

THE LETTERS OF ISAIAH MOTEKA¹

House No. 222²
Native Location
Bethlehem, O.F.S.³

The Right Honourable
Secretary of the Native Affairs
Dept. Pretoria

4 June 1935

Dear Sir,

I received with thanks your good explanation according to the General Overseer of the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church (CCAC) in Zion: that the Reverend E.H. Mahon is the superintendent of the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion. I waited so long to give thanks for that explanation because I know well that the Rev E.H. Mahon is the superintendent of the Grace Missionary Church of America. I am sorry because the Rev E.H. Mahon of Mooigelegen⁴ deceived the natives of South Africa here so long as he said he is the superintendent of the above mentioned church. I am sorry because he is not ashamed even to deceive the Government. Rev E.H. Mahon has no right to use the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion when he rejected John Alexander Dowie, First Apostle in the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion. Whom after that God called him the First Apostle in the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion. The Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion is the same as the Christian Catholic Church in Zion. Therefore E.H. Mahon got no right to use any part of the name of the Church the First Apostle restored because he rejected the First Apostle. But we do not want to hurt him. We want to show him very gently that he is a thief there in South Africa for using this Church without the authority of Edwin Harley Snelling of America. God may help him.

There is another thing I want to put in the office for the Native Affairs Department Pretoria. Which is this – there are some of the Native Ministers who have rejected the Rev E.H. Mahon. These ministers have bad teaching (hatred teaching). They teach the nations to hate the white people, when they began this teaching they did so to form their own church namely African Zion. But when they saw that people refused to follow them they went back again to the Christian Catholic Church in Zion but not under the Rev E.H. Mahon, because Mahon is a white man. Therefore we do not want anyone to use any part of this Church to spoil the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion. They can form their titles of hatred, but not Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion.

Because the teaching of the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion is Peace not Hatred, not division between white people and black people, hatred comes from the Devil, but peace from God. Therefore every tongue must speak God's praises and proclaim his Gospel

¹ All of the following letters are reproduced with the permission of the National Archives and Record Service of South Africa.

² The following letter is from SAB, NTS File No. 1430 23/214 Volumes I and IV.

³ The Orange Free State (O.F.S.) was one of the four provinces of the Union of South Africa, declared in 1910. Bethlehem was one of its principal towns.

⁴ This was the site of Mahon's mission station, south-east of Johannesburg in the Orange Free State.

throughout the world. White people and black people must first of all be united under the flag of our King George the Fifth and then become of the children of God. For it is written that there is no kingdom of this world which does not come down from heaven. I got the right to stop all those who want to spoil this church here in South Africa (I mean the CCAC in Zion) through the Power of the Acting Authority in the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion who is Edwin Harley Snelling under John Alexander First Apostle of the Lord Jesus the Christ.

No indeed, we do not let anyone use any part of the name of the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion.

God may bless our king George the Fifth. Amen. God may bless our prime minister in South Africa here amen. God may bless our Native Affairs Department, Pretoria. Amen. God may make peace between white people and black people. Amen.

Conclude: I have the honour to be my Lord, your obedient and humble servant,

Rev. Isaiah S. Moteka

House No. 222⁵
Native Location
Bethlehem

To the Secretary for Native Affairs

18 February 1935

My Lord,

Peace to thee-

Please Sir, I have the honour and humility to ask you please to let me know the name of the agent of the Native Ministers of the Christian Catholic Church in Zion. As these Native Ministers are standing against with Rev E.H. Mahon for the above mentioned church. Be kind, also please My Lord to let me know the General Overseer of the Christian Catholic Church in Zion.

I have the honour to be my Lord

Your most obedient and humble Servant

(rev) Isaiah S Moteka

Under Evangelist Edwin Harley Snelling acting authority in the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion under Dr John Alexander Dowie First Apostle of the Lord Jesus the Christ.
2815 Ezra Ave, Zion City, Illinois, USA.

⁵ SAB, NTS 1428 File No. 19/214 – 21/214

House No. 222⁶
Native Location
Bethlehem

To the Secretary for Native Affairs

17 June 1935

Dear Sir,

I received with thanks your good explanation according to General Overseer of the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion.

That the Rev E.H. Mahon is the Superintendent of the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion.

I waited so long to give thanks for that explanation because I know well that . . .
(incomplete)

⁶ SAB, NTS 1430 File No. 23/214

House No. 222
Native Location
Bethlehem

To the Secretary for Native Affairs,

22 June 1935

My Lord,

Peace to thee by multiplied. Please excuse me, please my Lord, for sending my letter to you without a date. I wrote it on the 14 June 1935.

God may bless and give you good success in all your work in the office there.

I have the honour and humility my Lord.

Most obedient and humble servant,
Isaiah S. Moteka

House No. 222
Native Location
Bethlehem

To the Secretary for Native Affairs

7 July 1935

Greetings,

Your letter of the 26 June 1935 was received in due time, thanks.

I was much glad to hear that you have received mine of the 19th instant and to inform me that you have communicated with the Native Commissioner Bethlehem, in connection with the matter of the issue of permits of the purchase of sacramental wine, also to say if I will report at the Native Commissioner's office, he will attend to me – thanks very much!

Yes, I was there in the Native Commissioner's office on 4 July 1935 as you're saying: I then handed him your letter you wrote to me concerning the same matter. And he then took this letter and went to the Magistrate's office, when he came there and handed the Magistrate the same letter, when the Magistrate is ready to read this letter, and he then goes and opens the books now he says, the above mentioned church does not appear in the list of churches recognized by 'Government' at PRETORIA, now therefore he can't give the permits of the sacramental wine, for this church, as they have been told from the same City, PRETORIA.

Now the Magistrate General of Bethlehem says he is very sorry for me because he cannot give this, without the permission of Government of PRETORIA, Native Affairs, although you have sent a letter to the Native Commissioner, now this Native Commissioner has no power, or authority without the Magistrate General. They say you didn't tell them that this Church has received Government recognition, they again say you should write a good letter to the Magistrate General at Bethlehem and explain for him, then he can see.

Now I will like to hear from you about this matter, as I know that you are a General Secretary under Government there in that Office of Native Affairs Department, Pretoria. And as I am your servant every time as I told from Zion City, Illinois, United States of America. That I may be under your feet, and to do all what is needed, you are my 'Master'.

Now therefore let me know what is to be done. But I wonder that these men told me to write a letter to you, now after you have done as they have told me, and they are still refusing, now I do not know what they want.

Please [show?] me the way, because I do not know what I can do! Now I will be waiting for your answer in this, please, I am in a long journey to the places, but I will be waiting for your nice letter, before I could take my journey.

As I am the Messenger of this Church therefore I must give myself under your hand, to do what is right by your sight under Government. Remember that this Church is not Native's Church, but Europeans' church!

This stamp is from Zion City, USA.

