



John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

2-21-1966

## Correspondence between Chalk & Burl Curtis (3 letters)

**Burl Curtis** 

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February 21, 1966

Mr. Burl <u>Curtis</u> Station B, Box 5423 Greenville, South Carolina

Dear Burl:

Your immediate reply to my recent letter was highly appreciated. I felt certain as to your own convictions about the matter discussed but also, feeling strongly about the need for practical steps to solve it, wanted to suggest that you no longer denominate God's people by white or black designations. The Negroes feel very strongly about this; and if we are convinced that there must be no distinction in the one body of Christ, then there must be no distinction of any kind. Many of us were saddened that for years the <u>Gospel Advocate</u> had a "colored" page which, you will notice, they have terminated in recent years.

We must all work constructively and positively at eliminating a White and Black Church of Christ. These two bodies are denominations and because of that very fact cannot represent the one church that belongs to Jesus.

Our Missions Committee is headed by Brother John Mott. He and the rest of the committee would be extremely happy if you would write them suggesting the names of possible preachers for Morganton. It is now certain that we will place a man there with full support and working fund. We would like to have him on the scene by June 1 if possible. Your immediate attention to this will be appreciated. Brother Mott will receive any correspondence addressed to him here at the church address.

Thank you for your kindness and concern about the matter in question. It is this kind of spirit that allows me to Page Two February 21, 1966

make such a suggestion that must also prevail in allowing you to offer any similar criticism or suggestion to me.

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Fraternally yours,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:1c

Carolina Christian Publications, Inc.

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February 18, 1966

REPLY TO: BURL CURTIS, EDITOR STATION B, BOX 5423 GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

Mr. John Allen Chalk Broad St. church of Christ 521 South Jefferson Cookeville, Tennessee 38501

Dear Bro. Chalk:

I regret any opening given for undue criticism through <u>Carolina Christian</u>. As you perhaps know, it was not our intention to give any person the ground to say, "Implicit racism." We used the term "colored" only for identification.

A great majority of the Christians in the Carolinas do not have the hateful spirit of segregation. Some of the churches have already integrated and many, many of those that have not, will as soon as the opportunity comes.

We have a very fine preacher, colored by race, in Camden, S. C., C. C. Vaughn, who needed, the last I knew, additional support to work full-time preaching the gospel. He is very capable and dedicated. His address is 418 King St. If you have opportunity, please see what you can do for him.

We appreciate, very much, your interest in Morganton, N. C.

Thanks, again, for your letter. May you have God<sup>\*</sup>s great blessings in your outstanding work. The Lord being our helper, we promise to use <u>Carolina Christian</u> to oppose not only the godlessness in this area of human behavior, but in all others.

Sincerely yours,

Burl Curtis

P.S. Do you have a non for Burl Curtis Morgantor yet? I brow of a few good ner that might be persuaded to work there,

Christian

Publishers of: CAROLINA MESSENGER OF TRUTH

February 16, 1966

Mr. Burl <u>Curtis</u> P.O. Box 5423 Station B Greenville, South Carolina

Dear Brother Curtis:

I have followed with interest and admiration your work with <u>Carolina Christian</u>. We have nothing to release yet but in the near future should be letting you know of this congregation's decision to place a man in Morganton, North Carolina, with full support and working funds.

I am concerned about what may be considered by some "implicit racism" in your October, 1965, issue. On page 7 you place in parenthesis the word "colored" to designate the Castle Heights congregation. On page 11 you have two articles dealing with "the colored people." Due to the intense concern of all informed Americans and world citizens about the race problem and in view of what we know the New Testament teaches about the nature of the church as the one body of Christ and a reconciled people, I feel that we must do everything possible to bring about a united church. We can no longer encourage a white and black church of Christ.

This is a letter that I write confidentially to you expressing my personal feelings as well as convictions that I have stated publicly. I have offered these thoughts out of my deep appreciation for what you are doing and for the present and future impact of <u>Carolina Christian</u> on the mission efforts of today's church.

Fraternally yours,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:1c