He stood up, and said, and he

was scared to death, the poor guy, he's an older man, and he had just--he's been connected with campus crusade, and I believe he's quite a supporter there, and he had been to one of their Lehman's institutes. So he'd had, uh, he wasn't too grounded in the word, but he's had some training, and he realized that the Spirit fueled life, and-and this type of thing. So I believe this is what really prompted him to stand, because these guys lost their spine when this all happened. But the guy, God rose him, and he said wait a minute I want to say something. And the people started booing, you know.

And uh, and Dr. McBirnie said well, and he's very gracious some of the times, the way he handles things, and he's just almost like [unintelligible]. Let's hear from him, come on down here man. And so he invited Ben down to the front, and Ben came down there, and they had another microphone down on the bottom, but they had that turned off. They didn't want anybody you know they had guys in the control rooms to make sure nobody get a hold of the mike too you know, that could-- So they said turn on the mic, let him speak, so they let him speak, and Ben said well I'd just like to read some from the bylaw. Anybody care about the bylaw? And so he read this, and he just said, of course, you're out of order here. You know you've completely--and this matter of the hiring and firing the pastor, you know the Deacons do it, and you're completely out of order, and we just, you know, want you to know.

[Speakers laugh]

And he was kind of scared to say it but he did.

Speaker 2:

He did, yeah.

Doug Dudgean:

And so Dr. McBirnie knew just exactly how to handle the people, and you may wonder why did this, but knowing him and psychology how to handle people, he said OK. Come right on up here we'll just take care of this right now. So he invited Ben to come up right on the platform, and said we'll just throw out the bylaws. He said to heck with the bylaws, we want the will of the people. And this goes against everything that he said on, you know, that he's ever written or said, because it's just a dictatorship. And he-he's actually communistic. And Ben was scared to death, the poor guy. So he said, I-I don't want to come up there, he said I'm not going to come up there and railroad this thing through, we'll deal with this at another time, another place. So he walked back to his thing, and people kind of booed you know and everything. And so well, it's just like God just kind of grabbed me by the neck and stood up. And I said, well if he won't assume the chairmanship I will. And so I started talking, and I can't remember exactly what I said. But all I know is I was walking to the front. Now Dr. McBirnie liked me very well. And uh, he wouldn't know what I was doing. So he was speechless. He stopped, he didn't even know what to say. He thought maybe I was going to come up and help him.

That's what a lot of people in the church thought I was going to come up and help him get this thing through. But everything was going according to [unintelligible] so far, and now, all of a sudden there's something there that he didn't know how to handle, and he was just shocked. But

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so to speak, anyway I got up there in the front, and of course I didn't have a microphone, so I stood up beside Dr. McBirnie and I said well, basically this is what I said. I stumbled my words and it wasn't right, but God still used it. I said well we're here to honor Jesus Christ. We might as well go home if we aren't going to honor Christ. You know, you want this guy or Christ? And by that time, as I stumbled this out, and it didn't come out this good, and a lot of people probably didn't even understand it, but it got out. They knew what was going on. So Mac said wait a minute, this guy's out of order here.

[Speaker 2 laughs]

Doug Dudgean:

And so, he said would you sit down, you know. And I just kept talking. And so pretty soon then the people started applauding.

Samuel Sutherland:

You?

Doug Dudgean:

No, they were trying to keep me quiet.

Samuel Sutherland:

Oh I see.

Doug Dudgean:

--Over my voice. 'Cause I didn't have a mic, 'course I don't need a mic, but I was just talking and they applauded to keep me from--you know like sit down, like get out of here, we want Mac you know. So in other words they had their choice between Mac and Christ, not me but Christ. And well, they chose Mac. But the point is that I felt that they shouldn't make a decision, at least somebody stand up for Christ, and 'course that's debatable whether in the other people's mind whether I did the right thing or the wrong thing. I know that I was trusting in the Lord and I did the right thing. But the point is, that I felt like Stephen up there, you know, you hear-I read Stephen that morning, about how they gnashed their teeth at Stephen, and the whole church, who was very kind to me, who had helped support me, and their money that I was going to Bible school. And every one of them just, they invited me out to--not everyone--but I was invited to their homes on Sundays, and I was a part of their families, and they were so encouraged that I was studying the Bible, I was the only young man in the church who was studying the Bible that was going to go on into some form-phase of Christian service work, here these people, and just like that turned on me. And it wasn't me, it was just Christ, what they saw, because they wanted human.