Your faithful servant,

Moteka

House No. 222
Native Location
Bethlehem

The Secretary for Native Affairs

22 July 1935

Greetings,

Dear Sir

There is a letter I wrote on 7th July 1935 to you concerning Sacramental wine, here in Bethlehem.

Now I am waiting for your answer in this letter, now I do not know that is received or no. But if not please let me know, so that I can write another one for you.

In your letter of 26 Jun 1935, you informed me that you have communicated with the NC Bethlehem, that he will give me a permit for sacramental wine. Now I then go in the Office of the NC in Bethlehem but he did not give me permit of the Sacramental wine, and he refused, he and the Magistrate General of Bethlehem.

They said, this church does not appear in the list of churches recognized by 'Government'. Therefore cannot give anything for it, according to the Government's law.

Yours faithfully I. Moteka,
Chief in Triumverate in the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion

To his Majesty's Principal

Magistrate Bethlehem District

26 July 1935

Honourable Sir,

If it should receive grace in thy sight according to request which is: - on the 16th July 1935 I was at office superintendent of Bethlehem Location, to seek for the rights of the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion, under John Alexander Dowie First Apostle of the Lord Jesus the Christ (in America). But the Bethlehem Superintendent said this church is not known in the Government. Now my worship, I am surprised in that matter because this church is known throughout the world.

But however, honourable Sir, this is how this church was organized: Dr Dowie came to Chicago in 1893. On February 22 1896 he organized the Christian Catholic Church in Zion. On September 24 1904 the word (Apostolic) was inserted in the church name (Christian Catholic Church in Zion). And now my worship with honour and humility, let me say more please: in the *Leaves of Healing*, a weekly paper for the extension of the kingdom of God, edited by John Alexander Dowie, Volume XV, No 11, Zion City Saturday July 2 1904 on the same year 1904. Page 339, it says: 'The following named twenty seven believers were baptized in Johannesburg, Transvaal South Africa, Lord's Day 1904 by Overseer Daniel Bryant.'

Now my worship, this church may be known here in South Africa.

Peace to thee be multiplied my worship. God may bless thee in the office there. The power of the Almighty God be around thee day and night (amen).

God may help white people and black people be united under kind care hand or flag of the king George the Fifth amen.

I have the honour to be my Lord
Your most obedient and humble servant
Rev. Isaiah S Moteka

⁷ The following letters are from SAB, NTS 1428 File No. 19/214 – 21/214.

House No. 222
Native Location
Bethlehem
O.F.S.

The Secretary for Native Affairs

14 January 1936

My Lord,

I shall be glad to send all these certificates back because I have to send them soon over to America for the new certificates of 1937.⁸ Please.

The Grace and the Love of the Almighty God be with you, and your co-workers in your office.

Your faithful servant,
Isaiah S. Moteka

⁸ Moteka is presumably referring to his ordination certificates from Snelling in Zion, Illinois, with which he supplied the Secretary for Native Affairs as evidence of his institutional and ministerial credentials.

House No. 222
Native Location
Bethlehem
O.F.S.

14 Jan 1937

To Bethlehem Magistrate,

My Lord Peace to thee be Multiplied,

I have the honour and humility requesting you my Lord to pass all these my letters to the Secretary of the Native Affairs Department, please my Lord.

The Grace of the Almighty Lord be with you My Lord (Amen).

Yours faithfully,
Your servant,
Isaiah S. Moteka

The Native Secretary Affairs Department

Pretoria, South Africa

14 January 1937

Sir,

I have the honour and humility to write you this letter.

I remember that on the 4th Jun 1935 I wrote to you that there is no man we can allow to use the name of the Christian Catholic Church in Zion in Africa. If there is a man who claims to be recorded in Government with this church, Christian Catholic Church in Zion, without John Alexander First Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ. Edwin Harley Snelling acting authority in CCAC in Zion under First Apostle. I am in that way asking for advice from you as a leader of the Native Affairs. If anyone who uses that title like Rev. E.H. Mahon whom you said he was the only one using it. I thought it a mistake because he belongs to the Grace Missionary Church⁹, that I can prove to him if you would know about the matter. I shall be glad to hear that he is no longer using that title because even now he still belongs to the Grace Missionary Church. Dear Sir as I am representative man, and a secretary of the Conference of the Triumverate Council of Investigation in South Africa in Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion under John Alexander's First Apostle, Edwin Harley Snelling Acting Authority. My will is just that the white and black nation should understand one another and work in Peace under the kind care of our king in England where our palace of hope is, so that God can promote our kingdom of England (Amen).

Examine the seal above, and find my standing, and oblige, kindly reply.

Yours sincerely
Rev. Isaiah S. Moteka

⁹ The Grace Missionary Church was perhaps the most significant break-away church in Zion, Illinois, founded after Dowie's death in 1907. Daniel Bryant was recalled from South Africa to lead the congregation. The church financially supported E.H. Mahon and later his sons, as their official missionaries in South Africa for many decades. W. Burton, *When God Makes a Missionary: The life story of Edgar Mahon* (Mahon Mission, 1961).

Ecclesiastical Executive Council¹⁰
In the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion
2815 Ezra Avenue
Zion City, Ill., USA

Native Affairs Department
Pretoria, Transvaal
South Africa

25 May 1940

Honourable Sirs,

Peace to thee:

This is to certify that the Rev. Isaiah S. Moteka of House No. 222, Native Location, Bethlehem, O.F.S. South Africa, has been appointed Deputy Overseer and Official Representative of the work in South Africa for the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion, under our hand.

Very respectfully yours,
Edwin Harley Snelling
Acting Authority

¹⁰ The following letters are from SAB, NTS 1430 File No. 23/214 Volume No II.

The Secretary
Native Affairs Dept.
Pretoria

8 July 1940

Greetings Sir,

I am writing to you on the case of a great number of Ministers who call themselves by false means to be the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion, as their right religion or denomination. These kind of ministers are constantly asking the Government to offer them full rights of conducting this religion while they have not passed and known the Government's regulations for the offer of such rights.

Therefore honourable I undertake the opportunity of asking the Government to rely on me for such cases as I am the only right Deputy Overseer of this Church in South Africa, as being given the rights by the Executive Ecclesiastical Executive Council in America of this Church in America.

I am therefore the only Deputy Overseer who has the right to consult the Government on such matters, when the time is ripe for it to receive full consideration by the Government.

I am sir,
Your obedient Servant,
Isaiah Moteka

Rev. J.B. Ndhlovu¹¹
Germiston¹²

To Secretary for Native Affairs

6 April 1941

Dear Sir,

I thank you for your letter which I have received.

I know Edwin H. Snelling of Zion City Illinois USA. He belonged to our church. I have his certificate which indicates that I am a minister. It was issued to me on 10th July 1930 from America.

