THUS SAITH THE LORD

PUBLISHED BY JAMES S.L.MORSE. HAMMON,OKLAHOMA. ROUTE # 2
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The Lord is my shepherd,I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul:he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea,Tho'I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,I will fear no evil:for thou art with me;thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou annointest my head with oil;my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. (Psalm 23)

Can you truthfully say, The Lord is my shepherd? Are you sure that you do not want for spiritual things? Are you certain that your shep herd feeds you on a plentiful supply of spiritual food,and leads you by the calm waters of spiritual life? If you have obeyed the gospel plan of salvation as taught in the Church of Christ,and if you are living in obedience to the perfect law of liberty,the law of Christ, in the Church of Christ. Then you can truly say the Lord is my Shep-herd,and I lack no spiritual food or drink,I am filled,I lie down in peace,safety and contentment. You can say: He restores my soul to me at the resurrection of the just. Now you can truly say,even now this very hour,He leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. If Jesus is truly your Shepherd,you can assert that even when you walk through the valley of the shadow of death: I am not afraid, Jesus Christ,my Lord,my Saviour protects me from all evil,for thou art with me through life,through death and in eternal life. Thy pow-er and thy righteousness,they comfort me. Yea,Lord my Saviour,thou hast prepared a table before me in the presence of my enemies,for thou gavest us the Loaf,representing thy body given for us on Calvary cross. Thou my Lord of Lord's gavest us the cup,symbolic of thy blood shed for the remission of our sins. Truly my Saviour,thou prepared a table for me in the presence of my enemies,that I may eat the bread of life and never hunger. Blessed Saviour,thou hast anointed my head with the oil of gladness,and I am filled to overflowing with joy. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.. If the Lord is not your Shepherd,then not one of these assurances are yours. Then where is your comfort? Your hope? Your life beyond the grave,where is it?? Without Jesus,who will comfort you,and assure you of life eternal, when you are about to depart into the unknown?? Who will restore your soul to you? Who will remove your sins ??? Who will give you life? Without Jesus where will you spend eternity?? (Continued inside)

MAILING ADDRESS
TO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE I.
If you are not a member of the Church of Christ,and when your hour of departure is at hand,then these questions will torture your mind,and death will be the horrors of horrors,because the awful truth will strike you like a flash of lightning, I've made no preparation for death, I have no Saviour. To late,you'll recognize the awful sad truth,and cry my God,my God, Save me. But death waits on no man nor woman,and when the pains of death strike,there seldom is time for confession and baptism. Another LOST soul goes into eternity to await the judgment in Tartarus of Hades,a place of temporary punishment. This article is written especially to the lost,and the plain facts are presented to you. Where are these facts taught in the Bible? Ans. In Luke 16:19-31 There was a certain rich man,which was clothed in purple and fine linen,and fared sumptuously every day:And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus,which was laid at his gate,full of sores,and desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich mans table:moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. And it came to pass,that the begga-r died,and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom:the rich ma-n also died;and was buried;and in hades,he lift up his eyes,being in TORMENTS,and seeth Abraham afar off,and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham,have mercy on me,and send Lazarus,that he may dip the tip of his finger in water,and cool my tongue;for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said Son,remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things,likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted,and thou art tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed:so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot;neither can they pass to us,that would come from us. Then he said I pray thee therefore,father,that thou wouldst send him to my father's house:For I have 5 brethren;that he may testify unto them lest they also come into this place of torment. And Abraham saith unto him,they have Moses and the prophets;let them hear them. And he said Nay,father Abraham:but if one went unto them from the dead,they will repent. And he saith unto him,if they hear not Mose and the prophets,neither will they be persuaded,tho one rose from the dead... Ladies & Gentlemen: Almost every home in the U.S.A. has the law of God,the New Testament of the Bible,telling how that Jesus Christ did arise from the dead. But like Abraham said,tho' rose from the dead,they (The lost) will not be persuaded to obey God. The rich man was put in hades,why? Because he did NOT obey God. The unsaved who are disobeying God now,will soon be keeping the rich man company in hades. The rich man could have obeyed the commandments contained in the books of Moses and the Prophets,and he would have bee-n safe. Today,You can obey the law of Christ and be safe. Now why are you still wodering around in your sins?? Is it because you like being a sinner? Do you prefer the company of the Devil to the company of God? Do you think your money can buy you a home in heaven? So you think that you can escape hell and reach heaven without Jesus Christ?? Thus saith the Lord: "I am the way,the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me" (John 14:6) "And being made perfect,he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them tha-t obey him" (Heb.5:9) Jesus Christ is the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.. Now what are you waiting for?????? Become a member of the Church of Christ today. Dont put it off.....

