

Barranquilla. December 1th, 2020.

JOSÉ RODOLFO HENAO GIL, PhD.

Rector

Universidad del Atlántico (University of Atlántico)

God bless you,

The purpose of this letter is to present my irrevocable resignation from the position of a tenured, full-time professor at the Universidad del Atlántico (University of Atlántico). The reasons for my resignation are the following:

The existence and permanence of Berea's theological study group at the Universidad del Atlántico (University of Atlántico) for so many years is a true miracle that shows one truth: God is sovereign and does as He wills. The only thing that will remain is the Word of God, the Bible, the revelation that God to human beings so that they could see their sinful condition, their separation from Him, Who is the source of eternal life, life itself in all its fullness forever. This powerful Word also tells us about the only way to be reconciled with God, and that is Jesus Christ. The Bible not only tells human beings that they are sinners; and that their choices and deeds separated from God have led them to the six thousand years of death they have lived, but the Bible, which has been persecuted, denied, and blamed, also gives the solution for humanity lost in its selfishness, jealousy, strife, wrath, anger and all kinds of depravities that mankind tries to cover with works and religions. The only solution is salvation in Christ Jesus. The center and marrow of religions are the works of human beings, which are nothing more than another example of their pride, arrogance, and haughtiness, but the Word of God is not religion; God's Word is a relationship with the Almighty God, who has given the greatest demonstration of love for humanity; and that is that He left His glory to come to this Earth in a body of weakness, of humiliation, to give Himself as a sacrifice for sins when He died on the Cross of Calvary.

And who killed Christ? Man's sin murdered Him. He was murdered by the hatred, anger, haughtiness, pride, the pride of human beings. He was murdered by all human beings; He was murdered by us. Christ paid the price to open the way to the presence of God the Father, Christ who, being God, became man for the love of all.

That the Bible is the truth is certified by the fact that it shows man his sin; could a man say of himself that he is evil? If he always wants to seek recognition, intellectual growth, places of privilege, his own glory, and exaltation. That the Bible is the truth is certified by the fact that it says to man: "How can you save yourself if all that is in you is sin and no work you do can ransom your soul?" And you will say: What sin? Well, the sin of saying, "I have no sin." How many times one has lied, coveted, and envied others! How many times one has been haughty! What sin?

They will say. Well, the sin of saying to God, "You do not exist, I made myself alone"; is there a greater pride and haughtiness than to say, "I made myself alone," "I do not and will never give an account to anyone for what I do," "I decide," "I establish"? And this University is full of these human beings who deny their Creator.

But when illness, calamity, or the threat of death comes to the body, where is the chimpanzee to whom humanity says it is their ancestor? Where is the haughtiness of saying, "I made myself, I decide"? How weak we are! Human beings control nothing; they do not decide when they are born or when they die, nor can they prolong their days beyond what the God of glory has decided. What is certain is that there is only one reason why we have come into this world, and that is to give glory to God, and the greatest failure is not having done so because you have indeed denied Him all the time.

But even if they deny it, God is eternal, and His years will have no end. Even if they revile Him, God is glorious and will have glory forever. Even if they say that "there is no hell," it is there, and those who deny it will only be able to prove it when they have arrived there, but it will be too late because they will never be able to leave that place to return to Earth and tell everyone that "hell does exist." Surely there is a judgment of God; man is responsible for all his acts before human beings, before the law or the government; how much more will he not be responsible before the God who created him, Who made him, and Who breathed the breath of life into man's body, soul, and spirit.

But Christ came to free us from the hell that many deny. Christ came to give us hope, the hope of eternal life, the hope of glory. HOPE is what the human being has wanted to find in the corruptible, but how can true hope be corruptible or ephemeral? Indeed, it would not be hope. Hope is eternal; hope is incorruptible; hope is indestructible; that is why only God can give hope. And Christ certified that hope when He rose from the dead after His death. Can there be a greater hope than to overcome death and rise from the dead, never to die again? Everyone who accepts this truth receives the only hope. I ask everyone at the University: Do you have this hope, or is your hope a vaccine against a virus, a government, a job, a book, an indexed article, a resume, a house, a car, or some other possession? What cannot be denied is that all this is destroyed, corrupted, and disappears, and if this is the hope of the human being, certainly soon or at some point, despair is guaranteed; what is considered and called hope will vanish at any moment.

Christ is coming already through His holy Church without a spot or wrinkle. The Church that has received Him as the only Lord and Savior. The Church that is not ashamed of the Gospel because it is the power of God to salvation. The Church that loves Him with the first love, which is the deep longing to see Him and go into His presence. That is why I am leaving the University

because I want Him to find me blameless. I am leaving the Universidad del Atlántico (University of Atlántico) because what is there, distances me from the living God and does not give glory to Christ but gives glory to man.

In this letter, I want to thank Guillermo Ortega, the dear friend who was used by God - without his knowledge - to bring Professor Gabriel Ferrer and me to this University. I have the hope to see him for eternity in the New Earth and the New Heavens that the Lord will make; and share the knowledge of the eternal and glorious God, which I have not been able to share with him on this Earth.

As I write this letter of resignation, I feel pain in my heart. Because of my resignation? Certainly not, but because the longing in my heart is that all those who until today were my colleagues have THE HOPE of eternal life that Christ has given me because I have found that it is better to be humbled before Him than to live exalted in the midst of the ephemeral. Paul said in Romans 9: 1-3: "I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh..."

And indeed, Professor Gabriel and I feel all our colleagues as if they were blood brothers. Our prayer is that they may know the truth and experience the love of God, which passes knowledge (Ephesians 3: 19).

God bless you. With no other purpose, kind regards.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yolanda Rodríguez Cadena', written in a cursive style.

YOLANDA RODRÍGUEZ CADENA

Tenured full-Time Professor.

Copy: Danilo Hernández (Vice Rector of Teaching), Luis Alarcón (Dean of the Faculty of Human Sciences), Leonardo Niebles (Vice Rector of Research, Extension, and Social Projection), Luis Cárdenas (Director of the Postgraduate Department).