

7-26-1966

Correspondence between Chalk & James Lovell

James Lovell

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Recommended Citation

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July 26, 1966

Mr. James L. Lovell
P. O. Box 146
Palos Verdes Estates, California

Dear Jimmie:

Your wonderful letter of July 16 has been read and re-read. I passed it on to Sue, and she was so grateful for it and for the sentiments expressed in it. You have been so kind in following my request about the heading for my column. I am convinced that "ACTION" is being read by a great multitude of our people, and know that it is having an impact on them. The present issue which you sent with the letter contains some of the best writing you have done in a long time. You spoke with clarity, conviction, and you revealed in the things you said a deep understanding of what is occurring in our brotherhood today. Above all else, I think we have to keep emphasizing and reselling our brethren on pursuing the truth rather than brotherhood dogma or some kind of denominationalized conception of the church and its teachings. I find this to be the most difficult problem in our brotherhood today: Encouraging and stimulating all of us to search for truth and obey God's truth rather than a denominational form or a traditional set of rules.

I am deeply concerned about what my responsibilities are going to be regarding what I can speak about and what I can write. I would like nothing better than to write several articles about the Holy Spirit. I feel so strongly about some of the matters being taught today, but I feel that it would not be best in view of the situation at the moment. You can never tell when I may be calling on you in the middle of the day or night to find me some place to move; but we will hope and pray that I can effectively use the opportunity presented by Herald of Truth for a long time.

Jimmy Allen's part of the Odessa campaign had to be concluded on Thursday night. I finished the week through Sunday night with 80 responses coming in the last three nights. I am deeply concerned about Jimmy, and have been praying for him daily. We must remember him and support him, especially in view of the Dallas campaign which began Sunday night.

I think it best at this time for you not to pursue giving "ACTION" or turning it over to Fidelity Press. James Walter Nichols and the other fellows at Fidelity are receiving some stringent opposition from all over the brotherhood to Gary Freeman and Dwaine Evans. Furthermore, I believe that "ACTION" can be freer to speak as it needs to speak without being under the control of an existing publishing house. But those are my surface opinions at the moment, and things could change one way or another in the next few months. Probably all of us who are a part of the corporation, though we have had nothing whatsoever to do with the success of "ACTION," should get together sometime in the next several months and under your leadership and at your direction talk about where "ACTION" is going in the years ahead.

We love you, and hope to see you and Vivian in the next several months. I will be at Glendale the first week in December, and hope to see you then. I may possibly be on the West Coast even before then. Begin supporting and encouraging and praying for our

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campaigns next summer in California. I will speak in the Sacramento campaign and in the Shrine Auditorium at Los Angeles. By the way, it might be best not to publish some parts of this letter in "ACTION." I love you and appreciate you more than words can tell.

Your brother and fellow worker,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:lct

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"Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only" James 1:22

P.O. Box 146
PALOS VERDES ESTATES, CALIFORNIA

HOME: 3105 PALOS VERDES DRIVE NORTH
PALOS VERDES ESTATES, CALIFORNIA

P.O. Box 488
REDONDO BEACH, CALIFORNIA

July 16, 1966

John Allen Chalk
809 Byrd Dr
Abilene, Texas

Dear John Allen:

I just about did it getting the July issue in the mail - not sure yet what is wrong with my right arm but it has pained me so much the doctor has it in a sling and that slows me down. In any case, your good letter of June 12th is before me.

You already know it, but as you go along, you will have more and more unfavorable reactions from brethren. You can expect this from Frank as, whethre you are right or not, you represent the Herald of Truth and for it to live it and its promoters must satisfy the brotherhood. Actually this is about the truth but I just know that John Allen Chalk is going to consider what Christ wants before he does the Herald of Truth or any other project. On the other hand, the wise man would not make, for example, the "Negro" question so much a personal issue as to damage the great good he can do in other areas. Just leave it alone for awile, especially since you have laid it squarely out on top of the table. (Read what I say in this issue We Face A New Day, Talking Things Over and comments to Reuel on page 3. I would like to know what you think.

Lane Cubstead just wrote that they had to follow my policy and get some good boys to write for CC. I am glad - and they are good boys. I had an idea once that Fidelity Press should handle ACTION as it is becoming almost more than I can handle, but I will rock along with my little "family" for a year or so more.

Jimmy Allen just wrote me before Odessa meeting that he was very low and was about to "blow" but I got hold of him and all is well. You bless^{ed} boys are MY BOYS and the leaders of the future church on earth. Take your persecution standing up. Christianity is not worth a hill of beans if it doesn't work in the tight spots. The Devil is after you boys, never forget it.

See if the heading is alright this time. If you have other photographs send them as a change now and then is good.

As I told Jimmy, Alan, Prentice and Don McGaughey - and Pat, I tell you. If you hit a low spot along the line and need a quick lift, you call me collect any hour day or night. We will whip it in three minutes.

I love you very dealy.

Jimmie

Every person has more right to hear the Gospel once than any one person has to hear it twice