Page 3. Worldly institutions such as: Clubes and lodges are quite numerous in the U.S.A. and abroad. Each club or lodge serves a purpose of some sort. First we study the basic,they are simple,loosely organized affairs. The Ladies H.D.Club is sample of what I mean..... The H.D.Club,just mentioned is one of the most harmless,yet beneficial clubs in America. (Some long suffering husbands may want to hang me for boosting the H.D. chatterbox club) This club is an asset to its members. Now unless I am badly mis-informed,the H.D.Club requires no oath of allegance. (Oaths of allegiance are contrary to N.T.doctrine) Has no substitute doctrine to replace the doctrine of Christ,and makes no claim to being a soul saving institution. As long as such clubs do not interfere with the church of Christ,we have no complaint against them. This land is heavily populated with an assortment of clubs and lodges which we cannot approve of! Why do we disapprove? A number of clubs and practically all lodges require an OATH OF ALLEG* IANCE which is contrary to the will of God.. Proof. "Again,ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time,Thou shalt not forswear thyself,but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths:But I say unto you,swear not at all;neither by heaven;for it is God's throne: nor by the earth:for it is his footstool:neither by Jerusalem;for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black" (Matt.5:33-36) Every persons obligations are first,last and always to God,to Christ and to his Church. There is NO room for sworn obedience to another master. Our second objection to such clubs and lodges in particular are: Those clubs and lodges are definitely religious-political organizations. The handbook of lodges in particular,contains a doctrine of mans ideas,mans plan of salvation,in opposition to the doctrine of Christ. While such clubs and lodges,some time produce temporal benefits for their members,they most definitely will keep their members OUT of heaven. The doctrine of lodges are built partly on O.T. precepts,plus the politico-religio-mystic dogmas of mankind down thru' the centuries. Lodge prayer leaders will not pray in Christ's name. Christ is excluded from their doctrine. Lodges are the enemies of Christ and his Church. In whose name did God say pray? "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed,do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Col.3:I7) I have given you a thus saith the Lord. (Matt.5:33-36) (Col.3:I7) Thus I have proven my arguement against the clubs and lodges. Many people place their trust in their club or lodge,as a soul saving institution and conclude that the Church of Christ is a useless institution. Come OUT of** those Godless clubs and lodges,and become genuine CHristians..... Brethren:"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers:For what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? Therefore come out from among them, and be ye separate,saith the Lord,and touch not the unclean;and I will receive you" (2 Cor.6:I4,& I7) (Read all of chapter 6)
Some church members are so loyal to their lodge,if necessary,I fully believe they would crawl through a grassbur patch to attend their lodge meeting. But when the church assembles,those members are usually absent.. "And he that taketh not his cross,and followeth after me,is not worthy of me" (Matt.I0:38) Read verses 32 thru' 39) To the person who has very little true Bible knowledge, Masonry and other lodges may look like a jewel of hope for a weary soul,but they are spiritual death to their members. Christians, Why will you yoke yourselves together with unbelievers? That is what you do when you join a lodge..

 Colter News. March 22. Attendance was superb today. Most of the membership was present,and we had a number of brethren and Sisters who worshiped with us. Those from Oklahoma City were the Clinton Allison's. Those from the Elk City congregation,were the Arthur Farrar's. Sister Meacham of Woodward. Sister Patricia Massey, of Clinton. I believe there were one or two others whose names I did not get, but we appreciate their presence and we welcome everyone to come worship with us. I have a lengthy epistle from Bro. J.W.Bedingfield,of Olney,Texas. Bro. Bedingfield writes:All is well with us here. I preached at California Creek Congregation,Sunday,Mar. I. At Terral,Okla. Mar.I5th. Both congregations are doing well. Bro.S.B.Kennedy of Terral,Okla. has moved to Tulsa. Bro. Kennedy has been ill,and our sincere prayers go out for him. Bro. Bedingfield states that he has been ill,and has gone through a Dallas clinic. Bro.Farrar informed me that the health of Bro. & Sis.Atchley is better than previously reported to me (BRO. & Sis. Ed Atchley of Elk City) Our scripture reading was I John 3rd chap. Our lesson was "Where the gospel was preached". Brethren, I appreciate your compliments on the lesson. Our sincere thanks to Bro.Arthur Farrar who gave us a donation to support "Thus Saith The Lord" Your scribe was taken ill on Monday and is still ailing. Bro.& Sis. Arthur Farrar and fam-ily,and Bro.James S.L.Morse took dinner with Bro.&Sis. Chester Larimore. Thank you Bro.& Sis.Larimore for a tasty dinner and a pleasent visit. Bro.Jimmy Clifft,and Sis.Meacham were visiting with their parents Bro.& Sis.E.A.Clifft. Bro.Ike Peterson was not able to attend the service. Bro.Glen Dean Peterson was visiting with his parents Bro.& Sis.Glen Peterson. Bro.& Sis.Claude Allison attended the service. For lack of further detail of whom visited whom,we close the news column .

