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“Bringing people together to serve humanity”

January 16, 2020

Dr. Philip Graham Ryken
President
Wheaton College
501 College Ave,
Wheaton, IL 60187

and

Dr. Margaret DuPlissis Diddams
Provost
Wheaton College
501 College Ave,
Wheaton, IL 60187

THRU

African Methodist Episcopal Church
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
American Baptist Churches, USA
Berean Missionary Baptist Association, Inc.
Bible Way Church World Wide, Inc.
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Church of God in Christ
Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International
Greater Mount Calvary Holy Church
House of God
International Bible Way Church of Jesus Christ
International Council of Community Churches
Mt. Calvary Holy Church of America
Mount Sinai Holy Church of America, Inc.
National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.
National Baptist Convention of America International, Inc.
National Council of Churches

National Primitive Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.
Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, Inc.
Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.
The Potter's House Church
The Union of Black Episcopalians
Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International

Dear Dr. Ryken and Dr. Diddams:

After a thorough investigation by the National Black Church Initiative Theological and Biblical Board, we can only conclude that your actions taken in total toward the Professor Larycia Hawkins case are deeply troubling.

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American churches with an additional 116,000 sister churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches and the public. Our coalition constitutes 26.7 million African Americans.

We found your actions were caprices, unbiblical, racist, totally without any Christian merits, short-sightedness, without any theological precedence. No one can assume the mind and will of God (Psalm 139) through Christ where scripture clearly states in **Romans 11:4** *But what does the divine response say to him? "I have reserved for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal."* Christ did not die that you can become a spiritual dictator over the soul of Professor Larycia Hawkins.

The punitive effect here is to undermine the Christian faith and the ethics and teachings of Jesus in such a way that your actions along with Wheaton College constitutes evil. Therefore, NBCI member churches will not send nor recommend Wheaton College to our church students.

Could it be through the gift of the Holy Spirit that Professor Larycia Hawkins's action will win those Muslim women to Christ, someday? Here is what Paul said in 1 Cor 9:22 *To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might, by all means, save some.*

Your humble servant in Christ,

The Right Most Rev. Anthony Evans
President