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John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

3-5-1969

From/To: Horace W. Raper (Chalk's reply filed first)

Horace W. Raper

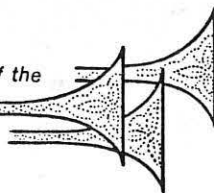
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March 5, 1969

Dr. Horace W. Raper
Tennessee Technological University
Department of History and Political Science
Cookeville, Tennessee

Dear Dr. Raper:

Thank you for taking care of the error in my thesis dates at the Tech library. I felt sure that something could be done about this matter and I feel greatly relieved.

I, too, considered attending a school with more reputation. I had an opportunity to go to Princeton and to Union in New York City but felt that the situations in both of these places regarding employment and family demands were such that I could not realistically achieve my goal. I do plan to take a lot of work at Emory and also at the Inner Denominational Theological Center in Atlanta. There is a possibility that I will complete the Master of Divinity program (a three year program) and then move over to Emory and get their Ph. D. in Religion. This is an academic degree and will be more acceptable than the degree I currently plan to pursue, the STD, a professional pastoral degree now being offered by both the Candler School of Theology at Emory and by Columbia.

I do plan to visit with you and other members of the History Dept. on one of my future visits to Cookeville. After we move to Atlanta I'm sure we will be going back to Cookeville more often. I have every intention of following through to the completion of doctorate at this point. I look forward to the work with anticipation but also have some fears regarding various demands that will be made on my time in Atlanta. I must, however, learn to say no! At this point in my life it has become an absolute necessity.

Thank you so much for your personal encouragement.

Sincerely yours,

John Allen Chalk
Radio Evangelist

JAC:hm

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TENNESSEE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
COOKEVILLE, TENNESSEE 38501

DEPARTMENT OF
HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

February 26, 1969

John Allen Chalk
Herald of Truth Program
Box 2439
Abilene, Texas, 79604

Dear John Allen,

I am sorry that the error slipped by concerning the wrong date for your thesis, but it just shows that to err is human. I contacted Roger Jones in the Library and he promised that he would correct the mistake in all copies plus the card catalog. That should solve most of the problems.

I was delighted to hear of your decision to enter seminary work and I hope that you will not let anything change your plans. Jack Sells told me of some offers, etc. Remember, that to really get to where you want to go, as well as being willing to live with yourself for the rest of your life, this decision is a must and will have to be completed! I had hoped that you might have attended another seminary other than Columbia Theological, but maybe you will be able to take some work over at Emory and with some of their staff. Even so, it is too good an opportunity to pass up. Just make up your mind to get the job done and then go out and do it! You can, you must!

Life continues to run smoothly and quietly for most of us here at Tech. We just had Jack Weller (Yesterday's People) as our public programs speaker, and as always he was excellent. What a marvelous insight he has to the problems and future of Appalachia.

Come to see us sometime when you are in town.

Sincerely,

Horace W. Raper