

3-3-1967

To: Robert Lawrence, Jr.

John Allen Chalk

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March 3, 1967

Mr. Robert Lawrence  
217 May Street  
Worcester, Massachusetts

Dear Bob:

Thank you so much for the article "But Who Is Providence?" in the February 14 issue of the Firm Foundation. What a thrilling way to reply to the present deadening of God going on within the brotherhood. The things you said are almost verbatim thoughts that I have had so many times during the last few months. It was courageous of you to write, and I want you to know that I deeply appreciate it.

I have been doing some thinking about providence in the last several months because of the indefinite way so many are using the term. I was helped immensely about the relationship between the Holy Spirit and providence by a conversation last week in Lubbock with Richard Rogers of the Sunset School of Preaching. Brother Rogers believes that the Holy Spirit is involved in a unique way throughout all of Biblical history with the providence of God. This I have not come to accept fully even though Richard did have several scriptures that made me want to rethink the question.

There is no doubt in my mind that the attempt to equate the personal indwelling and the influence of the Holy Spirit in our lives with the providence of God is a mistake and without Biblical warrant. Your thinking on this would be appreciated and any material on providence you have would be gratefully received.

I send you my best regards and again, my gratitude for the article.

Faternally yours,

John Allen Chalk  
Radio Speaker

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