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From/To: John W. Smith (Chalk's reply filed first)

John W. Smith

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October 1, 1966

Mr. John W. Smith
1101 West Carpenter Road
Flint, Michigan

Dear John:

It was such a pleasure to receive your letter of September 22 and to know that you are now working with the Northwestern congregation. I had not known that there was a preacher change but am glad to know that you are the man selected for the challenging task which that congregation presents.

Unfortunately, my meeting schedule is in such a shape that I cannot consider coming in 1967 or 1968 even for the three-day meeting. I have just finished looking over my schedule very carefully and simply find no way possible to do it. I had hoped to get into the Flint area on behalf of Herald of Truth within the next several months but see no way that we will be able to do that.

I would for us to simply keep the idea open and if the possibility arises at any future date that I can be in the area, I would try to contact you and the brethren there in sufficient amount of time that if you so desired we could arrange a short meeting of some kind. Please convey my deepest regards to the Lees. I consider them very fine people. And please express my regrets to all the brethren. I would like nothing better than to work with you and the congregation there in a meeting, but circumstances simply will not permit it at this time.

Fraternally yours,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:lct
September 22, 1966

Dear John Allen,

Brother Hobart Lee turned your letter of August 1, 1966 over to me and requested that I correspond with you in this matter. I doubt if you will remember me, but I spent some time with you and Brother Malcomb Hill at Freed-Hardeman College.

I'm very sorry that things have worked out as they have concerning the misunderstanding about our meeting. I've just come to this congregation in the past month, and of course I don't know a great deal about what has transpired.

I know what a busy schedule you are keeping, but I wonder if it would be possible for you to get away for a three day meeting in the Fall of 1967 or Spring of 1968? Really, it doesn't have to be either fall or spring, the winter months might even be best when there would be no other activities scheduled in the area. Perhaps sometime between November 15, 1967 and March 15, 1968 would be the best time possible.

If this would be possible, please let me know. Really, none of these three days of the meeting would have to be on a Sunday, although I certainly would like this arrangement.

May I congratulate you on the fine work you are doing in the Lord's Church, and may He bless you in your continued efforts.

Yours in Christ,

John W. Smith