

12 April, 2013

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

More than 60 years of division is long enough to end the conflicts, have a ceasefire and work for a peaceful relationship between North and South Korea. It seems however, that both countries are going in the opposite direction, getting far away from each other. How silly and crazy it is that what used to be the same nation is not getting together, but trying to fight against each other. North Korea continues to threaten us these days with their newly developed weapons as if they can control everything. In response to this, South Korea continues to stand strongly in a position of self-defence.

The amount of pressure on South Korean people (depending on individuals) is increasing. But this is part of our history. There is no place we can escape to. I have experienced this kind of threatening situation from North Korea for a long time, even from my childhood. But it seems this is the greatest tension in our recent history. I don't know how long this kind of tension will last.

Neither of the two governments have wisdom to solve the problem. North Korea is absurdly aggressive and South Korea stands on just war theory. What makes it worse is that most Korean churches would support just war theory, so when it comes to military action, they are not different from the government. It is understandable that a secular government would use violent means to solve the problems, but the church's position should be different from that of government. What can ordinary people do to overcome this kind of crisis? If they go an eye for an eye everyone will perish.

I see this as a good opportunity for us, especially for churches to work together for peace. If everything is under control, people won't pray nor even discuss about situation. But when things are not in control, what else we can do? Christians would rely on God more than anything else. So I take this as a good opportunity for Christian churches pray together.

Having been reconciled to God in Christ, through Christ, I consider myself is dead but living and walking in the presence of God. This is the only reason I can still be confident living in our country in the midst of this great tension. May God help us to continue to seek his way to solve the problem, without following through with evil decisions that will bring an end to many people's lives.

Shalom,

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“For no other foundation can be laid, than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ,”
(1Cor 3:11)