LITTLE LOVE LETTER

JANUARY 1, 1974
OCEANSIDE, CALIF. 92054
FROM ELMER H. HUNT, 3219 CORAL DR.
(***** ***** ***** ***** ***)

GOOD MORNING, 1974

JUST LIKE 1972 AND 1973, AND ALL OTHERS, you'll soon be one of the old ones. AND my writing about it REPETITION. Come now, there's much work to be done; "while it is day". Watch and pray- "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." Notwithstanding, cometh the end.

PLURALITY OF CUPS

A YOUNG BROTHER IN CHRIST has asked me to give more on the above innovation. I, as God may give me guidance in Christ, will gladly do so. This because, as I have written in the recent Little Love Letters, it is true that many of the younger, and even older, brethren in Christ do not so know, or have heard, that using more than one cup in the communion is a modern day innovation, therefore condemned of God. Jesus Christ our Lord took the cup,- a cup - that cup - this cup - always singular, - "and gave thanks, and gave <u>it to them</u>, <u>saying</u>, Drink ye all <u>of it</u>". "And they all <u>drank of it</u>." ISN'T that <u>enough</u>?? But more , later.

ONE CUP IS PLAINLY TAUGHT, NEVER PLURAL; and since we all agree that one cup is sufficient, it is <u>grounds of</u> & <u>for unity</u>. We have faith in the truth,therefore we believe that one cup is the Bible way. We cannot by FAITH use two, or more, or thimbles, or bottles, or all other additions.

GROUNDS FOR UNITY OR CONSCIENCE NOTWITHSTANDING, many have gone onward; separations, divisions, have come, and it's wrong. Many of those in error know it. They try to compromise, but <u>must</u> hang on to <u>cups</u>. Or many say nothing.

SO HERE WE ARE, HOLDING HOPE that many might make the move onto higher grounds - the grounds for unity; get away from sinking sands of sorrow; before judgement dawns.

CUPS CONTENTION CRITICISED

HERE IS ONE OF THEIR PROPOSITIONS: "The use by Christians of a plurality of drinking vessels in distributing the fruit of the vine among the members of a local congregation partaking of the Lord's Supper is acceptable to God". "Acceptable to God means pleasing to God, or in harmony with His doctrine and revealed purpose." All this is quoted. Now let's see if this is "pleasing to God, and revealed in His doctrine". (I'm using syllogisms by Bro. Bedingfield.)

I, First:- "But without faith it is impossible to please Him". Heb. 11:6.

Second:- But the use of a plurality of cups in the Lord's Supper is without faith. (Not being mentioned therein), Ro. 10:17.

Third:- Therefore, the use of a plurality of cups in the Lord's Supper does not please Him (God).

II, First:- "Whatsoever is not of faith is sin". Ro. 14:23.

Second:- But the use of a plurality of cups to distribute the fruit of the vine to the members in the Lord's Supper, is not of faith, (they not being mentioned therein), Ro. 10:17.

Third:- Therefore the use of a plurality of cups to distribute the fruit of the vine in the communion, is SIN.

III, First:- "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron." 1 Tim. 4:1-2.

Second:- But the use of a plurality of cups - - is a departure from the faith, as they are not mentioned in the New Testament scriptures, Ro. 10:17.

Third:- Therefore, those who use a plurality of cups - - -; have departed from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron.

COMPROMISE ERROR

A FEW YEARS BACK I WAS ASKED TO GO to a city where was a split over the containers in that congregation (There were other congregations in the city). I learned they had a holder with little thimbles around and one larger cup ? in the middle. If conscience forbad using a thimble then one could drink from the big one for the communion. (joint participation). From house to house I discussed this folly. I since have an article of their paper by one who wrote "after thanks is given" he can take his from a bottle.

"LIBERTY"

WHY,"AFTER THANKS IS GIVEN"? CONSCIENCE?? But they do not practice even that;for those little things called cup,- ((Please see Thayer on Metonymy. Short here= "the container for the contained". Not cups, bottles, but cup, named. -))- are filled before "thanks is given"-even before "table is".

CHRIST TOOK THE CUP(a cup, singular), gave thanks to God for it(see 1 Cor.10:16-also versions), and gave it to them, told them to take it, drink of it; they all drank of it. Some versions say "out of it". Now where, oh WHERE did Christ divide it?