Rev I. S. Moteka also I know. He resides at Bethlehem. He is one of our ministers. He joined our church on 27th July 1938.

I shall be glad to see our church recognized by the government.

I completed the forms and sent them on in 1933 and forwarded them again after that to the Chief Native Commissioner Natal.

What is required of a church to be recognized by the government?

I am,
J.B. Ndhlovu

¹¹ Ndhlovu was one of Moteka's many rivals for the title of representative and leader of the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion in South Africa.

¹² Germiston was a mining centre along the Witwatersrand that became established as an area of both black and white working-class settlement.

Rev. W.B. Dhlomo
Germiston

To the Secretary for Native Affairs

15 September 1941

Greetings,

Re the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion

With reference to your letter of the 5th Sept 1941: in connection with the above matter I should be pleased if you would kindly post me the full address of the Rev Isaiah S. Moteka who like state has been appointed Deputy Overseer and official representative of the work of this church in South Africa.

I might as well add that this Rev I.S. Moteka is not known to us at all, hence my anxiety to know his official address.

Thanking now in anticipation.

I have the honour to be Sir,
Your most obedient servant ,
Rev WB Dhlomo for,
Rev JB Ndhlovu the elder of the above church

The Secretary for Native Affairs to SNA to Rev. J.B. Ndhlovu

25 September 1941

With reference to your undated letter received at this office on the 11 August 1941, I have to inform you that the Rev Edwin Harvey Snelling Acting Authority of the Ecclesiastical Council in the CCAC in Zion, of Zion City, Illinois, USA, has certified that the Rev Isaiah S. Moteka has been appointed Deputy Overseer, and official representative of the work of the abovementioned church in South Africa.

As the Rev I.S. Moteka is the head of your church in South Africa the application for Government recognition should be submitted to him.

House No. 222
Native Location
Bethlehem
O.F.S.

The Secretary for Native Affairs

1 January 1942

Dear Sir,

As a Deputy Overseer and an official representative of the work of the abovementioned church in South Africa, I beg herewith to submit the list of those I would like to be recognized by the Government as my assistants in expanding the Gospel (list missing).

Hoping you will satisfy yourself by finding out whether they have a clean record, and thereafter, please register these as full ministers of the above named church.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Your obedient servant
Rev I.S. Moteka

2 January 1942

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to let the honourable gentleman understand that although I am keeping silence, I am not silent. I am still running after the above church and after all I am thanking the Master for the great help in the same period. I still lay myself before the Master though the Troubles of my Nation which can't build them up or can't build a good thing up, for them. My Lord it's really very far for us to have a good civilization. We can be educated, but it's in vain.

As the Master heard me speaking like this, it's because I see that we can't build up this Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion. All these Zulus trying to be the enemies of this church. Why? Because one wants to be bigger than the others. J.B. Ndhlovu is fighting against IS Moteka because he was surprised to be the first, but he failed to carry on with the church. As I understand, he couldn't send overseas to get the good support for him. As we wished to wake up and carry on with the work here. He is in our way. I did join up with him but after I heard from my advisor I stopped working together with him. Now, Sir, after all, that's why I am saying your help is very good to us. I must thank the Master and hoping the same Authority to give us a hand and stop these in using the name of ours in trading money amongst Natives.

PS Sir, I am also appointed to hold up this church in Transvaal and outside Transvaal and I hope the Master will soon get a letter.

From Rev. I.S. Moteka as he is the Head of the said church.

House No. 222
Native Location
Bethlehem

To the Secretary
Native Affairs Dept.
Pretoria

23 April 1942

Sir,

I thank you sir for your letter of the 14th April 1942. May God bless you, until Jesus Christ comes.

Please my worship be kind to receive my request which I should like to bring before you. In your letter of the 10 Jan 1942, when you wrote to me instead of 'I' you did write 'J'.

Again, in your letter of the 14th April 1942, instead of Moteka you put Moeteka.

Therefore with honour and humility, I should like you, please sir, to write my name always in a proper way, please.

May God bless you and guide you there in your office. Amen.

I have the honour to be sir,

Your obedient (Sir)

(your) servant

Isaiah S Moteka

Under the kind Banner of our noble King of England. Amen.

The Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion

To the Secretary for Native Affairs

9 May 1942

Sir,

The above church with Headquarters in Bethlehem O.F.S. has numerous branches throughout the Union; as well as outside the Union as a result of the fast growing and developing of this church, we humbly beg that it should be recognized by the Government.

We further request that treatment meted out to the Members of this Church by the Police should be less serious and moderate.

Thanking you in anticipation

We have the honour to be Sir

Your humbly servants

Signed Elder IS Moteka No 222 Bethlehem O.F.S.

Rev. J.S.
Maduna¹³
PO Box 6349
CCAC in Zion
Orlando Township
Johannesburg

To the Secretary for Native Affairs

9 June 1942

Greeting,

Please I just let you know that your letter bearing date 28 of May 1942, has been received yesterday night from your hand.

As I was not here at home for a few weeks, I am much glad that you sent me this great and terrible news to inform me that if my Church complies with the conditions and everything will be addressed to that Office forms N.A. 115, which are required to be completed in support of our application by recognition by the Government; thank you.

Please just send me these forms NA 115, because it is very long time I have begged in that Office to receive this Church. Please I will be waiting to receive these forms from your hand as soon as this letter reaches you, please.

Then let me know that these forms when they are completed, may I send them myself to that Office or through the Native Commissioner of Johannesburg?

Here is another thing I required to know from you. Please, sometime you shall tell me better. I have a minister at Witbank¹⁴ of this church, his name is Andries P. Munyai, PO Box 210, Stand No 103, now in that place erected Church House of this Church in Stand No 66, now this was done in 1939. Now this Minister A.P. Munyai he was ordained by me, namely he received his ordination by me in this church.

November last month he wrote me a letter and in this letter he told me that he received a letter from you in which he was informed that this Church's owner is Rev I.M. Moteka of Bethlehem. I then begged him to send me the same letter from you, but he refused.

PS Is this the truth, or do you know nothing about this matter? Please just let me know.

Greetings.

J.S. Maduna (President)

¹³ Maduna was another clerical rival of Moteka's, based in Johannesburg.

¹⁴ Witbank is a coal-mining town in the Transvaal, situated about 100 kilometers east of Johannesburg.

Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion
No. 222
Location
Bethlehem, O.F.S.

The Secretary
Native Affairs Department
Pretoria

7 July 1942

Sir,

As a deputy overseer for South Africa in the work of the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion, under John Alexander First Apostle, Edwin Harley Snelling, acting Authority, I beg to apply for the Government Recognition of the above-named church by the South African Government.

It was founded by John Alexander in Chicago, Illinois, USA, on February 22nd, 1896. I was appointed to the position of Deputy Overseer for South Africa on the 27th Day of July 1938 by Edwin Harley Snelling of 2815 Ezra Avenue, Zion City, Illinois, USA.

