

April 3, 2007

The Private Secretary of Her Majesty the Queen
Buckingham Palace
London SW1A 1AA ENGLAND

Dear Secretary:

Please forward my letter to Her Majesty. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rev. Stephen Apostolos Cakouros
St. Louis, Missouri U. S. A.

Your Majesty,

It is out of profound respect for your distinguished title and person that I am writing you. I am deeply concerned about a matter that has recently come to my attention. I am certain that the nation over which you rule as Queen has within it any number of people who will agree with the sentiments I now make known to you. Please permit me to explain.

It has come to my attention that Sir Elton John, knighted by you within the last decade, has disgraced the order into which he was inducted. I am asking in the name of fairness and tolerance that his knighthood be both speedily and altogether rescinded. My request that you formally strip him of his title is not unreasonable; nor as you well know would it be without precedent. You are the Supreme Governor of the Church of England and the sworn protector of the Church of Scotland. I mention your titles because one of your knights has insulted the religion of the realm and all who profess that religion. I am relying on you for justice in this matter because many of us were inspired by your remarks at the close of the millennium. I am delighted to quote you. "To many of us, our beliefs are of fundamental importance. For me, the teachings of Christ, and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life. I, like so many of you, have drawn great comfort in difficult times from Christ's words and example." These words more than imply that Sir Elton has not only insulted those of us who profess Christianity, but you as well. He has publicly and without regard to the beliefs and feelings of others imputed to Christianity the very thing which Jesus, the incarnation of love and pity, proscribed by word and example.

As of this past week Sir Elton was performing in one of America's most visible venues, Madison Square Garden in New York City. Typically his concert was attended by a large audience many of whom were young and impressionable. While performing he took it upon himself to give vent to his contempt for Christianity, declaring without equivocation that the Christian religion is

“a hate religion.” His motive for doing this seems apparent. Sir Elton is an avowed homosexual. It may well be that he chafes every time he realizes that the teachings of our blessed Lord cannot be reconciled with a deviant lifestyle. To forcibly demonstrate his desire to do away with Christianity, he performed musically while at the same time and through the medium of film displayed a burning church. You may be incredulous but I assure you that this actually happened. Sir Elton as you well know was awarded knighthood for his work with charitable organizations. Where is his charity when it comes to Christians?

This is too much. Many of us are incensed. Sir Elton has disgraced knighthood; and he has insulted and I might add perhaps endangered Christians everywhere in the world, Christians who in the last one hundred years have offered up more martyrs than at any time in history. As I write many of them languor in prisons for no other reason than that they believe in Jesus. Needless to say Sir Elton is relying on the pacific nature of Christians who sat quietly while he expressed his condemnation both in words and pictures. Had this kind of intolerance been directed at Muslims it would not only have been followed by an outcry, there would have been acts of violence with no apologies afterwards. His unwillingness to mention the religion of Islam, which under Sharia Law sentences homosexuals to death by beheading, was as I see it an act of cowardice. This in itself would be enough to strip him of his title since the courage of British knights has never been called into question. I have come to the conclusion that in England and America, Christianity has become a scapegoat for our many of our ills. Please make a statement against this prevalent attitude by denying Sir Elton John the right to represent English knighthood, the same knighthood that fought in the Crusades for the honor of Christ.

With best wishes,

Rev. Stephen A. Cakouros

Response from the Queen’s Secretary

After considering my letter, the matter was referred to Parliament in keeping with British law. However they refused to act stating in so many words that their hands were tied. Sir Elton had not committed any chargeable crime.

I suppose if Elton John had spoken out against Muslims it may have been different. From what I can see the pacific nature of Christians has allowed Parliament to look the other way. Though Sir Elton John has escaped official censure this time, some day he will answer to a higher power. Talk about a knight unhorsed!