



Adam W. Greenway

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It is with deep disappointment but strong conviction that I have sent the following letter to Dr. Michael Spradlin prayerfully requesting him to reconsider the decision of MABTS to host the premier of a film whose trailer contains scandalous and scurrilous slander against @SWBTS.



November 17, 2021

Michael R. Spradlin, President
Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary
2095 Appling Road
Cordova, TN 38016

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL TO president@mahts.edu

Dear President Spradlin:

I write to you to express my deep disappointment that the institution you lead has plans to host a "film premier" of "Enemies Within the Church" this Saturday, November 20, in apparent coordination with the Conservative Baptist Network. The film's trailer contains campus footage of the institution I am privileged to lead overlaid with narrative insinuations of "Marxism," presumably intended to leave viewers with the mistaken impression that Southwestern Seminary is something other than orthodox, Baptist, and evangelical. I take strong umbrage to such scandalous and scurrilous slander, particularly when it is apparently condoned by an institution such as yours.

Furthermore, I believe your late predecessor in office, B. Gray Allison, would strongly disapprove of his seminary's involvement in matters such as showing this film and supporting the CBN, given what has been attested in MABTS's own publications. Former Academic Vice President, Howard Bickers, wrote in 1992 concerning Mid-America, "The Seminary prohibits any negative criticism of any Southern Baptist agency, leader, or program by speakers in the classrooms and in the chapel services. The leaders of the Seminary believe that the institution best fulfills its purpose when a Christlike spirit and a stance of positive support are engendered. Consequently, the energies of the Seminary are focused upon the training of students rather than upon participation in divisive issues within the Convention." Since these sentiments characterized MABTS during the SBC's much-needed Conservative Resurgence, should they not even more so now, given that both our institutions confess congruent convictions concerning biblical authority, inerrancy, and sufficiency?

I prayerfully ask you to reconsider the decision to show this film and to withdraw support from those working to divide our Convention by engaging in untruthful attacks against SBC entities like Southwestern Seminary.

Blessings,

Adam W. Greenway
President

cc: Danny Roberts, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
Ray Skinner, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary

ADAM W. GREENWAY, PRESIDENT

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