I am holding the preachers' certificate in the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion, in the Union of South Africa, Basutoland and Swaziland. This church has 879 members in the Union of South Africa, Basutoland and Swaziland.

Hoping my application will meet with your favourable consideration.

Your obedient servant,
Rev. Isaiah S Moteka
First Ethiopian Apostle

Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion¹⁵
No 222
Location
Bethlehem, O.F.S.

To the Secretary for Native Affairs

3 October 1942

Sir,

With honour and humility, I beg you my worship to forgive me because of being so late to give the answer for your letter of the 22nd July 1942.

Wherein the copy of an extract from the report of the Native Churches Commission 1935 have been given to me to learn, thank you my Worship.

In that way, I did find myself that before I fill up the Government form N.A. 115, I had better take investigation amongst people.

I am here at present, Germiston Location, Stand No 324, 4 Street. But now I am going to my home at Bethlehem, 222 Location BHL, O.F.S.

And as soon as I come home, my application shall be received in the Office.

God may bless you my worship, those in your office, with all your co-workers, Amen.

Your servant and your worker in the Lord. Amen.

Isaiah Moteka

¹⁵ The following letters are from SAB, NTS 1430 File No. 23/214 Volume III.

William Israel
Attorney, Notary and Conveyancer
17 a Muller Street
Bethlehem, O.F.S.

To the Secretary for Native Affairs

22 October 1942

Sir,

I have the honour to hand you herewith form of application by the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion Congregation located at Bethlehem OFS for Government Recognition to enable them to obtain a site to build a Church.

The following documents in support of the application are also enclosed –

- 1) Ordination Certificate
- 2) Teacher's Certificate
- 3) 4 Certificates by the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church.

Please return these documents to me in due course, and acknowledge receipt hereof.

Thanking you, I have the honour to be, Sir etc.

The Magistrate
Bethlehem

8 March 1943

Application for Government Recognition: Christian Catholic Church of Zion

I have the honour to report for your information as under:

- 1) This church was established in this district in 1934
- 2) The church in question does not own any fixed property
- 3) There are no schools under the management of this church, and are not in receipt of any government grants.
- 4) The total membership are – Bethlehem 36, Paul Roux, 7 and Kestell 12.
- 5) The Rev. Isaiah S. Moteka is the head overseer of this Church in South Africa. The Christian Catholic Church of Zion originates from America where it was first established by the late John Alexander in 1896. There is nothing detrimental known against the character of Isaiah S. Moteka, who is well known in Bethlehem.
- 6) Very little is known of the teachings of this church, but as far as can be ascertained it is not conducive to the observance of Law and Order. It, however, does not seem to carry favour with the Bantu people.

There are no European congregations of this church in the Union.

Sgd. D. Coetzee
Inspector
District Commandant, S.A. Police
No. 28 District, Bethlehem, O.F.S.

The Secretary
Native Affairs Department
Pretoria, South Africa

4 July 1943

For the Church of God. Hebrews 12:21-22.¹⁶ I will hold up my hands to Heaven until my God, including Native Affairs Department Pretoria, prevail against the power of the Devil, and bring back all nations to God. Romans 13: 1 to 7.¹⁷ May God help us to obey any higher powers in this world. Then I will be a fine minister of God. Let us all be one under the domain of the King of England and until the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, for it is that when the time of the Lord Jesus is at hand and nations of the world should be one nation and praise the Lord Jesus in unity through faith come down the Right Almighty God. Hallelujah, Amen, the Lord is coming again.

Ha! What is written in the Holy Bible of God: Revelation 18:18.¹⁸ Who is that man 666? We all know who is he, through the Holy Spirit of God. Let every nation extol the name of the Most High. God is coming very soon, lift up the Banner of England, the place of our hope. God may bless our native affairs department, Pretoria, until Jesus Christ comes, Amen.

I am the servant of the servants of God, under the kind care of the King's Banner (England).

Rev. Isaiah S. Moteka

¹⁶ 'And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, 'I am full of fear and trembling.' But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels.' Hebrews 12:21-20 (New American Standard Bible)

¹⁷ 'Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and from those which exist are established by God. Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.' Romans 13:1-2 (New American Standard Bible)

¹⁸ 'And every shipmaster and every passenger and sailor, and as many as make their living by the sea, stood at a distance, and were crying out as they saw the smoke of her burning, saying "What city is like the great city?"' Revelations 18:17-18 (New American Standard Bible)

No. 222
Location
Bethlehem
O.F.S.

The Secretary for Native Affairs,
Pretoria

12 April 1945

Dear Sir

In my letter dated the 1st Jan 1942, I had requested you to register my church viz. 'The Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion. You acknowledged receipt of this letter on the 10th June 1942.

It is strange to find out that up to date this church has not registered.

I hereby request you to register it and publish it in all towns in the Union of South Africa and Basutoland.

I always encounter much difficulty when I have to serve Holy Communion. The Magistrate refuses to give me permission for purchasing wine.

Kindly grant me full permission of purchasing wine for Holy Communion wherever I may have to serve some to my communicants. The favour of an early favourable reply will much oblige.

Yours faithfully
Isaiah S. Moteka

The Secretary for Native Affairs

16 July 1945

No 1- Qualifications: I have passed Standard 4, Paris, Evangelist, Missionaries at Cana School Basutoland under D Jeanmaint (12. 1912). I studied ministry through correspondence for five years, taught by Edwin Hardy Snelling acting authority 2815 Ezra Ave, Zion City Illinois, USA. I am now of the intention to study English through correspondence. My ministers have learned only their respective mother tongues, except in the case of John Kakundhi who has passed Standard 4 at Colony and Charles Matholo Standard 3 Phoku Basutoland, and Reuben Marumo Afrikaans, and Dlomo Standard 6, Colony (at present Germiston)

No 2- The Christian Catholic Apostolic Church (hereafter CCAC) in Zion was organized in 1896, re-established in 1906 by John Alexander First Apostle in America.

No 3 – The Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion is the foundation of all the Zion and Apostolic churches. It was established in this manner there. He was a man sent from God whose name was John Alexander Dowie First Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ in CCAC in Zion. He was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, May 25, 1847. Very early in life he responded to God's call to the ministry. He organized the Divine Healing Association throughout the world, of which he was president and which he disbanded previous to the organization of the CCAC in Zion on February 22nd 1896. Which became a mighty power under his direction as General Overseer where he continued to labour until his passing away from his earthly toils and of his triumphant entry into the Zion above, March 9 1907. Lake Mount Cemetery holds the sacred dust of our beloved. God may help me to stand to the right. Amen.

