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John Allen Chalk

10-16-1968

From/To: Batsell Barrett Baxter (Chalk's reply filed first)

Batsell Barrett Baxter

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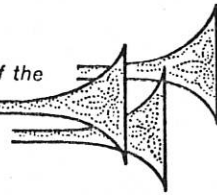
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P.
5th and Highland CHURCH of CHRIST *producers of the*

915 677-3522 / BOX 2439 / ABILENE, TEXAS 79604



HERALD OF TRUTH

Radio and Television Programs

October 16, 1968

Dr. Batsell Barrett Baxter
David Lipscomb College
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Batsell:

Of course, I reacted with extreme regret and sorrow at your recent decision to resign from the radio and television ministry. You, more than any one man connected with the program, have brought to our efforts excellent preparation and genuine spirituality. I am firmly convinced that you cannot begin to appreciate the value you have been and are to our ministry. Every day I sense ways in which I am not prepared for this effort and live with the continual awareness that only if and when the Lord uses my meager efforts can the lost be reached with the gospel of Christ.

Above all, I am writing to earnestly and genuinely solicit your constructive criticisms and suggestions from time to time. I know that you, much more than I, come into contact with brethren who are critical of me and of our efforts generally. I have sensed the tremendous upsurge in criticism directly toward me and the radio program this summer in the middle Tennessee area. Of course, every where I have gone personally and every where the brethren have heard me preach, these questions have largely been answered and the suspicions dispelled. But of course, some reactions still remain and I am sure there will be reaction in the days ahead as we honestly attempt to proclaim God's Word to specific ills present in our society.

Please feel free to share the criticisms you hear. Please feel free to make suggestions to me, whatever the nature. I earnestly solicit your assistance.

I hope that something can be done to allow you to continue you to be a part of the program. I can certainly appreciate, in a small way, the burdens that you bear and the reasons that compell you to make this decision. I do deeply regret it and assure you of my personal prayers that God will grant you the wisdom to use your talents where they are most effective and to His glory.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk
Radio Evangelist

JAC:hm



David Lipscomb College

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37203

October 9, 1968

DEPARTMENT OF BIBLE

Elders
Highland Church of Christ
South 5th at Highland
Abilene, Texas 79604

*Confidential, until announced
by Highland elders.
B.B.B.*

Dear Brethren:

This letter is extremely difficult for me to write and though I have delayed writing it for a number of weeks, I feel that it is best for me to do so. First of all, I want to tell you again how very much I have enjoyed working with you on Herald of Truth radio and television programs during the past eight years. I have the greatest admiration for each of you personally and for your great leadership in this work. One of the greatest blessings of my life has been the privilege of being involved with you in this work of saving souls through these marvelous communication media. I also have thoroughly enjoyed the association with all of the other men with whom I have worked during these years. Without an exception I have enjoyed the relationship with them.

Yet, for personal reasons I feel that the time has come when I must retire from the television work. The reasons are very simple: A need to be with my family more, a need to be at Lipscomb the year around, a need to be involved in the Hillsboro church work the year around, and the need to reduce my total work load. It is also my conviction, after studying the films that we have made somewhat carefully that you brethren can find another man who can do a more effective job than I am capable of doing.

It is with deep regret that I withdraw from this work for I have loved it and have been most grateful for the privilege that this program has afforded of preaching the gospel to literally millions of people. I want to thank you for every kindness that you have shown me over this eight year period that we have worked together. I shall always be grateful to you personally and will certainly want to help the program in any and every way that I can. It just boils down to the realization that I cannot do the things that I must do here in Nashville and yet be involved so deeply in this work which takes me away so much of the year. At the end of the summer's work I had tentatively reached this conclusion, but I wanted to "sleep on it" and to discuss it with a number of others before making the final decision. Nothing has happened since to make me feel that another decision would be the right one in this case. I hope that you brethren will understand.

Sincerely,

Batsell Barrett Baxter

Batsell Barrett Baxter

BBB:my