



Ulf Ekman noticeably under pressure at Word of Life Church Q & A meeting March 10.

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A number of journalists have called us regarding the issue of a report from the Swedish Word of Life Church Q & A meeting last night. We publish a short report from several reliable sources who wishes to remain anonymous. This page may be updated in hand with credible testimony from this "crisis meeting " connected to Ulf Ekman converting to the Catholic Church.

According to our sources, the promise of greater transparency in the Church were fulfilled in this meeting. Word of Life's new pastor (Joakim Lundqvist) already on Sunday gave indication of this desire. Previous years' control of the issues that was allowed to be addressed, when the Church was gathered for internal matters, was now exchanged for a microphone that was passed around relatively freely in the room. This questioning time, which lasted about an hour and a half, was due to the size of the congregation stopped before everyone had their say. Those who didn't get their questions answered , or not had time to ask their questions before the meeting ended or want clarification, are offered personal meetings with Church leadership in the coming weeks.

The meeting dealt mainly with the Catholic faith and doctrine, and Ulf Ekman's approach to the congregation now along with views on the new doctrines he embraced. Questions in regards to the remaining Church own view on a series of theological questions, was postponed to another meeting in two weeks, and was not allowed to any great extent during the evening.

A former Word of Life pastor and missionary put Ekman under pressure with questions about "the worship of Mary" and other more traditional Catholic-Protestant issues.

A person who was present made the following comment;

- Ulf Ekman relatively clearly gave an answer to the questions he wanted to answer. There was no clear answers for questions he disliked such as if his deepest wish is that everyone converts [to Roman Catholicism].

According to eyewitnesses in place, it was clear that Ulf Ekman was noticeably troubled at some moments. Pastor Joakim Lundqvist attempt to make room for a greater transparency in the Church seemed to be a new experience for the Founder.

Several members has expressed a deep concern both before and after the meeting last night of the lack of a clear theological tradition in the Church. Complaints rooted in Church leaders for several years have been unable to respond clearly, even to relatively simple theological questions, about where the Church actually stands.

“- I no longer know which branch of Christianity we are part of”, says one frustrated longstanding member .

Our own main concern, shared by some of the members of WOL, is clearly about where the current Church leadership will land with Ekman removing himself more or less completely from local and international leadership. The previous Catholic-Protestant hybrid theology Ekman taught during his approximately ten year conversion process needs to be replaced by a clear evangelical foundation, if the Church wishes to remain in this doctrinal family. Hopefully the new Church meeting in two weeks will contain some clue as to where it's leadership wishes to stand. As we are well aware, they who stand for nothing – will fall for anything.

This question is of course a very important part for the Church in finding harmony in the continuing work and future without its founder. It is also important for all external relations within Christianity, as the Word of Life Church over the years have been a frequent organizer of conferences, seminars, pastors training and Bible school drawing people from all over the world. The doctrinal issues may be of particular interest to Churches planning to send pastors to the Word of Life upcoming conference "Building The Church" in May of 2014.

The Church leaderships thought on the communion very close to Catholic tradition, already introduced to the Congregation by Ulf Ekman, and questions similar to that, ought to be answered at next meeting. Along with questions regarding their current view on icons, crucifixes and sacramental traditions according to the Catholic doctrines the founder has been introducing to the Church during the years before his conversion to Roman Catholicism.

The task to find a clear theological profile after Ulf Ekman's defection, whose own values under thirty always has been in symbiosis with the Church, we can almost certainly assume will take considerably longer than two weeks.

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