1-14-1971

From/To: Rudy Cox (Chalk's reply filed first)

Rudy Cox

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.harding.edu/hst-chalk-personal

Recommended Citation

This Letter is brought to you for free and open access by the John Allen Chalk at Scholar Works at Harding. It has been accepted for inclusion in John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Scholar Works at Harding. For more information, please contact scholarworks@harding.edu.
January 18, 1971

Mr. Rudy Cox
2707 Supreme Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee  38114

Dear Rudy:

Your wonderful letter was a great surprise and a beautiful encouragement. Thank you for taking the time to write and above all feeling the freedom to offer me the advice you did. The fact that you wrote, and especially the fact that you wrote what you did, has helped me understand more fully the beauty and the joy of having brothers and sisters in Christ who really love you.

Your letter is the most helpful I have received. There have been others who have offered their sympathy at the recent attacks and have indicated their sorrow. Some even have written directly to the individual who wrote the bulletin from Port Arthur. I think, however, your letter most beautifully expresses our Lord's concern. It came at a very good time and I thank Him for you.

I have just finished praying for you, for your spiritual strength and for your ever deepening commitment to Christ. I know that your life will continue to be a beautiful expression of the indwelling Spirit and the ever present Christ. Thank you so much for showing your love and concern. It continues to mean a great deal to me.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:1c
Tuesday Night
January 5, 1971

Dear John Allen:

My letter comes as a surprise to you, but I trust a good one. I just wanted to send you a few sincere words of encouragement. I recently received a pamphlet from a church of Christ in Texas in which you were attacked for your views on the so-called obscene movie, "Midnight Cowboy." John Allen, I know you are constantly under some type of attack or another. Just don't "swear it," brother. If God be for you, who can be against you? Nobody can, whether it is a vicious devil in the
church or a bold one outside. Your freedom as a son of God through an obedient faith in Christ Jesus must be guarded as you already know. But I wish to stir up your pure mind in Christ. "satan degrees you that he may sift you as wheat." Keep the devil always in proper perspective because he is waiting for that exact moment to thrust one of his messengers deep into your flesh. Remember he knows your areas of weakness.

I know as a man striving to be like Jesus, you will stumble along the way. Just repent of your sins to God and ask Him through Christ to forgive. He will, if you believe and if you, do so for others.

I am praying for you.
to stand firmly for the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not "think it strange" when these fiery trials surround you on every side—topside, bottomside, frontside, backside, inside, and outside. Hold rigidly to your faith. John 12:24, because it is your victory over this wicked world. I want to always hear of you rapping to people about the Name Jesus, the Christ of God. He is the hope of a doomed humanity. Jesus needs your voice very much to reach the perishing souls in the "Church of Satan." Please don't give up the role of minister because of "self-made apostles" in the "Church of Christ." As you read what is written in the Bible and as you interpret it, you encounter an interpreta-
tion better than yours, accept it. I know you will, brother, before I said. Please, I have resolved for the New Year to be the type of Christian Christ wants me to be. I pray, that's my joy and my reason for living. Please sincerely pray for me. There are numerous temptations and hidden snares facing a 26-year-old, single, black man in Christ in these perilous days. Being assured of your earnest prayers for me, I shall be strengthened and encouraged and inspired to continue to press on to heaven.

I want you to know that you are in my thoughts and my prayers. I hope your family and the rest of the church at Highland fares well in the Lord.
If you can, avoid fighting "Church, brethren." Our Father does not want us to strive against one another. But like Paul, don't give up for one minute the liberty in Christ you have. As you believe, an idea or an interpretation, you express it like that, always bearing in your mind, "I could be wrong." John Allen, be a beautiful minister for Christ always. Forget about those things that are in your past. You can't turn back the hands of time and change anything. This is why God sent Christ to be sin for us. It was upon Jesus that God laid the sins and transgressions and iniquities of us all. If we keep our spiritual lives fixed on Jesus and work faithfully for Him till
death, then it will be well with our souls. Also, my brother, no man but Jesus can pass final judgment on you. You stay on good terms with Him and the Father will also keep you.

I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I worship to earthling, John Allen, be it a man, a woman, a friend, a car, a fruit or what have you. I praise and I worship and I thank the heavenly Father because "every good and perfect gift comes from Him. As one of His children, I bear His image. I strive to bear His perfect nature each day. You do the same. Please pray for me. I need it.

Sincerely, your brother,

Rudy