No 4 – With the management and selection of ministers, at present, I first discern the ability of a man before he is considered. He is put under test for three years. In the first year, he is tried by the conference. In the second, he appointed under the supervision of a qualified minister. Having been found competent, he is given ministry of a church in his third year. It is a scheme that in future the church will establish a Bible school to train ministers when the school has been recognized by the Government. But I hope that the Government school of Bible is the best for the training of ministers, since its method of training for ministers by teaching Bible and not special management by a certain church, can be best to create understanding among various churches. Various churches in the methods of training ministers only deal with those elements that are necessary to individual church over the world. Thus speaking against one another, each claiming its doctrine is the genuine one. But if ministers are trained in scriptures they can do no ill speaking against each other. The difference can only be in the ability of the God-given. The fact that teachers today judge no difference amongst them makes it clear that in O.F.S. there is understanding.

No 5 – The church services are at present conducted in private stands. The reason is that the church is not yet registered and recognized by the Government.

No 6 – The church total of membership

O.F.S. - 334
Cape Colony – 267
Transvaal – 40
Total – 640 members.

No 7 –The fund of the CCAC in Zion is banked the purpose is to establish schools and church buildings and to maintain the ministers. But most important in purpose is to aid the Government by giving the tithes to God.

No 8 – Just as I have explained the organization of this church in No 3 I am supervised by European ministers who are in America. The Government has seen my minister's certificate issued from America. I hereby send my certificate for examination by the Government. This will make clear that I am being supervised by European ministers. In the case of facilities to obtain wine, I have been duly furnished by my magistrate at Bethlehem with a grant.

My request – please my worship

Concerning the government recognition of the CCAC in Zion I wish the government to give me an allowance of few years. I am however applying for registration of CCAC in Zion in the list of legalized churches in all the government offices of all towns to enable me to abolish the preaching of these churches who carry sticks and rope around them and get claiming to work through the CCAC in Zion. But sometimes accidents occur at their preaching places through fights which arise. Sometime ago I asked the magistrate to take certificates away from such men. The magistrate replied that he was unable because the CCAC in Zion was not in the list of registered churches. He advised me to apply for Registration to Government – so that they would help me to stop them.

This is my request. Please my worship.

Yours obedient servant,
(Rev.) Isaiah S. Moteka

The Rev. Isaiah S. Moteka
The Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion
Stand No. 222
Bethlehem Location
Bethlehem

20 August 1945

Dear Sir

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter 16th ultimo. It is regretted however that your church has not yet reached that stage of development which would justify the Department in recommending the grant of Government recognition. It is observed that the church possesses no buildings and the total membership of all congregations is only 640. The educational qualifications of your ministers also falls short of the required standard and no proper provision appears to have been made for the training of these ministers. These factors militate against the grant of government recognition. There are however no objections to the holding of bona fide prayer meetings provided the requirements of law and order are observed.

Secretary for Native Affairs

Stand No. 222
Location
Bethlehem, O.F.S.

Secretary
Native Affairs Department
Pretoria

12 January 1949

Dear Sir,

I learn Government this letter which is called General letter from America written on the 30th July 1934. This man known as J.S. Maduna and his assistants were instructed by America to work as this letter tells, but Maduna failed. Then America elected me in his place as the Government has seen my appointment for some past time from America. The cause why these ministers fail in this church Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion is that they have the Spirit of Segregation between the nations, especially referring to the whites. However, Zion hit them hollow. Why?

Because Zion is the Kingdom of God, we ought to meet there all, not with flesh but spiritually with the spirit from God. My desire is to fulfil the Government's law together with God's. Romans 13. I beg the Government to help me by speaking with the Municipal of Bethlehem, that as the removal of our Location Bethlehem is not actually known the municipal should obediently allow me to put roofs as the walls are long finished, except two rooms at the back which we did not build because of the municipal. So that I should work in this church as the Government has commanded in the letter of 30 April 1945, No 577/214. And years which Government's law has given me to put this church in its right form. I have noticed that these years will pass before the HQ office of this church stands on its two feet.

But not that I have no strength. I hate to be disobedient to the Government's law. I want the Government to trust me as ministers are the assistants of the Government, to teach and lead the nation to the right. I ask this - that the Government should help me, that municipal should give me an allowance to put roofs on this house, as I have no place to hold the church's services, to teach my ministers as the Government's law says that churches must teach their ministers to hold God's services. I ask the Government to examine this building, and to see as whether it fits to be the HQ, as the whole of South Africa is governed from Bethlehem in this church.

I will wait patiently and obediently for the same mercy from the Government together with the municipal of Bethlehem.

Yours obediently servant,
Rev. Isaiah S Moteka.

Stand No. 222
Location
Bethlehem

Chief Magistrate Bethlehem

12 January 1949

Sir,

Peace to thee be multiplied.

My Worship,

I with honour and humility, I ask magistrate to pass this letter to the Native Affairs Department Pretoria with this picture of my house.

Yours faithfully, servant, Rev Isaiah S Moteka

(hand-drawn map enclosed)

Stand No. 222
Native Location
Bethlehem

To Secretary for Native Affairs

7 February 1951

Dear Sir,

I have written over two letters requesting the Native Commissioner of Sterkspruit¹⁹ to give my church a site at the above named place in the district but in vain. His excuse is that my church is not recognized.

It was stated in your letter No 23/214 dated 20th August 1945, and No 577/214 dated 30th April 1945 that one of the recommendations for recognition is the number of churches it has.

Kindly assist me in this connection.

Hoping to be favoured with an early reply.

I beg to remain Sir, yours faithfully,

Isaiah S. Moteka.

¹⁹ A small town in the eastern Cape, on the south-western border of Basutoland (now Lesotho).

The Secretary for Native Affairs

To the Manager, Native Administration Department, Bloemfontein

16 April 1951

Re: Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion

Sir,

To inform you that the abovementioned church is not recognized by the Government.

Of late various Native evangelists in practically every Province of the Union have laid claim to being the 'Spiritual Head' the 'leader', the 'representative', the 'general overseer' etc of the church.

Amongst others the latest claimants are John Seakamela Tlou, John Ndlovu, Philip M.Z. Dlamini, J.P.S. Mokoena, Samuel Mngoma, Isaiah S. Moteka and various others.

I am therefore unable to state who the actual head of the church is.

No. 222
Bethlehem
O.F.S.

To Secretary for Native Affairs

18 November 1951

Greetings,

My Worship, I am writing the letter through a great distance with counsel from these lots of natives bishops to how I don't know where they come from the only thing that makes them to spoil the so called church Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion it's because there's no white man amongst them. I am sure there's not a single native that have got a little for bishop. It makes me mad, really, my worship.

Sir, I want to ask the Master what becomes of J.B. Ndlovu of Germiston and so far as I know about him he was Deputy officer of the late Evangelist Rev Snelling. Now I want to know from my worship is he is still in the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion because I don't want to work with him any more as I was told by Mr D.J. Grancey, the General Overseer.