Brethren: Spring is here. Let us get busy evangelizing,lets get out and shake the bushes. To you who depend on gospel meetings for your evangelistic efforts. Lets get Spring meetings into action now,and we should be planning the Summer and Fall meetings now. Let us NOT hibernate until the middle of Summer,and then have one short meeting and go back into hibernation. "Preach the Word;be instant in season ,out of season;reprove,rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine"(2 Tim.4:2) Brethren:God gave that scripture to be obeyed just as much as any other passage in the N.T. But according to some folks,if they call in a preacher for a 3 to 5 nights meeting,that is a whole years work,and we think the Lord ought to be overjoyed with it. Then once per week,we assemble on the Lord's Day and as Bro.J.S. Bedingfield once said,we carve out one hour and think that everyone should respect our surgical operation on the Lord's Day. Let us show more respect for God now than we have in the past.
Instead of staying home to watch TV,lets assemble on Sunday night,and on Thursday night to teach and worship God. There are plenty of other nights to stay home and watch TV,or to go to a ball game,or to go visiting. We must devote more time to teaching God's word in assembly and at home. We have one life on earth in which to serve the living God,and we fritter about 95% of our non-working time away in worldly pleasures. To night my TV is as silent as King Tut's tomb, and as an old maid once told me "I have work to do". What are you doing to night? Watching TV? Smoochingwith the girl friend ? Or ?? Or,have you blown the dust off God's Holy Word,and applied yourself to the study of soul saving information ?

Page 5. Due to illness this issue is about 4 days behind schedule. The members of various denominational churches ask us:Why dont you use the Old Testament? Ans. We do use the O.T. Ist,as sacred history. 2nd. For warning or admonition. 3rd. For exhortation. 4th.To teach prophecy. 5th. To receive a better understanding of the New Testament. We cannot bind the Old Testament law on the church of Christ. Why? "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit,after the tradition of men,after the rudiments of the world,and not after Christ. For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him,which is the head of all principality and power:In whom ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands,in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:Buried with him in baptism,wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God,who hath raised from the dead. And you,being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh,hath he quickened together with him,having forgiven you all trespasses;Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us,which was contrary to us,and took it out of the way,nailing it to his cross;and having spoiled principalities and powers,he made a show of them openly,triumphing over them in it" (Col.2:8-I5) When Christ blotted out the handwriting of ordinances,he blotted out the Old Testament law,for they are one and same thing. Jesus said in Matt 5:I7 "Think not that I am come to destroy the law,or the Prophets: I am not come to destroy,but to fulfil" As Jesus was dying on the cross,the following events occured. "After this,Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished that the scripture might be fulfilled,saith,I thirst. Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar:and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop,and put it to his mouth. When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar,he said IT IS FINISHED:and he bowed his head and gave up the ghost" (John I9:28,29,30) In plain simple language let me say: Jesus Christ came to fulfil the Law and the Prophets. Which law? Ans. The Law of Moses. Which Prophets? Ans. The Old Testament Prophets. As we've already proven,Jesus did fulfil the law and the prophets. Jesus took them out of the way,he nailed the law and the prophets to his cross,and they were CRUCIFIED with him. Old Testament law is NOT binding upon the church of Christ. Dead laws are not binding. Believe your Bible,and IGNORE the theology of denominational preachers and churches. If the law of Moses were binding today,we would be forced to go to a human priest and offer animals for sacrifice. Such was commanded under the law of Moses. Jesus Christ is our great high priest,seated on the right hand of God in heaven. As we said at the beginning of this discourse,the O.T. is used by the church of Christ,as described above. We do not dwell on O.T.Scripture,but we obey God and teach the N.T. The reason,the law of Christ <u>is binding on</u> the church of Christ. Proof. "For Moses truly said unto the fathers,a prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren,like unto me;him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. And it shall come to pass,that every soul,which will not hear that prophet,shall be destroyed from among the people" (Acts 3:22,23) Read Matt.I7:I-5. We quote verse 5 While he yet spake,behold a bright cloud overshadowed them:and behold a voice,which said,this is my beloved Son in whom I am wellpleased, hear ye him" Meaning the time for hearing and obeying Moses was past,now hear Jesus and obey him in all things. "Thus Saith The Lord"

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Open letter to all the Brethren

By Bro.J.W.Bedingfield, Olney,Texas.

