

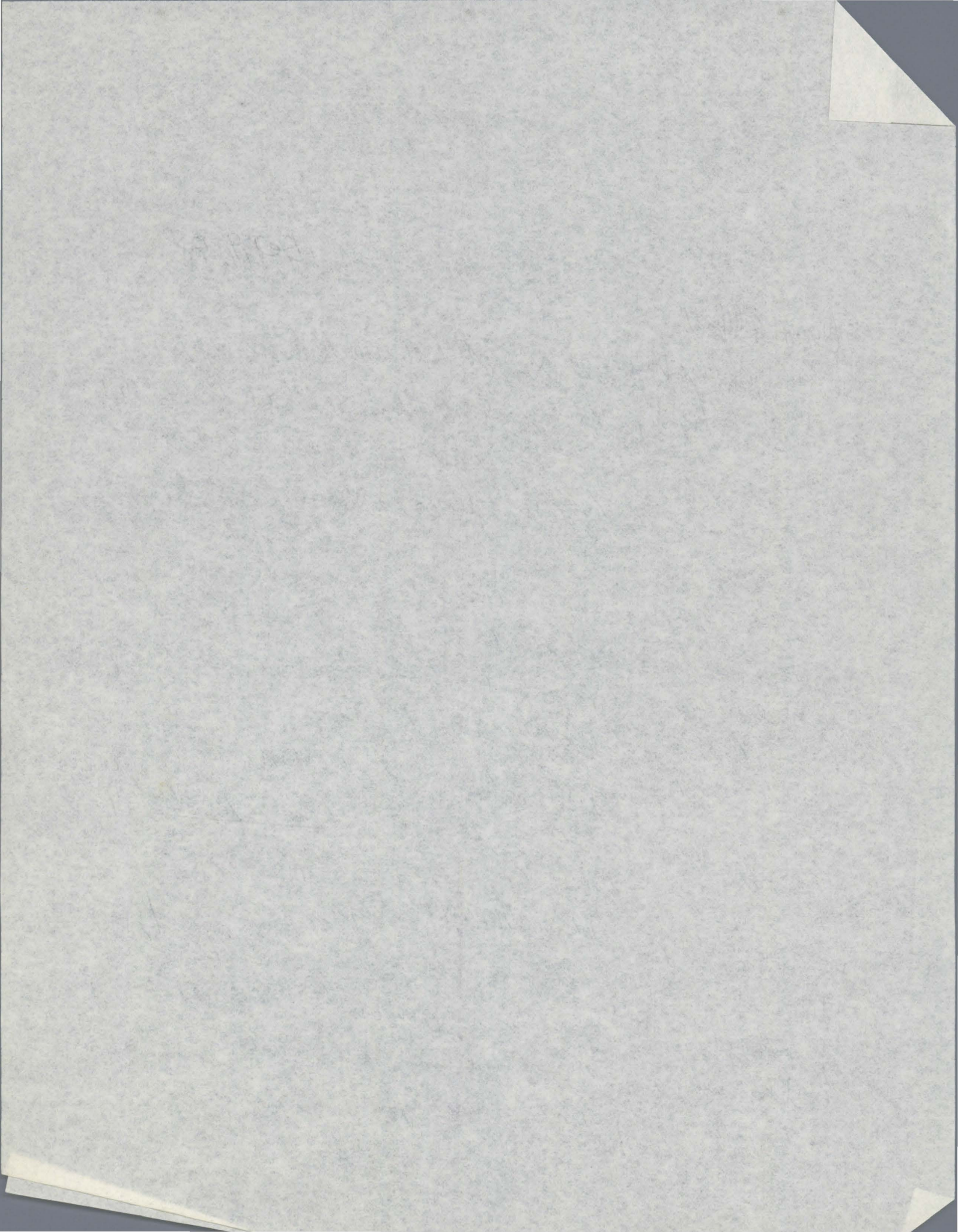
Oct 9, 1987

Dear Albert,

How often I have wished to talk with you
in the heat of my Theological battles inward and outward!
And how much I have appreciated the wholesome start
you gave me in Theological reflection, a dear friendship
over the years.

Yet I have never adequately expressed that
appreciation, and the limits of time and space have
restricted our dialogue. For these reasons, I have hardly
been able to wait to send you the enclosed.

This project I have been working on
steadily for the last 2½ years, Agenda for Theology,
(my earlier work of the same title was Agenda for Pastoral Theology), is
now in galley. I have thought about you so many
times — from its embryonic development to its final
testing. Its spirit is very much, as I see it,
Lutherian, and it in a real sense represents a
continuation of my dialogue with you.



So — unless you object, I would like to dedicate it to you, with deepest gratitude for all that your life and work has meant to me.

I want you to see the galley at this point (a) partly because I can hardly wait to put this in your hands — like a kid wanting to show a new toy, and (b) partly because you conceivably might have some hesitations about the directions I am taking and I wouldn't want to be an embarrassment to you. But unless I hear from you reasonably soon, I would like to assume that you would feel no awkwardness.

So — with this personal paper I send it along, only wishing that we could have had the opportunity to talk many of its issues out in more detail.

and while I'm sending this, I also want to enclose a poster & announcement of the Parables of Kierkegaard volume that Princeton University Press is just about to spring, about which we also talked at an early stage.

Warmest greetings to Carla + SMU friends.
(tell her I'm still working in the Drew alumni office).
Tom