Yours,

Rev. I. Moteka

Stand No. 222
Location
Bethlehem

Bart M. Wilkinson
2435 Emmaus Avenue
Zion, Illinois

24 July 1952

Dear Sir,

Peace in the name of Zion. Your letter has been received with pleasure. I debated to reply just because we have been praying for you so that we may understand with each other well as it was the case with the late Snelling.

I should like to bring this to your attention: I have in been in this Church of Zion for the last 47 years. I joined the church in 1905 in the days of First Apostle (John Alexander). I am now 67 years of age. All the members of the church left Zion in 1905. I am left alone, but God has been with me. I have congregations in Free State, Basutoland, Transvaal, Cape Province and Swaziland. It is quite clear when you say that the stamp I am using is to be changed as Snelling has passed away, but this must first be reported to the Government of South Africa. It must clearly be stated that you are the person who has taken the place of the late Snelling. I hope God will help you carry on the work in harmony. I am quite willing to remain obedient under your service.

The Ministers of South Africa are under John Alexander First Apostle. They are known to the Government of this country by the certificates I am enclosing herewith now.

The appointment enclosing herein was sent by the late Rev Snelling and also from the Government. By the help of our God I hope our work will be run very smoothly by working together in peace and harmony as it has been the case in the days of the late Snelling acting Authority.

With wishes, Yours in Christ,
(for) Rev. Isaiah S. Moteka,
Deputy Overseer Chief Triumvir in Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion Throughout
SA (stamp)

Stand No. 222
Native Location
Bethlehem

Secretary
Native Affairs Department
Pretoria

22 September 1952

Dear Sir

I humbly notify you my worship that I hold conference in Bloemfontein Location on the 18th August 1951. I had invited all congregations called the Apostolic Church in Zion. The Full Gospel Church Building was filled to capacity. My aim was to bring about unity so that all these sects may become one church.

I was greatly disappointed to be denied the right to purchase sacramental wine by the Magistrate of Bloemfontein who told me my church was unrecognized by the Government. He advised me to interview the Native Commissioner who also said I should take the Magistrate's word. It is strange because on the 4th November 1950 the same Magistrate gave me permission to buy wine. I was obliged to use ginger beer mixed with a juice from raisins.

I humbly request you to communicate with this Magistrate to allow me to purchase wine because I was recognized by Government as a minister of religion on the 26th May 1942. I have been a Christian of good character for 48 years. I am a man of 66 years of age. I am enclosing herein letters giving good reasons why my church is not recognized in South Africa.

I am also enclosing letters which I use here in Bethlehem for obtaining wine. I never had trouble out here about purchasing sacramental wine. In the letters from America it will be noted that the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion is inconvenienced by the Apostolic Faith Mission and Mahon Mission to get recognition. It is an old church.

Since my church is registered, I am entitled to serve Holy Communion among followers.

I was welcomed by the Location Superintendent of Bloemfontein.

I beg to remain, My Worship, your faithfully servant,
Rev. Isaiah S. Moteka (stamp)

The Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion²⁰
No 222 Bochabelo Street
Bethlehem

Native Affairs Department, Pretoria

8 March 1954

Dear Sir

I humbly ask your attention of my request referring to the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion.

The government has given me apportionate time of about 10 years to erect churches. I found many difficulties amongst people to bring them to God and unify that they understand things. People harbour wrong ideas about things. They understand some things here and there. I at last decided to take out my daughter, Diana S. Moteka, to them. Because she is their child they would understand her better when she explains things to them. The question of especially the mothers about why they should attend clinics to avoid unnecessary diseases and deformations. I tried to quote some instances about animals, when a cow is still expecting and no rains, it is our custom that cold water should be applied on her back till time comes, which is no sin but it's hygiene.

So, Dear Sir, this is one of the difficulties I am having in bringing these people together that we may erect good buildings for our church and work together with the government, not against, my time is thus absorbed.

Yours,

Rev. I. Moteka

²⁰ The remaining letters are from SAB, BAO 7286.

Musing School
P.O. Palmielfontein
Via Zastron²¹

The Secretary of Native Affairs

19 March 1954

Please sir, get this few lines from me.

Please let me now ask this thing. This church, the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion, is written in the books of Government.

Because I was in the office of the Assistant Magistrate. He told me this Church is not under Government because it is not Recognized by Government. Please dear Sir, tell me about this Church. I am under Isaiah Moteka in Bethlehem Location.

Yours faithfully
Rev A. Bo?

²¹ Zastron was a small town near Sterkspruit, similarly located near the border of Basutoland.

Benoni South
P.O. Box 5012
Benoni²²
Transvaal
South Africa

To the Secretary for Native Affairs

31 March 1954

Dear Sir, Native Affairs

I thank you if you can tell me about the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion.

There are two ministers in South Africa. Mr Isaiah Moteka, Bethlehem Location, Orange Free State, 02.222 and the other one is Phillip Zatelamene, Hydelburg Location, No 291. I beg you that to tell us who is the owner from those two ministers. The church's headquarters is in America, this minister's address is 2815 Ezra Avenue Zion City Ill USA. Another one's address is 2912 Elisha Avenue.

Now we are confused about these ministers because they are grumbling. Please just cut this.

No name of sender.

²² A working-glass gold mining town on the outskirts of Johannesburg.

No. 222
Location
Bethlehem
O.F.S.

11 April 1954

To the Magistrate and Native Commissioner,
Sterkspruit,
Cape Province

Dear Sir

This is to acknowledge you Sir that on the 16th April 1954 I will be at Musong School Palmielfontein district where I will be holding yearly spiritual district conference.

With thanks Sir

I am

Yours faithfully

(Rev) Isaiah S. Moteka

Deputy Overseer and Chief

Triumvia

In the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion (in South Africa)

222 Bochabelo Street
Bethlehem Location
Bethlehem O.F.S.

2 □ June 1955

The Secretary
Native Affairs Department
Pretoria

Your Worship,

I still remember on the 6th that when I was examined that the Native Commissioner here at Bethlehem said that I should bring peace between these nations.

I do hope and I believe that you will heartily accept my request. I am hereby ending with this conclusion which says 'God be with the world still', said the Prince of Light to that of darkness.

I humbly remain
Your obedient servant
Isaia S. Moteka

222 Bochabelo Street
Bethlehem Location
Bethlehem O.F.S.

27 Dec 1955

The Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion

Greetings

Dear Sir

I here with beg to ask from you application forms N.A. 115. For a Government Recognition of the above named church. I then shall await your earliest reply.

Thanks,
I am your
Obedient Servant
Isaiah S. Moteka
Minister of the Church

(Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion stamp – stating Isaiah is under John Alexander Dowie)

The Christian Apostolic Church in Zion
No. 222 Bechabela Street
Bethlehem Location
Bethlehem O.F.S.

