
John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

4-9-1969

To: Jerry Langford

John Allen Chalk

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/hst-chalk-personal>

Recommended Citation

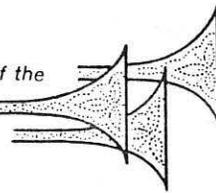
Chalk, J. A. (1969). To: Jerry Langford. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/hst-chalk-personal/6544>

This Letter is brought to you for free and open access by the John Allen Chalk at Scholar Works at Harding. It has been accepted for inclusion in John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Scholar Works at Harding. For more information, please contact scholarworks@harding.edu.



5th and Highland **CHURCH of CHRIST** *producers of the*

915 677-3522 / BOX 2439 / ABILENE, TEXAS 79604



HERALD OF TRUTH

Radio and Television Programs

April 9, 1969

Mr. Jerry Langford
Arlington Church of Christ
2206 Tecoma Drive and Clearview, N.E.
Knoxville, Tennessee

Dear Jerry:

I have just read brother Nick's report in the April 8, 1969 Firm Foundation. I talked with you before about my deep concern regarding the growing rift between white and black brethren. I am afraid our approach to the Liberian challenge is doing just that between white and black. The visit brother and sister Nicks had with the Washington Heights church in New York was not very satisfactory, at least not to the members of the congregation. I visited with them several weeks ago and questioned very carefully brother Roosevelt Wells the minister sister Wells, and other members of the congregation. As you know, Roosevelt and I are going to Liberia with a campaign and with a group of workers from the Washington Heights church this summer. As a result of Herald of Truth and the follow-up work Roosevelt has done during his several trips to Liberia with the support of the Washington Heights church, there are several groups now meeting in Liberia according to my best information.

Brother Nick's article in the Firm Foundation does not mention the Washington Heights church. I think this was most unfortunate. These black brethren are doing all they know to do to help Liberia. They have given sacrificially with their money and have felt a great sense of pride in the work they have done there. As you know, very few Negro congregations have launched out in mission works like what Washington Heights has done in Liberia.

I see from this article that you plan to take a campaign there in 1970, and that you are still planning to go to Liberia to work. I sincerely believe that you, Tom Drennon, or any other people who go to Liberia, ought to take time and spend the money to stop off in New York and pay a visit to Roosevelt Wells and the Washington Heights church. These people want to know you, they want to be associated with you, they want to feel a part of the Liberian work. They have invested time and money over the last three to five years in this effort like nobody else has, either white or black. To dismiss this, and not to mention this in our brotherhood reports about the Liberian work is to continue the same kind of white disregard for black brethren as has characterized our brotherhood for years.

Jerry, I write out of deep personal concern about this matter. I believe in what the Nicks' are doing in Liberia. I think them to be the best qualified to be there right now. I believe also, however, that all of us, including myself, need to work thoughtfully at keeping the Washington Heights church involved and encouraged about their work in the past. This means getting to know Roosevelt Wells, coming to a deep respect for the Washington Heights church and commending them in our publicity releases about the Liberian work.

Mr. Jerry Langford
April 9, 1969
Page 2

I have communicated this to the Decatur church and have urged them to make sure that the Washington Heights people are included in any news, plans, etc. they make. It's just a matter of keeping them informed and encouraged. Whatever degree they want to participate thereafter is up to them, but in the past we have not given them the benefit of information, much less the encouragement of having their previous work in Liberia mentioned in our brotherhood reports.

I send you and your family my love and deepest regards. If you have any questions about anything I have said in this letter, I'll be glad to hear from you, Otherwise, just work these suggestions into your future plans to make sure that you come to a good personal relationship with both Roosevelt and the Washington Heights church. Roosevelt is one of my dearest personal friends, and I have found the Washington Heights church to be a group of dedicated concerned Christians.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk
Radio Evangelist

JAC:hm
cc:Decatur church