The Editor Writes....

Peace among Brethren is most desirable, yet real godly peace among us is truly an extreme ly rare item ! Why does this condition exist ? Among the many causes, we will name a few:Such as:Jealousy, pride,CONCEIT,itching ears turned to a false doctrine/s;false teachers ,snobbery,gnat straining;the desire to be a dictator over God's people or heritage, misapplication of scriptures;frequently the mis interpretation of figurative speech for literal speach & vice versa. Other causes of the lack of peace are:Personal dislike for various individuals or pet peeves, still other reasons are:The unlearned, attempting to teach or preach, such persons create much strife and discord, a multitude of errors & doubly create much strife amd discord among Brethren. Again, a prime cause of strife is:FOGGY NOTIONS, traditions which are taught by Brethren of all ages;These things PREVENT peace,love,harmony & the upbuilding of the church; Such things are SENSUAL, & DEVILISH, NOT of the SPIRIT of God. God neither motivates nor sanctions such acts, hence,they are SIN. Need we to say:"The wages of (Willful) sin is DEATH"---Spiritual DEATH ? The Editor desires true Godly peace in the Church & works for such peace ! To attain peace & to keep peace among Brethren:Requires the LOVE,COOPERATION, & ASSISTANCE of those Brethren:This means we must put away from ourselves all the causes of UNLAWFUL strife...

It is quite obvious that offences will arise & of course,they must be corrected, the N.T. method of dealing with such offences must be used in every instance. The first and second admonition MUST BE GENTLY administered,then,if the offending party does not correct the wrong;then,we are at liberty to administer a sharp rebuke..... Some of our Brethren have objected to the sharp rebuke, due to their mis-interpretation of 2 Tim.2:24. Now if we administer the sharp rebuke first,then,we sin;but after 2 gentle admonitions,if the offend -ing person/s do not repent & correct their error;then,we must administer the sharp rebuke;Otherwise we sin by neglecting our duty.

Some of our worst mistakes are:"Disobedience to the Elders",plus "Disobedience to scripture passages that displease us" "Lack of brotherly love,one for another" "APeevish or fussy nature or attitude" "Dependance upon the wisdom of our forefathers who were just coming out of error & who made many mistakes,hence we believe,teach and practice the traditions of men" All those things and more are KILLING the Church. All such ERRORS CAN BE CORRECTED & they MUST be CORRECTED;otherwise the Loyal Congregations will be just a sad mem -ory ;a dead issue and in need of a TOMBSTONE. NO "BUTS" about it !

Brethren & Sisters: WAKE UP,CLEAN UP,MAKE UP & LETS ALL GO TO WORK for Jesus Christ,our Lord & Saviour.!
This articles is NOT being written in the spirit of hatred nor in the spirit of unlawful strife;instead,we have a deep abiding love for our Brethren & Sisters in Christ. We write for the purpose of godly teaching & well doing, we wish to edify our readers & correct error wherever it may be found. The Editor.

A number of months have gone by since we published The Warrior, or The Peace maker or Thus Saith The Lord. Some unfavorable circumstances caused the paper to be temporarily discontinued from January 1960 through June 1960. Beginning with this July issue, we hope to publish on schedule each month,as long as we have sufficient support to publish & mail the papers. We are now publishing again in the hope,that,more will see the value of these publications and will support the same with Bible lessons,Church news,and other items of inter-est to the Church. Once more,we are depending on contributions to support the paper,especially "THUS SAITH THE LORD"..

These publications does not wear a gag, nor a hobble, we do NOT bust a crupper holding back;rather we speak in clear understandable language;speaking where the Bible speaks & do not hold back from building a scriptural fire under "hobbyriders" & false doctrines. We do not use "softsoap" language nor dodge issues.

These papers, their Editor,Owner & Publisher, their Art Editor and Assistant Editor has NO objection/s to helping the ORPHANS & WIDOWS (sod widows) the aged ,poor & needy,wherever they may be:Neither do we object to "ELDERS" in the church, nor to "EVANGELISTS", PREACHERS" ,"TEACHERS"&"DEACONS" IN THE CHURCH.
We ADVOCATE 3 or more services per week in every congregation;We advocate song practise wherever and whenever it is deemed necessary for the good of the Church. We advocate 2 or 3 Gospel Meetings per year in every congregation. We do NOT object to Bible teaching in the homes nor in public places;but we insist that all Bible teaching be done in a scriptural manner. We INSIST that the word "School" be dropped from all church activity, as we object to such words as :"SUNDAY SCHOOL" "SINGING SCHOOL" "TRAINING CLASSES" "BIBLE SCHOOL" Such words,titles and phrases are not found in Holy Writ.

Among so called "Loyal Congregations" We find such organizations as: "SINGING SCHOOLS" Where oh where in Holy Writ, do they find a "Singing School"? We respectfully ask such Brethren for "BOOK,CHAPTER AND VERSE" which will truthfully support their "Singing School" ! Now if, you can NOT supply the book,chapter and verse to support your "Singing School",then,we respectfully ask you to give it up & castit out from among you ! Why use anything not supported by the N.T.,in the Church of Christ ??? Surely you know that such ideas,notions, inventions & hobbies are the root of trouble among loyal congregations :Paul did NOT teach nor practise such ideas, see I Corinthians I:IO. Paul taught us to all speak the same thing. Question. Do we all speak the same thing,when,some pull off & have a "Singing School"???? Are they all speaking where the Bible speaks ? If so,then,why is there CONTENTION,SCHISMS,& DIVISION AMONG US ?? A matter of fact: When we ALL speak,believe and practise the same thing;then,there is NO room for ,nor place for :Evil speaking, contentions,schisms, and divisions. When we do as the Apostle Paul taught us,we are UNITED in one body & one faith;just as Jesus Christ commanded us.
The dear old Sunday School & the Singing School are parellel in the fact that both are without Bible command,example and or precept. If one is good,them,both are good;then,we must accept both as "GOOD" and use both,without one objection.