28 January 1956

The Honourable Secretary for Native Affairs
Department of Native Affairs
Pretoria

Dear Sir

I, Isaiah S. Moteka, by name, herein apply the Recognition of my Church The Christian Apostolic Church in Zion by the Government.

I, Isaiah, am the Head of the said Church in South Africa, having been specially appointed by Mr Edwin H. Snelling Acting Authority of the Ecclesiastical Council in the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion of the Zion City, Illinois, in the United States. And this was in the Year of our Lord, 1938, on that 27th day of the month of July.

In that said year I was also appointed SECOND Triumverate Officer Council of Investigation.

It has been through my efforts that this said existing church in SA has a Savings Banks Account with the Standard Bank of SA and I do all the signing and see to the matters pertaining thereof.

I do hold my Certificate of Ordination of the said Church.

I shall therefore be glad to have sent to me the official form N.A. II5 so I can fill it in due time.

I promise to furnish all information postulated of me in connexion with this.
In the name of the Church of Christ our Lord

I remain your humble servant
Isaiah S. Moteka

(his stamp)

No. 222 Bechabela Street
Location,
Bethlehem,

28 Jan 1957

(Isaiah's stamp)

The Secretary
Native Affairs Department
PO Box 384
Pretoria

Re: Application for church recognition

Dear Sir,

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter Ref: No 23/214 of the 17th instant and note that you quote that my church 'does not possess the standing and stability'. I here humbly ask you to explain to me what you mean by 'standing' and 'stability' so that I can be able to supply you with further necessary information.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I beg to remain

Yours obediently
Isaiah S. Moteka

The Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion
No. 222 Bochabelo Street
Bethlehem

The Secretary
Native Affairs Department
Pretoria

9 March 1957

Sir,

I here wish to thank you very much for your letter of the 8/3/57 being answer to my enquiry.

I understand from your letter that you say that there are six people who claim to be the heads of my church. To my knowledge, Sir, I know of nobody here in South Africa who may claim my church. I can only expect such claims from people in America.

If you could check up your files of 1940 (I'm unfortunately not sure of the date) between the months of January and June, you will definitely find a letter written to your office by Rev. Edwin Harley Snelling of America wherein he says that I am the sole appointed head of the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion here in South Africa.

I humbly ask you to be patient with me on this matter and let me know who these people are, whether here locally or in America.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

I wish to remain

Yours in Christ,

Isaiah S. Moteka

'Peace be still between white and black, says the Prince of Peace to the Prince of Darkness'

(Isaiah's stamp at bottom)

222 Bochabelo Street
Thereneville,
Bethlehem,
Orange Free State,
South Africa

(Isaiah's stamp)

Triumverate Council of Investigation
Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion
South Africa under Rev. Isaiah Moteka Deputy Overseer

Mr Vernon R. Lee
Mr Bart M. Wilkinson
Presiding Officers.

25 July 1957

Peace be with you all you Zionists.

I received your letter in 1955 just when I had arrived from Natal from dedicating a new church building.

I was at the time seriously ill suffering from eyesight. Up to this day I am unable to read or write. In your letter you asked me to let you know of any impediments that interfere with the progress of the church. I must say that there are no troubles at all with me out here in South Africa even from my Government, since Lettie H. Snelling introduced me to the Government in Pretoria.

People who are spoiling things out here are Americans. You have taken a different administration from that of Snelling. I introduced all the ministers here to Snelling but under you there are now ministers here in South Africa who I don't know, whose characters you also do not know and yet you have awarded them certificates that they are Bishops. I refer particularly to Mr. Nyaweni who is known to you out in the Transvaal. He says he was placed by you as Bishop and will simply not pull together with us. I would ask you if you are really occupying the seat of Snelling under John Alexander First Apostle.

I have a complete roll of all the ministers here in South Africa compiled by Lettie Snelling and the name of Mr Nyaweni is not there. I would like you to tell me where you got his name. People like him have spoiled things here in South Africa. They say they are under the control of the Holy Ghost even when they have their legal wives they desert them and just remarry. Saying it is the instruction of the Holy Ghost. I don't like such misunderstandings in our church. I don't claim to have people those people of whom I am the leader in the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion are God's people. Read Romans Chapter 13.

What I preach is this: Let there be peace between white and black. So says the Prince of Peace to the Prince of Darkness.

Your friend in Christ,

Isaiah Moteka
(Chief Triumvia in C.C.A.C. in Zion)
The Triumverate of Investiation
Christian Apostolic Church in Zion under Isaia Moteka
Deputy overseer and chief triumvia
Head quarter 822 Location Bethlehem

222 Bochabela Street
Bethlehem Location
Bethlehem

4 March 1958

(Isaiah's Stamp)

The Secretary
Native Affairs Department
Pretoria
Re: The Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion

Honorable Sir,

I humbly draw your attention.

Here I will quote the letters written to me on the 5.3.57 by you My Worship by which you were informing me of six people who claim to be the head of my church; I have found one, Joseph Mokoena, a lodger of house No. 336 Mlangeni Street Bethlehem Location who took wine for sacramental purpose through the name The Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion, of which I am the head without my knowing.

However, Joseph Mokoena was called twice in Native Commissioner's office for investigating the same matter and he did not turn up. Consequently, this matter had to be referred to your office My Worship.

I, therefore, Honourable, refer this matter to you for consideration.

I am
Yours faithfully
(Rev) Isaiah S. Moteka Deputy Overseer and Chief Triumvia in the Christian Catholic
Apostolic Church in Zion in South Africa

TRIUMVERATE COUNCIL OF INVESTIGATION
IN THE CHRISTIAN CATHOLIC APOSTOLIC
CHURCH IN ZION
UNDER REVEREND ISIAH S. MOTEKA
DEPUTY OVERSEER AND CHIEF TRIUMVIA,
HEADQUARTER BETHLEHEM

Musong School
P.O. Palmielfontein
Via Zastion

19 April 1958

(Isaiah's stamp)

The Location Superintendent
Cradock

Greetings.

Dear Sir,

With great kindness, this is to let you know that I will be at Cradock in the location to held a special conference on the 19th April 1958.

Best wishes
Isaiah S. Moteka

The Triumverate of Investiation
Christian Apostolic Church in Zion under Isaia Moteka
Deputy overseer and chief triumvia
Head quarter 822 Location Bethlehem

222 Bochabelo Street
Bethlehem Location
O.F.S.
South Africa

Rev Vernon R. Lee
2721 Elizabeth Avenue
Zion, Illinois

10 July 1958

Dear Sir

Peace be with you together with our mother Mary Snelling and to all friends in Zion. I have received your letter in which you informed me that you have taken the place of your grandfather Snelling and that he has passed away having something to say to me. I am anxious to know what he wanted to say to me about the mission work in South Africa. Please let me know what he was anxious to tell me about the mission work. All I know is that he wanted the white people and black people of South Africa to live in peace. I am trying my best to live peaceably with all the ministers of religion under me and also to live in harmony with white and black people of South Africa.