It has been quite some time, since I have attempted to write to all of you. Grace and peace unto you Brethren. I take this opportunity to address you in "Thus Saith The Lord". Since I was forced to discontinue "It Is Written" over a year ago, many have expressed the opinion that we needed a paper to take its place. Now Brethren: Bro.James S.L.Morse has undertaken the task of keeping us informed of the news of the brotherhood, the activities of the church, and giving us some fine scripture lessons. Let us help him out now, with the good work he has so faithfully begun. Bro.Morse needs news from each congregation. He needs names for his mailing list. He needs scriptural lessons,and articles to print, and (dont be surprised) he needs money! Bro.Morse has bought his own printing equipment, and is in position to publish much cheaper than we did "It Is Written", but still he must buy stencils,paper,stamps and other supplies, so let us all help out. If you cant help in one way, then help in another. Write him a letter,and tell him how you like the paper. Be sure to tell him how many copies you need of each issue. To those of you who do not know Bro.Morse personally, let me say, that I know him quite well. I know him to be a faithful and loyal servant of the Lord. I believe that he will work always to bring peace and unity to the Brethren. I believe that he will oppose all innovations and digressions, with courageb and vigor. "Bro.Jim as we who know him,call him, is easy to get acquainted with. He is interested in hearing from more congregations, so why not write him a letter,and send him some news. All is well with the churches in this area. We meet at California Creek-- church of Christ, located 5miles west of New Castle,Texas. Visitors always welcome. Brethren: We need your interest, we need your cooperation, we need your prayers. J.W.B

I have a nice letter from Bro.F.H.Logan, Modesto,Calif.

Trusting that Bro.Logan will not object me publishing a part of his good letter, I pass along a few statements. I am acquainted with the Harris family of Cottage Grove,Ore. I worshiped with them for 2 years at Hatfield,Ark.,they are fine Christian people. I also know Bro.J.W.Bedingfield,he is a fine gospel preacher. The Ed Atchley family of Elk City, I know them well. Sis.Atchley's two sisters worship with us here at Modesto,Calif. Bro.Logan states that he preaches the gospel at every opportunity, and I believe he has preached at San Pablo,also at La Habra,Calif.,and at Cottage Grove,Ore.
I will take it up with the Brethren here and see what we can do to help you with the paper" Thank you Bro.Logan. Your efforts are appreciated. -*----- I extend my sincere thanks to Bro.J.W.Bedingfield for his good letter,also for his open letter to the Brethren, and for the cash donation to support "Thus Saith The Lord".....

Let there be a general awakening! Let us renew our efforts to renew to edify the Lord's church every time that we assemble. Let us do more Bible teaching in our homes,and elsewhere. Let us make the supreme efforts to save the lost,who may live next door.....

Page 7... At this date,March 27. We are a few dollars short of the monthly expense fund. I have only $II.50¢ with which to purchase paper and ink for the next two issues. Those printing supplies are sold on a cash basis,consequently I have to pay cash in advance,as I order from a mail order house. I have received 7 donations,including $ I.00 from Colo., $ 5.00 from Texas, The remainder are local.Brethren I certainly appreciate your kind assistance. It is good to know that a few Brothers and Sisters appreciate "Thus Saith The Lord" enough to support the good Christian work. I dislike to make this statement, but it may become necessary that I remove from the mailing list,those who will not support the paper. By removing the non-supporters from the mailing list,I can reduce operating expense and continue publication awhile longer.. I do NOT want to remove any one from the list and I am making a sincere appeal to the readers of Thus Saith The Lord Please support this paper with a donation of any amount. I am making this appeal directly to every individual. If I were sure that I could get I92 subscribers at $I.25¢ per year, I would try the subscriptio -n plan of financing the paper. Every person favoring the $I.25¢ per year plan,write to me at once. Mean while I will continue my attempt to raise enough money thru' donations to publish two issues for April. Please read carefully,now for your information, "Thus Saith The Lord" is being distributed to 2 SS congregations and is exerting a powerful influence FOR US. The preacher and elders of a nearby SS group has a case of jitters now. Two of the SS group are DONATING to support "Thus Saith The Lord" at $I.00 each. I have won a SS Deacon over far enough that he positively "Thus Saith The Lord" in a 3rd SS congregation. Bro's & Sis's read these remarks made by 3 of the SS Sisters. One said, I want to read every issue. Another said:I read my copy and gave it to another,and now that copy has passed thru several hands and is still being read. Another SS Sister said:Give me 2 copies,I want to send one to my son in California. An SS brother said:Your paper is passing from person to person and is being read. Another SS Sister is distributing "Thus Saith The Lord" for me in the stronghold of the SS church. I have two SS Sisters in another congre gation distributing the paper for me. Another SS Sister mailed the paper to her favorite preacher at Guymon,Okla. Bro's & Sis's, "Thus Saith The Lord" Is the first paper those SS folks ever read,which pub lishes the whole truth. Believe me they like it. Their leaders dont like the paper,and they probably are praying for "Thus Saith The Lord to drop DEAD.! Support Thus Saith The Lord,and we will give those SS enough scripture to worry them into a nervious breakdown.. A number sectarains are reading"thus saith the Lord" The SS Leaders are trying DESPERATELY to KILL this paper. This publication is exerting more influence in my home town (A-SS Stronghold) than I0 preachers could exert there in a month of Sundays. This paper is read,studyied, and much of its contents is REMEMBERED. The paper passes through many hands. Brothers & Sisters, I am sure that most of you enjoy reading "Thus Saith The Lord",then remember all the good it is doing. Help me with nickels,dimes,quarters & dollars to keep the press rolling. Let us work together and build "Thus Saith The Lord" up into a I2 page paper,or larger. Brethren: If any one has Bro.Amos Bever address,please send it to; James S.L.Morse. Hammon,Okla. Rt 2.