But the fact is that I saw these people that are out there that love me just were gnashing teeth, and just get him out of here, you know, they just hated me. But I felt good in my heart, I had a peace and a joy. And so, uh, anyway, after McBirnie asked me to sit down, and-and uh, they kept clapping, so finally after a few minutes I did li-walk down. Uh, and there was a friend of mine

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named Ted Seymour who's on Stanford campus crusade, who was been concerned too, and a lot of the people didn't really know what to do in this situation. They were confused, they thought the deacons would handle it but he didn't. So we all come to find out what was going on. So when I walked down anyway, Ted came up and shook my hand and he-and we left. And many of the others got up and left too then, the ones that were Christian.

Samuel Sutherland:

Is that so?

Doug Dudgean:

So, we kind of trickled on out of there. And of course, there were shouts "Get out of here and never come back" and this type of thing too. And I remember just turning around, and I said, to Dr. McBirnie, what about Jesus Christ? And he said He's not under discussion here.

Speaker 2:

Oh.

Doug Dudgean:

And that's the last-and so I left the church of course, naturally I was divided emotionally, you know what happened and what went on, all I know is it happened so fast. And course I wasn't that far along in the Lord. But I did get-I got there in a hurry.

[Speakers laugh]

Doug Dudgean:

And anyway I left the church, and so then as he-as the night went on I guess many more left the church, and of course then as more found out the full story, a lot of them did leave. So what happens then? Well a lot of the leaders of the church got together, and they knew that this was a problem. So they wanted to get together and meet together to see what to do. They didn't know at this time whether the church, they would-Mac would eventually be relieved, he would leave, what would happen. Whether they should go into another church, or whether they should start another one. So this took about a month for all of this to happen, meeting every week, and of course I didn't go the first two times, because I didn't feel that, like I said before, there was people out to get Mac, and there was Mac himself. And I felt that as I talked to Reverend Mitchell and the Spirit spoke to me, that I didn't want to be a part of either group. Because a lot of these people were looking upon me, when I would see, and they would start congratulating me for what I did and all this type of stuff. And I didn't want to be involved in that. And so I wanted to just stay away completely and go somewhere else.

And uh, so like I say, I haven't had much to do with this new group. But the new group has met, they didn't know what they were actually going to do, but now they have, they rented the same Tuesday afternoon club that the church originally started with, with about the same founders. Yeah. And they meet, and from what I understand, they-they've had good speakers. A lot of these people now are good Christians, these people that are in this group now, and a lot of the

hate mongers had started possibly in this group are kind of left. So from what I feel now, that it is a good group, uh and they're learning the word, they've had Hal Lindsay come in there and preach, they've had Dr. Feinberg come in there and preach. So they've had some men come in there, and they're getting the word. Now I don't know what's going to happen and how they're going to grow, and I'm praying for it, and who knows they could go into another church, merge, they could start another church. But, during this intervening couple months, like I say, newt-nobody knew what was happened. There was more people finding out the truth all the time, and there still are.

So they have either left, gone to their own churches, or going with this group. Many like me that have just gone their own way, that felt they didn't want to have anything to do with either group, not that either group was-were condemning it, it was just that we feel that the Lord is leading us somewhere else. So, this is the case now. Uh [unintelligible] been many hate letters going back and forth between the two groups, and other people getting involved in there, and trying to send out things. Uh, some of the people have resigned from the church the staff, they brought a couple more in. In fact, he's run a big ad in the paper to try to uh, bring more people in because he wants to build it up, and he doesn't want to let it get away. Reverend Grant, I asked Reverend Grant, no I didn't ask Reverend Grant pardon me. Uh, Gail Thomas who has left the church, who is Christian, and she asked the Reverend Grant what scriptures he was standing on in deciding whether to back McBirnie or not. He said scriptures? I don't need those, I know what I'm going to do. And actually he stayed with him. His pay is very lucrative and he's a hatchet man in action. And uh, he can't afford to leave.

Sutherland: Testimony of Doug Dudgean

Samuel Sutherland:

Is that Don Grant?

Doug Dudgean:

Bob Grant.

Samuel Sutherland:

Bob Grant. Well what-what's his-is he the foreman?

Doug Dudgean:

He's the foreman. He's the uh, he's the assistant pastor. What he actually does is go out and visits all these people, and tries to get them to become members of the church.

Samuel Sutherland:

Yeah, I see.

Doug Dudgean:

And as far as him being deep in the word, uh, I talked to him a few times after I went to Bible school, compared some things that I heard out here with him. He disagreed with practically everything. Uh, very lukewarm, didn't even really have any ideas on anything. So this guy is, uh,

Sutherland: Testimony of Doug Dudgean

I would say, in my opinion, inapt as a minister too. Uh, he's trying to act--I don't know if he's trying to get a pastorate somewhere else, but he just doesn't have what it takes. So therefore he would like to stay with Mac and--

Samuel Sutherland:

Is uh, is he a graduate of [unintelligible]?

Doug Dudgean:

Right.

Speaker 2:

But he's not attending there now. He's a graduate.

