THE "DELTA PLAN" AND THE "TAYLOR PLAN" TO HELP GOD

THE PLANS CRITICISED

The Delta Plan, is not the the first plan made to help God and make the wheels of Zion roll, to wil souls, to plant new congregations and to put some zip into the upbuilding of established congregations. Such a plan might be ideal, if God had included authority for its formulation and use in the church of Christ.

No doubt our brethren were burning with zeal to speed up the way, to improve the way of raising money to support preachers in their evangelistic work, and to aid those more feeble congregations in raising themselves up to a higher standard than they were able to attain without assisatance.

Your writer is well aware of the crying need to place preachers in the harvest field, also aware of the urgent need to further edify the church in the way of our Lord, to build up the most holy faith, to instill Christ Jesus and HIS law in the minds of our beloved brethren so deeply, so strongly, that they cannot be misled by any "plan", "ism" or "worldly dogma" that may fall in their ears. The truth is, if our brethren had been well enough edified in the way of Jehovah God, the "Delta Plan" and "Taylor Plan" would have been "stillborn" and would be forgotten today.

It is indeed, sad, very sad, that such a plan, a plan without scripture sanction was planted in the minds of brethren in the the Church of Christ. Now the Church of Christ is DIVIDED over the "Delta Plan" and "Taylor Plan". Shame and the derision of others are brought down upon our heads, because some have bowed down to the ways of the denominational world and have adopted their unscriptural ways of collecting and distribution of money. Have you not read, "As it is written, he that had gathered much had nothing over; and he that had gathered little had no lack", (2 Cor. 8:15)? Dearly beloved brethren: Have you consider-

ed why that he which gathered much had nothing over? He simply gave his surplus to others who needed it, hence he had nothing over or above his own need. Why is it that he who had gathered little had no lack? Reply, because he who had an abundance gave to him who had gathered little, that there may be an equality:" Verse 14.

Have you not learned that the church (congregation) having the abundance (surplus) sent their gift directly to the congregation having lack? Have you not studied 2 Corinthians chapters 8 and 9?

Have you failed to learn how God taught his children to give? Where in holy writ does the word say,- congregations send your gift to a "collection agency" such as the Delta Plan? Book, chapter and verse, please. We are without Bible example and command for "pooling funds" in a collection agency for distribution. Why borrow the "First Christian Missionary Society?" We have no scripture for it, neither do we have need for a godless institution built of men on a foundation of sand. God did not "plant your Delta Plan Missionary Society, just as he did NOT plant the First Christian Missionary Society, hence, "Every plant which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up." (Matt. 15:13). If you had built your plan upon the rock, upon Christ, it would stand, "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: and the rain descebded, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not, for it was founded upon a rock." (Matt. 12:24-25). The downfall of the Delta Plan is revealed in Matt. 12:26-27. Supposing your work was built on the correct foundation,- I Cor. 3:11. What comfort would that give you? Your work is neither gold, silver nor precious stones,- hence it must be wood, hay and stubble, ie, destructible material. Verse 13,."and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.""If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon he shall receive a reward. 14, If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire," verse 15. Where is your consolation, even if you could (Continued on page 3)

prove that you built upon the correct foundation? Your Your work, ie the Delta Plan, is without New Testament authority, hence your work will be burned and you will suffer loss. Brethren; Why should you labor in vain? The fomulators of the Delta Plan, and its users should read I Cor. 3:18-20, and ponder long on its teaching.

Did not our Lord say in I Cor. I:10, - "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."

How is it then, brethren, that ye oppose the teaching of our Lord in 2 Cor. 8 and 9? Also why oppose the doctrine of Phil. 4:15-17? Why teach against Acts II:27-30? Have you become wiser than God? Why not study I Cor. I:19-28. Apply the principle to yourselves, then see where you stand in the sight of God. You borrowed "worldly wisdom" when you formed your "Delta Plan." Your faith does not stand in the wisdom of God, but stands in the wisdom of men, ie, of this world. Brethren, have you gone so far from God that you have reverted to the state of a "natural man", verse 14, Chapter 2, I Corinthians? Have you backslid so far that you cannot receive the things of the Spirit of God?

Apparently you have reverted to your "natural man" state, since you rejected the godly teaching of our loyal brother, Bro. Paul Ferguson who presented the law of the Lord to you so plainly that a 10 year old child can fully understand it. "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." I Cor. 2:14.

You dearly beloved brethren may offer the plea that you brought the Delta Plan in under "liberty". What if you did? "But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to them that are weak." (Cor. 7:9). In the first place, you assume the "liberty" to institute your Delta Plan in opposition to the scriptural way of giving, collecting and distribution of gifts,

which left you with exactly NO liberty to bring your plan into existence and use in the Church of Christ. I Cor. 10:32, "Give none offense, neither to the Jews, nor to the Church of God." Your Delta Plan has offended the church which is sin. Ye are likened to Nadab and Abihu who offered strange fire, without authority, breaking known examples of godly giving, collection and distribution. Dividing the church is sin. Teaching and practicing false doctrine is sin. Damaging the faith of members is sin. You dear innovating brethren had better begin keeping books to record and tally up your sins. If you were close enough, I'd lend you a typewriter to list your sins, and lend you an adding machine to tally them up.

Your Delta Plan Missionary Society Collection Agency, collects MONEY from many congregations, there the money is "pooled", ie, put into a "collection agency treasury" for the purpose of sending preachers into the harvest field, and for the unbuilding of weak congregations. Parallel, the First Christian Missionary Society does the same. Where is the scripture for either your Delta Plan or the First Christian Missionary Society? Scripture please.

You have the church giving through a "central agency", that is, your Delta Plan. Scripture please. Your Delta Plan, that is, central agency has the oversight and control of the "pooled funds" and may designate who may receive assistance and who may not, regardless of what the contributing congregations may think about the matter. You have taken control out of their hands, and you "boys make the decisions and dole out the money. Is the example of Acts II:27-30 so "outmoded" that you folks just don't care to use it? I can read where the congregation in Antioch sent relief to the needy congregations in Judea by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

The Sunday School folks whom we say are "digressive" are using a missionary society very much like yours and of course, the minority of members are battling against it. Now whom did you borrow your plan from?, the Sunday Schoolers, or the First Christian Missionary Society?

We <u>CANNOT</u> commend you nor tolerate your Delta Plan, no

more than you can commend the Sunday Schoolers, the Cuppers, and the Bread Pinchers. We can be generous and say, perhaps your error is not intentional, that you, like others have mad a mistake. Then regardless of who made a mistake, there rests the obligation of repenting of sin, confessing of faults and the asking of restoration, and dear brethren, those obligations rests squarely upon your shoulders. We are not writing to "crucify you to death," but rather we are attempting to pull out of the fire, and we are pointing the way of correction to you through repentance, confession of wrong and restoration. We would like to see you restored in the true faith so that we can recognize you as "loyal Christians". Today, we have to class you with the digressives, that is, the Sunday School Cups, Pinchers and the Two Cuppers.

Disband your Delta Plan, give the money back to its givers, repent of your sins, confess your faults to the brotherhood. You are no better than I, when I digressed, saw the error of my way, repented of my sins, confessed my faults to the brotherhood in the "Gospel News Courier", then I received recognition as a loyal Christian.

You are obligated to do exactly the same thing that I did.

How can two walk together, except they be agreed?

Dearly beloved brethren: Will you repent, confess and ask restoration now?

Restoration and fellowship is awaiting you!

Your Brother in Christ,

J. S. L. MORSE.

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