

Nathan,

There was a time when I once counted you a great friend and a fellow laborer in the gospel. We have had some wonderful times on a personal level, so far as I am concerned, and I look back on many of those days with great joy. I hope you feel the same.

I thought it needful to write you a line or two.

I want you to know that it has been brought to my attention that a letter may have been read before the EA congregation this Sunday past, marking Tricia and I as divisive, and thus noted as people to be avoided (**Romans 16:17-18**).

While I am not one bit surprised to learn of your actions (if indeed the information {*unsolicited mind you*} passed on to me was true), I am saddened by one thing.

Moreover, as I am trying my very best to adhere to **1 Corinthians 16:13**, I am going to express that point of sorrow to you, my once good friend.

Nathan, first of all, if you, and the rest, are willing to level the serious charge of being sinfully divisive, I ask you this question: why have you not personally, nor anyone else there, taken the initiative to reach out to us in the prescribed manner (**Galatians 6:1-2**).

If we are what we have been labeled to be then we are on our way to hell. Does this not concern you? After all we have been through, you do not care for my soul any more than to write me (and my wife) off?

You may say that I have done the same to you, but if my memory serves me correctly, I did try to reach out to you via several phone conversations over the errors that EA was engaged in concerning unlimited benevolence and the social gospel and it did not go to well.

I have not pursued you personally after said occasion(s), in that you made it clear where you were going to stand during said conversations.... What was it you said... "***If I can argue for the fellowship hall, then I can also argue for the gymnasium and if I do that I will eventually have to argue against the preaching school, and that is nowhere I want to go...***" Yeah that was it, remember?

You see, I do count all you folks at EA lost, in that you have clearly violated the NT pattern for the work of the church on multiple levels. However, did I wash my hands of you? Well did I?

Oh, no I did not.

Unlike you, I fulfilled **Galatians 6:1-2**, et al, by writing public letter to the congregation discussing our changes. That letter was suppressed.

Nor, did I wash our hands of you, in that I tried to reach out to those of you whom I thought were spiritually minded; making it clear that all they had to do was ask me to cease contact, something none of which have done.

But no matter!

You can write us off if you wish.

But know this: it will not affect my work here one bit as every bit of correspondence between me and any at Ea (from the "secretary's" letter on down) has not been hid in a corner... the elders here are well aware and I have their full support.

I leave you with this. If you honestly want to study, call me or write (304-566-3021).

Also, if you are bold enough to read letters publicly, why not agree to meet me in a public debate on any of the issues that now separate us? I stand ready. Let's work out some terms.

Standing,

Scott