THEN THEY TROT TO LUKE 22:17(must get that "divide"in). "Take this, and divide it among yourselves". ((My position on Luke has been--and there is where a debater told me that if he's not right then I'm"bound to be right" Here it is: 1, V.15-16 Christ is through with the Passover. It is not a part of what Christ is about to ordain for them.
2, V.17-18, He said to them "I will not drink of the fruit of the vine,"(Mat. "henceforth" - "until"). So in 3 ref. I'm sure that He did not drink; NOR IN LUKE the next 2 verses.
3, THEN, verses 19-20, Christ gave the Lord's Supper, APART. I do not hold that Christ took the cup twice in GIVING IT.

BUT they say Goodspeed tells us it's an interpolation, & Wescott & Hort reject it. I've not seen any of the 3 on it.

BUT SINCE THE CUPS PEOPLE GO TO LUKE 22:17, let's see: "Take this, and divide it among yourselves". They were to take in hand the same thing Christ had taken, CUP, named. They were to divide it (distribute). This was to be among themselves. (NOT before or at table-not in cups or bottles, as none were there. Innovated later??? Then how to do it? Matthew 26:27 tells exactly how, "Drink ye all of it". Mark 14:23, "and they all drank of it".
Luke 22:17??? Christ took the cup, gave thanks, and said, take this, and divide it among yourselves. (METONYMY?),v.18 "drink of the fruit of the vine". BUT ALSO verse 20, "THIS CUP is the new testament in my blood,which is shed for you" 1 Cor.11:25, "this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." Vs.26"drink this cup.Vs.27"cup of the Lord".

"LIBERTY"

THEN THEY HIDE UNDER LIBERTY: "WE are at liberty,one or more than one".(Notice,1 is O.K.). BUT everything God commands we must do:"Drink ye all of it" "THEY ALL DRANK OF IT"

"FOR A BLESSING IS IN IT"

"THE CUP OF BLESSING WHICH WE BLESS, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ?" (COMMUNION:= a sharing in,- joint participation,- the act of sharing in distribution.) "Now therefore fear the Lord,& serve him in- -TRUTH".

WE WENT TO PRESS AT NOON NOVEMBER 16 for early edition of the December issue. A letter had just arrived from Danny Lyon's mother, so I added a bottom line with Phoenix address. Latest since then(Dec.9)He's now in Roll,Ariz.& doing fair but must go back to Phoenix for surgeries and treatments.

ON THAT SAME DAY A LETTER from my sister in Eugene;and Bro. Clede Addleman was in hospital from a stroke. Has very bad tongue and paralysis complete right side - oxygen tent. He is 87 years of age; and I've known him since 1913 in the early church days in Eugene. His was a staunch faith and it was he who taught me to see the fallacy of all"innovations"! We've discussed many questions. Latest letter(Dec.10) tells us that his condition is still about the same. A new letter in today's mail(Dec.14; from my Bro.-in-law Albert Drake): "They - moved him to the Emerald Nursing Home, 2360 Chambers St.(Eugene)as he did not seem to improve any." What sadness.

THIS PAPER AGAIN EARLY(Dec.14)so news is slightly short.

We hope the surprise house-warming for Jan. and Ron. Herbert's new home was very good. They're Delta,Colo.Members.

We were happy to hear of Klamath Falls, Ore. that they had baptized a new Brother, Carl Jordan of McFarland, Cal.

The new congregation at Port Orchard, Wash. are few in numbers but are working faithfully.Please send us addresses.

At Eugene they have had about 4 times the normal rain for Nov. over 20 inches. But the church in Springfield hold on in faith, even tho many quite sick. Sis.Mattie goes some.

The Stilwell, Okla. congregation at Baron is about as usual, everyone seems to be in good health at present.

Bro. Jim Ferguson and his mother, Sister Edna, moved from La Habra, Cal.to Wesley, Ark. and now seem doing well, even in rains,creeks full banks. They go to Goshen Church.

Bro.& Sis. Robert Morris and Bro.& Sis. Bud Davis of Yuma visited Lakeside Dec.2 and Robt. & Joyce were intending to go to San Francisco, and be at Grass Valley Dec.9. The new building at Yuma is soon done. Enjoyed their visit.

The meeting at Peoria was well attended, from Aztec, Yakima, Bellflower, Lakeside, Fontana. One was baptized,our new Sister Jannette Lobato. Bro. Dabbs had good lessons.

We were glad that lately Sisters Parker and Robinson are doing much better since their surgeries and sicknesses.

BRO. Bill Taylor's sermon at Lakeside Dec. 9 was one exceptionally excellent. Also we are glad Bro. Ken. Morrison is a part of Lakeside now, from Portalis, New Mex.

AND THAT'S THE WAY IT IS. Here we must end the L.L.L.— and in a few days 1973 must go. GOD BLESS EVERY ONE IN 1974.