(Continued on page 4.)

We wish to restate these facts:We do not object to Brethren & Sisters meeting for singing;rather we commend you for your zeal to sing better and to enjoy the fellowship of singing gospel songs with our Brethren and Sisters in Christ. We do object to a "Singing School" just as you object to a "Sunday School" and we object on the same grounds. When you desire to meet for to learn new songs and to improve your singing ability;it is easy enough to notify Brethren & Sisters,that they are invited to the Church of Christ building in (Specify the place) for the purpose of learning some new songs & for song practise to improve singing ability:Thereby omitting the unscriptural title of "Singing School"....

Another thing we call your attention to is:"GNAT STRAINING",ie, the complaints made against such things as:COFFEE,TOBACCO,TEA & COCOA; these things some Brethren & Sisters make an uproar over, while ,meanwhile some of them overlook such big things as:The 2 Communion hobby, plus the false doctrine which claims that the church can NOT have Elders today, and some go so far as to say:We cannot have "Evangelists ", preachers,teachers nor deacons in the church today,plus their "Sing -ing School", plus two cups & other hobbies & inventions.

To make it plain,some dear Brethren & Sisters oppose little trivial things that do not amount to a hill of rotten popcorn & make an issue of such things;but they shut their eyes to the gospel truth on the big things and they accept the big hobbies, dogmas,& false doctrines which LACK Bible support;then,like the Pharisees who paid their tithe of mint,anise & cummin, they strain out the gnat & keep their little things,meanwhile,they,swallow the camel whole;hair,hide,hooves & tail. Yea,the big things they swallow,ie, two communions,false doctrines, singing schools, 2 cups and other hobbies & inventions to numerous to mention at this time.

It is commonly taught in loyal congregations,that,IF we SIN in ONE POINT, HE IS GUILTY OF ALL,and is headed for HELL:If this doctrine be true,then,some very dear Brethren & Sisters had better quit gnat straining & begin to strain out the camels:Then,if,there be any genuine gnats to strain out,then,let us work together to remove them. Some folks have made an issue of such trivial things as:Teas,Tobacco and coffee, and in some instance,make it a test of fellowship. Such "GNAT STRAINING" IS CAUSING THE DEATH OF"LOYAL CONGREGATIONS" It causes needless heartache,fussing & feuding among Brethren and Sisters,it divides congregations & tears God's people asunder over NOTH* ING WORTHY OF DISCUSSION:Meanwhile hobbies,inventions & false doctrines are ACCEPTED as tho they are the gospel truth... Gnat Straining MUST STOP PERMANENTLY.....NO "BUTS" ABOUT IT. Some other form of gnat straining is over the cup,ie,a contention that the cup must have a handle on it,to be a cup:Some folks contend over this & divide the church over it.....As a matter of fact,the drinking cup used by our Lord, may have had a handle;on the other hand,it may not have had a handle....The N.T.scripture does NOT give us that information,therefore it cannot be proven either way,hence,such contention is foolish and useless.,just more gnat straining to no Godly effect,but rather to the dividing of the church & a prime cause of anger & disfellowship. STOP ALL GNAT STRAINING ****ONCE AND FOR ALL TIME.

WE MUST RECOGNIZE OUR OWN FAULTS & CORRECT THEM,THEN,WE CAN SEE TO CORRECT THE FAULTS OF OTHERS. If we continue to bite and devour each other over trivial and non-essential matters,then,we weaken ourselves and bring the scorn of our invention loving Brethren (CUPS--SS) upon ourselves. Let us work together & correct these matters- 30.

Letter to our Brethren & Sisters.

Dear Brethren & Sisters: Some of you have read "THUS SAITH THE Lord" from its beginning,without once sending us any money to support the paper, likewise you failed to send us any news or Bible lessons to publish. We are revising our mailing list;if you wish to remain on the mailing list, it is necessary that you contribute to the paper fund or send us church news, or Bible lessons;poetry suitable for publication in a religious paper,is also appreciated.

Some of you Brethren who are preachers,could write us some Bible lessons for publication, yet you have not done so. We need Bible lesson -s;so why not write for publication ? Please send us news.,poetry., and some cash to help pay the cost of publishing.

Since we have not heard from you, we had to guess how many copies to mail to you,now if you failed to get enough copies;whose fault is it ? We can supply all the copies that each & every congregation needs. IF YOU want the paper,then,send us a contribution and tell us how many copies that you need. We can supply extra copies of "THUS SAITH THE LORD" #9 issue,and can supply extra copies of "THE WARRIOR" & "THUS SAITH THE LORD", OF THIS ISSUE.

To you Brethren & Sisters who have neglected to support the paper over a lengthy period of time (While it was in print), we will leave your name on our mailing list for awhile,trusting that you will renew your support of the paper,but if you fail to renew your support to the paper in a reasonable length of time;then,we will be forced to remove your name from our mailing list.

Our needs are:WRITERS,BIBLE LESSONS,POETRY AND CASH.
We need another "Staff writer, plus several writers who just write occasionally, meaning those who write Bible lessons for publication.
We need church news regularly;we advertize your gospel meetings free.
Why not nominate a writer,to write for this paper ?
Let us hear from you,soon. Yours in Christian service
Evangelist James S.L.Morse. Rt#2...Hammon,Oklahoma.

Publisher's statement.

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Each writer is held responsible for his article/s.
We reserve the right to edit any and or all articles when deemed necessary to protect the church, these publications & to protect ourselves.
.....Evang.James S.L.Morse..Rt#2, Hammon,Oklahoma.

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