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John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

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5-14-1969

To: William S. Banowsky

John Allen Chalk

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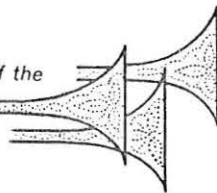
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#### Recommended Citation

Chalk, J. A. (1969). To: William S. Banowsky. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/hst-chalk-personal/6342>

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May 14, 1969

Dr. William S. Banowsky  
Pepperdine College  
8035 South Vermont  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Bill:

Thanks for taking the time to talk with me on the telephone about the possibility of our coming to California this fall. I can especially appreciate the unique problems President Young will have regarding my employment by the college. In fact, these problems may provide the interpretive tools for the three of us to assess my value to the school, as well as the value to me of my move to California and my work at the Claremont School of Theology.

There are four elements, or four steps, in the evolution of our decision regarding California as I see them. First, my admission to Claremont, which is now fact. Second, your willingness to do the things mentioned on the telephone: \$15,000 annual income; moving expense; freedom to attend the summer semester between the three years of work at Claremont; and tuition. The third element in the decision is the trip to California. At that time Sue and I would talk to the people at Claremont, scout the area for possible housing, and allow Sue an opportunity to flavor the school and the community. At this time she and I will need to talk openly and honestly with you and Norvel. Sue will need to feel the same openness that I have felt in prior discussions with the two of you. At this time she can express her fears and ask her questions. Then I will make my decision.

I see my role at Pepperdine in the next three years as that of a utility man. I strongly believe that I should come with no title and with no promises from you or me. It is my hope that I can prepare myself these next three years through the experiences with the school and at Claremont to participate in top level leadership at Pepperdine. This, however, will be subject both to your judgment and my decision at the end of the three year period, or at any time such opportunity arises. In the meantime, I would simply be available to you for specific assignment as situations developed and as my time allowed.

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Thank you so much for allowing me this live option. I feel challenged by the future of Pepperdine College and I approve of the direction in which you and Norvel are steering the school. Please remember that my respect for you and my admiration for what the school is attempting to do will not be diminished should you find no way to bring me to the West Coast. You and President Young may come to the conclusion that this is a decision requiring too much of Pepperdine College and therefore is not feasible. Please feel the freedom to make that decision if necessary. I can find personal fulfillment in Atlanta, but I am open at this point to the very real possibility of moving to California.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk  
Radio Evangelist

JAC:hm