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10-15-2022

### John N. Clayton Papers, 1977-1990

John N. Clayton

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#### Preferred Citation

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**John N. Clayton  
Papers, (1977-1990)**

Center for Restoration Studies  
Manuscripts #208

Abilene Christian University Special Collections and Archives  
Brown Library  
Abilene Christian University  
Abilene, TX 79699-9208

15 October 2022

## **About this collection**

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**Title:** John N. Clayton Papers

**Creator:** John N. Clayton

**Identifier/Call Number:** Center for Restoration Studies Manuscripts #208

**Physical Description:** 7.5 linear feet (5 boxes)

**Dates (Inclusive):** 1977-1990

**Dates (Bulk):** 1977-1990

**Location:** Center for Restoration Studies

**Language of Materials:** English

**Scope and Content Note:** These papers consist of materials from the “Does God Exist” ministry, including correspondence, written material, DVDs, and tapes.

**Biographical Note:** The following biographical note is excerpted from the Does God Exist ministry website:

“A devout atheist until his early twenties, Clayton was part of the same organized atheist group that made Madeline Murray O’Hair famous. He decided to write a book called All the Stupidity of the Bible, but instead found himself slowly becoming convinced about Christianity. Today, he travels the U.S. giving some 40 lectures per year on the subject “Does God Exist?” He is a retired teacher and geologist by profession. He holds a B.S. degree from Indiana University in education with a concentration in physics and mathematics. He holds an M.S. degree from Indiana University in education with a concentration in chemistry and psychometry. He also holds an M.S. degree from the University of Notre Dame in geology and earth science. His honors include: Distinguished Physics Teacher for the State of Indiana —1985 by the American Association of Physics Teachers; S.T.A.R Instructor for Indiana Department of Public Instruction —1990; South Bend Community School Corporation High School Teacher of the Year and School Corporation Teacher of the Year —1991.”<sup>1</sup>

### **Administrative Information**

**Immediate Source of Acquisition:** John N. Clayton

**Date of Acquisition:** 12 April 2011

**Accession Number:** R2011.047

**Date of Accession:** 25 April 2011

**Accessioned by:** Matthew Stephens

**Processor and Date of Processing:** Audrey Schaffner, 22 July 2014

**Finding Aid Creator and Date:** Audrey Schaffner, 22 July 2014

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<sup>1</sup> Does God Exist? About Us page, <https://www.doesgodexist.org/INDEX-Folders/AboutContactus.html>

**Finding Aid Update:** Mac Ice, Amanda Dietz, and Avery Reinoehl, 15 October 2022

## **Using this collection**

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**Processing Status:** Processed

**Conditions Governing Access:** Materials are housed in the Abilene Christian University Special Collections and Archives, Brown Library, Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas and are non-circulating. Access is available during normal business hours; prior appointments are preferred.

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**Arrangement of Materials:** The processors retained the original order as received as much as possible. The papers are arranged in three series:

- I. Correspondence
- II. Written material
- III. Audio/visual

**Separated Materials:** None.

### **Subjects and Keywords**

Churches of Christ -- History -- 20<sup>th</sup> century  
Churches of Christ -- Indiana

## **Inventory**

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### **Box 1**

[First Folder] Finding Aid  
1979 Elders Letter  
J.R. Owens/Jackson/Thompson  
Miscellaneous J/T  
Magnolia TX Elder Letter of Recommendation  
Jackson/Thompson/Orvelo/Manteen Part 1  
Jackson/Thompson/Orvelo  
Jackson/Thompson/Orvelo  
Thompson/Jackson 1990  
Thompson/Jackson 1985-1989  
Miscellaneous  
Thompson/Jackson 1991  
Lanier, Roy- Rocky Mountain Christian Laisterbach, Colorado  
Chouinard, Larry  
Williams, Jon Gary  
Bert Thompson 1977-1979  
Bert Thompson 1977-1979  
Thompson/Jackson 1980  
Jackson, Wayne Part 1  
Jackson, Wayne Part 2  
Jackson, Wayne 1980  
Abilene Mess  
Clark, James R. Brownsville Texas  
JTW Rebuttal  
Contending for Faith  
Thompson/Jackson 1989  
Trevathan-Pearl 1986 Abilene

### **Box 2**

Correspondence

### **Box 3**

Thomas Greene  
Howard Pub  
Eric Johnston  
[Miscellaneous]  
Correspondence 1990s Early 2000s T-2  
Correspondence 1990s Early 2000s T-2  
Tax Personal Property  
Trailer  
Corporation  
Corporation Bylaws  
Corporation

1st Source Bank Statements  
2009 Financials  
D.G.E. Program Evaluations

**Box 4**

[Miscellaneous Speeches, Debates, Writings]

God Made it All Perfect by Jean Wiebe

Acting Out Our Faith Sherry Jansma

God Made It All Perfect Volume II by Patricia Parker

Canyonlands 2008 Field Trip Guide

Studies in Job by Ann Gardner

[Miscellaneous Tracts and Articles]

Prelude to Glory by Wayne D. Leeper

Star of Jacob by Wayne D. Leeper

The Source Eternal Design or Infinite Accident John N. Clayton

Evidences of God Volumes 1-9

**Box 5**

Ad Packet

[VHS Tapes]

[Cassette Tapes]

[DVDs]

The Source by John Clayton