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John Allen Chalk

1-27-1970

To: Buddy Wade

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Recommended Citation

Chalk, J. A. (1970). To: Buddy Wade. Retrieved from https://scholarworks.harding.edu/hst-chalk-personal/2295

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Memo to: Buddy Wade

From: John Allen Chalk

Date: January 27, 1970

Re: Johnny Stovall newspaper articles

I can appreciate brother Stovall's deep concern about the Lester Kinsolving column. I read it each week in the Abilene Reporter News and have felt some of the same reactions he feels.

My question regards both the best method to combat something like this and the type of material that brother Stovall has created. I frankly believe that our positive attempt to preach and live the truth within the life of the Highland congregation, and other congregations like it, and in the communities where we live, can do more to confront this than trying to mount some kind of attack that is essentially negative. This indicates to people who read such columns what Christians are against rather than what they are for. The material itself makes a use of the Bible which people like Kinsolving, and others in our community at large, don't share; therefore, to simply appeal to the Bible, when most of the people who read this kind of articles don't even accept the Bible's ultimate authority, begs the question.

I, too, am convinced that newspapers are a great way to teach the truth. I have long wanted to write a daily or weekly column that could be syndicated all over the nation. However, writing a column that would be read by unbelievers as well as one that would teach plain Biblical truth is a difficult thing to do.

I commend brother Stovall's concern and the attempts he is making to meet this kind of thing in his own community. I do not believe that the material he has offered is the kind that would have much effect here in our community. I believe that individual citizens who are concerned about this and desire to do so could write the editor of the Abilene Reporter News requesting that Kinsolving's column be abolished. Other than that, I do not have further suggestions or responses.

John Allen Chalk

JAC:1c