Doug Dudgean:

No, he's 30 years old or so, I mean he's uh he's been with Mac-- when--he started with Mac, when Mac started this church, he was going to seminary. About a senior and they brought him here and he just stayed the whole time.

Samuel Sutherland:

Uh, tell, uh--

Sutherland: Testimony of Doug Dudgean

Doug Dudgean:

I might say something--

Samuel Sutherland:

Go ahead.

Doug Dudgean:

-- about the wife situation now.

Samuel Sutherland:

That's what I was going to ask.

Doug Dudgean:

So this is the situation with the church, now all this other, a lot--

Speaker 2:

Now let me ask before you leave the church [unintelligible], when they began to boo you, what were you saying? Were you giving uh, something from the Bible, such as a sermon, or were you revealing from his past, or--

Sutherland: Testimony of Doug Dudgean

Doug Dudgean:

No.

Speaker 2:

Well they both began to boo you, when you said you-you still kept talking, but I didn't know what nature you were talking about.

Doug Dudgean:

I just basically said that we're here to honor Christ, and this thing should be handled outside of the church, and should be handled between the deacons and him during the week, and nothing should be said now.

Speaker 2:

I see.

Doug Dudgean:

And this type of thing, I could not condemn him because, like I say, I didn't get up there to condemn him.

Speaker 2:

Sutherland: Testimony of Doug Dudgean

Yeah.

Doug Dudgean:

And uh, some of the people I'm-I'm afraid had probably the wrong impression even while I was up there, because it all happened so fast, was I for him or against him?

Speaker 2:

Yeah.

Doug Dudgean:

The thing it is- I was neither, I was for Christ, and I wasn't condemning him, I was just saying we want Christ, and I wasn't talking about his past so to speak, but that this thing should be handled properly with God guiding--the thing wasn't of the Spirit is what I was basically saying.

Speaker 2:

Okay, well you probably were then.

Doug Dudgean:

So, uh, his wife now, uh from what I understand, the trial--or not the trial but the uh, the divorce to go to court was supposed to be soon, I thought it was supposed to be some time here in September on the calendar. Uh, his wife sued him for divorce, he sued her back apparently, with

a uh, he cross filed on her, to get rid of her. But you know in California law she could still change her mind up to a year, and-and of course he uh, could not get his way because he had uh pressure too, with this other woman. When I was out of school, and then after-basically after this happened after I stood up against him, he didn't know what had happened, and he sent an investigator out here at school, you know checking up on me. And, and he was really bothered by what I did because he couldn't understand why I did this. And this really bothered him. So anyway, he does have, a he does worry. And uh he's really worried, he's really shook up over it. Then there's been other--this is just from what I've got from close friends that they have found him with another woman. Uh, he's running with another one now too, and he had-they caught him with uh, with her a couple of places around town.

So, so I don't know what's happening with who he's going with and who he's even got, but I know he was under pressure there, and I understand that somebody told Mr. Moore, and he was involved, and he had people out after Mac, and so he--they were coming at him from all areas. And so-but then I understand that she's still there as his secretary so, I'm not that sure just what--and I haven't asked anybody, because the minute you do, you'd start causing strife and division all over again. I do know that they are supposed to go to court, and the reason that this hasn't been played up in the papers, because Mac--the liberal people, the establishment, and they uh, would like to get him, there's no doubt about that. In fact they were trying to infiltrate our church to get him. And so he's been under attack here uh, for what his beliefs are. Not for--and they love to get something on him like this. Now I understand this hasn't broken the papers because he's a real good friend of George Tout, down at the Los Angeles Times. And they've held this down.

Sutherland: Testimony of Doug Dudgean

Now this is just-that's all I know. But I understand that when it does break, when they go to court, there is something definite they can't have, that a lot could break loose. Uh, but like I say, I haven't even heard anything about the court case so far in this week. And that's all where I stand involved. I'm completely separated from the church--when I walked out of that church, that night, that--it was actually thrown out--I haven't gone back. I haven't, uh, been in the church. I haven't talked with anybody connected except some of the people that have left. And because of what I felt toward their motives, um, I went one time to one of the meetings, they were talking about starting a church, and they were doing things in a worldly manner, and I said well if we're going to do anything, it's got to be led by the Holy Spirit we can't have another situation that happened six years ago.

And we must pray about it. And I off-I asked to pray right there, and nobody seemed to want to, and it just the whole situation didn't seem to be led by the Spirit, and there are many great-good people there, that were involved in this other group. And I just felt that they were, uh they were doing things in a worldly way so. I went my way, and I haven't really had much contact since.

Samuel Sutherland:

Well have you uh, have you had any information, uh about his financial, uh, goings on at all?

Uh, uh--

Doug Dudgean:

Well, we had 14 claims--

Sutherland: Testimony of Doug Dudgean

[Silence]