A message to Bro.& Sis. S.E.Stout of Eola,Texas. Good news, Your nephew Loyd Stout is one of my close neighbors. We've known each other many years. Lloyd is hale and hearty. I asked him,have you any kin neaar Paint Rock, named S.E,Stout? He says,yeah that is Uncle Seth. Evangelist. James S.L.Morse. Hammon,Okla. Rt 2.....

Statement to the Brethren

I, J.S.L.Morse. Stand opposed to all innovations(which also includes the two communion innovation) which trouble the church of Christ.. I am not riding any hobbies, I have no pet invention to force in upon the church, and furthermore I have no intention of assisting innovating brethren to push there innovations into the church. I cannot fellowship innovating brethren.

Brethren: Circumstances have changed for the better. Just forget the subscription idea tha I mentioned on another page. I regret that I did not send more than one copy to each congregation. I began publicatinn with only 200 copies. Besides, I am not able to pay all expenses to publish and mail I000 copies,plus I50 more to outsiders. I need your assistance to buy enough paper and ink to publish and mail I000 copies. I have $3.00 in the treasury. I spent $I3.00 from the treasury,plus a sum from my own pocket to buy ink and some paper; but that is enough for about ⅛ the required supplies. About $50.00 is required to print and mail I000 copies at the mailing rate of 3¢ per copy. But if we mail the paper in bundles,the mailing rate is 36¢ per Lb. This rate is cheaper than the 3¢ rate per paper,and will reduce the total expense below $50.00. I am sorry that this edition is late,but the delay could not be avoided. With your assistance,I believe it will be unnecessary to remove any names from the mailing list. This run of this edition is short (About I50 copies) as I have less than one ream of paper on hand. In the next issue,I hope to present a lot more Bible truth,and a lot less talk about expenses. I am willing to print the names of those who donated to support the paper if they have no objection.

A question frequently asked by denominational church members is: Why does the church of Christ partake of the Lord's Supper on every week?

Answer. New Testament examples are binding on the church as is commandments. In Acts 20:7 We learn that the disciples came together to break bread. "And upon the first of the week,when the disciples came together to break bread,Paul preached unto them,ready to depart on the morrow;and continued his speach until midnight". Thus we have the example of the disciples,including the apostle Paul. The example teaches a weekly assembly for breaking bread. We follow the divine example. The holy Bible is without example for "Quarterly and or yearly communiom". Question. How do we know that we must partake of the cup on the same day that we partake of the loaf (bread)? Answer We find that instruction in Matt.26:26-28.,Mark I4:22-24.,Luke 22:I9, 20. I Cor.II:23-26. First there were the giving of thanks,breaking of the loaf (bread) Eating of the loaf. Second. There was the giving of thanks, Jesus took the cup, he supped (drank) and passed the cup to his disciples. This brief article should suffice to enlighten our denominational neighbors as to why we commune weekly.

By J.S.L.M

Brethren : Let me hear from every one ,If I cannot answer every one by letter, I can answer you in "Thus Saith The LOrd". J.S.L.Morse.