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From/To: Janet Carter (Chalk's reply filed first)

Janet Carter

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Miss Janet Carter
14958 Fox Road
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Jan:

Your letters of November 28 and December 17 have stirred me deeply. I don't know when I have heard a person pour out his or her heart as you did in these two letters. Both of them made a significant impact on me, causing me to look more closely at my own life and relationship with God.

I, of course, was deeply distressed by your recent experience in Kansas. I don't know for whom to feel the most concern, for you or for the young man about whom you wrote. I know that it must have been a terrible burden for you to have to bear.

I am reminded of the kind of strength and power with which Christians of the first century met the tests that they had to face (Acts 4:18-20; 5:28, 29; 1 Peter 4:12-19). The Apostle Paul knew the burdens of the Christian life and pointed you and me to the only source of power by which we can triumph over all the pressures and questions of our lives (11 Corinthians 12:7-10). I have never been more convinced than I am today that the Christian, with the indwelling Holy Spirit in control of his or her life, can experience great victory in the midst of deep distress (Ephesians 3:14-21; Romans 8:5-11).

I know that you have prayed much about this recent experience. I also know that God will give you an understanding out of that situation out of which can come an even deeper spiritual maturity and a greater commitment to purity than you ever had before (James 1:5-9). The very power of Christ's possession of our lives makes it possible for us to live in the very midst of conditions he describes (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20; Galatians 5:16-26).

I cannot answer the question about your fiancee's death. There is no way for a finite man to describe the actions of an infinite God. I do not believe that God deliberately took your loved one. I know that God is in control of all events, but I also know there is an evil power at work in our world that causes death and despair. The only response you can make at this point is
to the one who is greater than the god of this world (1 John 4:4). In much prayer and personal surrender day by day you can find deliverance from self-pity, from doubt, from indecision, from despair. This is what I pray for you, this is what I believe the Lord can give you.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk
Radio Evangelist

JAC:hm

I know that you have proved much about this recent experience. Do it know that God will give you an understanding out of what you went out of which can be passed on to others; not just a personal understanding but a ministry to others, too. With all the limitations of the body, as Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:7, ‘I do not despise the things of the body because I use it, for it is a means of ministry to the Lord.’

John 4:4

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Dear Bud, choke,

I cannot begin to apologize enough for having to be so unconsiderate of your feelings. The phone rang one night, and I left a message for you to call me on the phone, but I wasn’t joking, you see.

I don’t really know how to write to you in a letter. I want to help you understand my situation, but I will try.

There was no trouble during a good, happy Christian life. And a friendly and kindhearted thing to do. I really wish it were easy to understand why God seemingly turned against me, so I could be different. I arrived Thursday evening, and he had been thinking about it. After I accepted it. He took me to Holiday Inn, where I was staying, and decided the hotel was our place. And spend the night. So, at 8:00 a.m., I asked him to please.

Because I felt it was wrong. He and extended myself. And after drinking all he had, he slept, which was 5:00 a.m.
at 6:30 a.m. he was back surrounding on
by about paying the needed me to do money-
and like him and help him. He said
now "Anne" is dead - what have you got to
say". Well, needless to say, I was upset.
He finally left after I wouldn't let him
and returned that evening - which was the
night I so stupidly called you. He had
thrown me on the bed and ripped every
piece of clothing I had on off. He said
was going to marry him one way or the
other. Bad. Chalk - why? How could he "love"
me? Things were alright after I said "if
do harm to me - where will I get you?"
dept me, and I cried so hard.

I'm so terribly confused. One moment
want to just give up, and the next
moment I realize how lucky I really am.
how long must one go through
moment until things begin to get better?
all have I done?

I talk about how wonderful people
but get their are so cruel. I talk
out other - but how can I feel that way when
happens?
I just don't know how long I can go
now anyone to talk to, so you me to
it. I sincerely hope I can continue
help people at the hospital.

Please don't tell anyone about this,
know you won't, but I'm so terribly
interested.

I didn't tell you his name because
knew him, and he went to P.E.I.
said he'd talked to you before.

Again, I'm sorry for calling, I should
now better.

To His Love,
Jan Carter
November 28, 1968

Happy “Turkey” Day

Dear Mr. Chalk,

Please excuse the informality of my letter, but I am presently at work, and because of it being a holiday, there is really not a whole lot for me to do.

I would like to thank you most sincerely for the letter that you recently sent to me. I don’t really know why, but the words you shared with me as you shared them too.

I wrote you a letter because I am very confused over what to do with my life. You know, sometimes I feel so very, very patient in myself when I help other people - but I can’t “push” myself out. I am a very impatient person when it comes to doing what I want. I want to do what I want, and when I don’t become very upset with myself. I don’t know why I do this, but I become so tense and nervous, but I had no way to release my tension. I can deal with patients that the best way to release tension is by crying. I cannot definitely agree with that - perhaps because I was brought up as a child and told by my parents that was what they were going to be a psychotherapist. I found that was all wrong, but I really don’t understand.

I am sorry. I cannot tell you what, but really, the question of why God takes the man I loved, you cannot understand, but Mr. Chalk. God won’t answer me either. Tell me, if you won’t help me, why is He asking me to help? People who kill others with their own 10 month old baby make me feel very lucky.

I need you can give encouragement and pray for me please.

In His Love,
Mr. Chark