I conclude by saying 'peace be still between white and black. Says the prince of peace to the prince of darkness. I hope you will reply before Christmas.

Your humble servant,
Rev. Isaiah Moteka.

The Secretary for Bantu Administration

To Rev. Francis Ngema

11 July 1961

Greetings

I wish to advise you that the following ministers all claim to be the head of the above mentioned church:

- 1) yourself
- 2) Rev MM Sibanyoni of 452 Molife Street, Newtown, Kimberly
- 3) Rev IS Moteka of 222 Boshabela Street Location, Bethlehem
- 4) Rev JW Ndlovu of PO Box 11, Felixton

You will no doubt admit that it is a very unhealthy state of affairs to have so many different churches working under the same name.

I would suggest that you call a meeting of the ministers mentioned above with a view to arranging amalgamation.

Greetings

Etc

No. 222 Bochabela Street
Bethlehem

8 August 1961

To Rev. Ngema

Sir,

May I draw your attention to the following:

1. I have also received similar correspondence from the Department of Bantu Administration and Development. I am however gratified to notice because of pressure from this source you are now prepared to have discussions that may lead to a peaceful settlement and the amalgamation of the churches.
2. The documents I have establish my claim to the headship of this church
3. Because there are several pretenders to the headship of the church and because the church is as a result handicapped, I therefore invite you to a meeting of all ministers and claimants to the headship of the church that will take place on the 13 September 1961 at the above address at 7:30. I further request to be ready to discuss the issue of amalgamation of the church.
4. Finally I want to assure you I shall not take up the case you unsuccessfully brought against me with the Native Affairs Department locally. I shall do everything for your comfort and convenience at Bethlehem.

I hope you will in the interest of the church respond favourably.

Yours faithfully,
MOTEKA

No. 222 Bochabela Street
Bethlehem

8 August 1961

To Rev JM Ndlovu and Rev Sibanyoni

Sirs,

You are no doubt aware of the confusion that exists in the Church because of the fact that more than three persons have claimed to be the heads of our church. As a result the Church has been handicapped in its work. You will also no doubt agree with me that this position should be clarified and the churches that use the name quoted above be amalgamated.

I therefore invite you for a meeting at which all claimants to the headship of the church shall establish such claims by the documents and other proof in their possession and at which we shall also discuss the amalgamation of the churches. This meeting will be held on the 13 September at 7:30pm at above mentioned address. It is therefore of great importance that you will be present.

Yours faithfully,
Isaiah Moteka
Overseer in South Africa

No. 222 Bochabela Street
Bethlehem

The Secretary for Bantu Administration

8 August 1961

Dear Sir

I am enclosing copies of letters I wrote to the four claimants to headship of the Church as according to your letter. I shall keep you informed of the Developments with regards this matter.

Yours faithfully,
Moteka

1455 Tsoella Street
Smutsville,
Bethlehem

4 April 1965

To the Secretary for Bantu Administration

Dear Sir,

Peace be still between white and black says the prince of peace to the prince of darkness.

Peace be with you Sir, as well as your humble servants.

I shall be at your area over the Passover feast, and upon arrival I shall repost according by, may almighty God bless you and keep you.

Yours in Christ
Isaiah Moteka
(his stamp)

1455 Tsoella Street
Smutsville,
Bethlehem

18 June 1965

(Stamp, saying 'Snelling Acting Authority')

Dear Rev J. Frans

I have received your letter and heard that Rev. Ngema says if you people come over to me he will demolish this church. I say he is not the man to do such a thing, the Government can do such a thing, not himself.

I am the Bishop of this church. It is not a church without a Bishop. Even the monies that you pay to him, stop paying them because they are constitutional within this church.

I have long been looking for Ngema now because of God's help I get him through you please ask him to write to me here.

Greetings.

I remain yours in Christ,
Rev I.S. Moteka

PS I have also heard that the people are willing to come back. I am very happy to hear so, do come.

1455 Tsoella Street
Smutsville,
Bethlehem

No recipient

(Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion stamp)

Elijah is Coming!

The Ecclesiastical Executive Council in the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion under John Alexander First Apostle.

Now: Executives: Edwin Snelling, Gottschalk (Evangelists), Mary H Snelling
Headquarters Office 2815 Ezra Avenue, Zion City, Illinois USA, Organized in 1896, Re-established in 1904.

Notice of Appointment

The Rev Isaiah S. Moteka of Bethlehem, OFS, South Africa district officers in District No 2 and second officers in the Triumverate Council of Investigation was appointed Chief of said Council, and the 27th Day of July, 1935, Isaiah S. Moteka was also appointed the position of Deputy Overseer in the work of the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion.

I beg to remain,
Yours faithfully in Christ,
(Rev.) Isaiah S. Moteka

1455 Tseolla Street
Smutsville
Bethlehem

Bantu Department of Information, Pretoria

18 June 1965

Dear Sir

It is with great pleasure to learn that you're now working Ngema. I am very happy about it.

Now I ask you to let me know the day you have a gathering. You should however not tell him that you told lest he absconds.

If you don't do so you will be involved because of hiding him. Yet my aim is to meet him face to face and make certain conclusions with him given your presence.

I beg to pen off.

I a servant as those under God

Isaiah S. Moteka

1455 Tseolla Street
Smutsville
Bethlehem

19 June 1965

Dear Sir

It is a great pleasure to me to let you know this copy which I write to you is just to inform you that I have written to the Rev. Francis who is now working with Ngema in this church. To let me know when there is gathering. So I may be around, because I will like to meet with that Mr Ngema.

So please you may keep that letter until I meet with that man.

I beg to pen off.

Rev I. S. Moteka

No Address or date

Dear Francis

I am in receipt of your letter of 1 June 1965 and I pleased to learn of your conference to be held in Johannesburg.

I wish to say that when you arrive at the Conference, please don't give the church money to anyone. This is my ruling order. If Mr Ngema is not happy with the set- up he is at liberty to report me or appeal to anyone as protest. I am prepared for the challenge.

So please do not hand over money before Mr Ngema and I have conferred.

Therefore may I ask you that when you come please bring someone who can read and understand letters and documents here to me so that you should know where and what your church registration number is in Pretoria. This should help this matter now being approved. I wish to thank God for you as the one under me for your efforts and please catch hold of Mr Ngema because for a long time he has been elusive and not responding to invitations.

I am writing this letter in my capacity as Evangelist OFFICER – IN - CHARGE OF CCAZ in Zion, in the whole Republic of South Africa. REV IS MOTEKA under the HIGHEST COURT OF THE UNIVERSE No 1-2

I should be pleased if you could read this letter to the conference because it is not private and confidential. Please convey to Mr Ngema to read Act of the Apostles Chapter 5: 11-14.

I am today over 90 years old.

Thanks God.

Isaiah Moteka