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Correspondence between Chalk & James L. Lovell

James L. Lovell

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3105 Palos Verdes Dr. N.
Palos Verdes Estates, Calif
August 15, 1967

To - ACTION family -

Jimmy Allen
Bill Banowsky
Joe Barnett
Pat Boone
Alan Bryan
John Allen Chalk
Dwyatt Gantt
Archie Luper

Don McGaughey
Ira North
Prentice Meador, Jr
Wesley Reagan
Bill Young
Bill Youngs
Ed Holland

From - Jimmie Lovell

I have just read a galley proof, sent to me by a friend, of Chap. 10 of Ira Y. Rice, Jr's Vol. II "AX ON THE ROOT." This chapter is entitled, "Is Jimmie Meddling When He Should Be Listening?"

What Brother Rice says is a bit rough as you would expect it to be, and the bad spirit of my forefathers rises up in me - I'll never out-live it - to do battle but our work - ACTION family - has now become larger than any one of our personal feelings. To that end I have promised myself that I shall make no mention of this chapter whatsoever but in order to live up to it, I need a note from each of you supporting me - please.

There is one statement which Brother Rice makes that especially concerns me - one which he either knows more about than I know myself, else he has published a bare-faced lie, which if left as is might do great damage to his soul in case we still hold the Bible to be right. He says, "I know three (underline his) of ACTION's writers who have been trying to talk to Jimmie about the direction he is taking the paper. So far, however, he keeps meddling rather than listening." Has any one of you given Brother Rice room for this statement? I DON'T BELIEVE IT since I have asked you frankly to advise me what you feel is best or what is wrong - TO LAY IT ON THE LINE - and I have had no information from one of you along this line. Brother North did write me after he, John Allen and Jimmy had discussed the Gospel Advocate incident and I immediately published a statement practically to Brother North's thinking. I have had but one other word of criticism or caution from you and that was from John Allen - "some feel that you have an ax to grind."

The only way I know to get the truth in such a case as this is to ask each of you about it - if you gave Brother Rice room for such a statement. I shall await your reply and hope that I will not have to bother you again about it.

I feel that, in view of the MAM - Bible Correspondence work - I need to go to Africa. Archie plans to go with me. Each of us will pay every penny of his own way. There is but one thing which might prevent my going - failure on your part to send your copy. I MUST HAVE AN ARTICLE FROM YOU BY SEPTEMBER 4th and another BY SEPTEMBER 15th else I may not get to go. You can do much toward lowering the pressure if you will assist me in this way at this time - I would you.

Circulation for September will hit 42,000 - always upward. We mailed the 300,000 copies of the August Special and will have to print 20,000 more.

I want you fellows to remember one thing: You can say what you feel to me uncolored. I have no question about your love for me - I know it is there - but I shall never do my best with any wonderment in my heart about your real thinking about ACTION. I do not propose to fulfill each of your opinions but I do want us to strive together for the greatest good in respect to souls - our own included. I feel we are on solid ground - being accepted. I'm giving each of you a chance to question or confirm it.

I love you more than you shall ever know.

Jimmie

JAMES L. LOVELL

Dear Jac

It made me so proud of
those who taught us to see
four Tennessee boys sit on
the stage the other day
together.

Work ahead - hold hands
meet Him.

Love to you both

Jimmie