September 10, 1961

Richard Hollingsworth

SBC AR. 149

Dr. Millard Berquist, President
Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
5001 North Oak Trafficway
Kansas City, Missouri

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Dear Dr. Berquist

This is just a short note to express to you in a personal and informal manner what the seminary and faculty has meant to my life. Words can never express what I feel for you and your faculty who have invested in me, as well as others, so richly and unselfishly. I never comprehended the real depths of our Christian faith until I was privileged to sit at the feet of such men. The treasures which I gained there will enrich my life — regardless of the direction in which my recent decision will lead me.

I deplore the fact that my decision may, in some way, bring ill repute upon the seminary's name. If this should happen it will be a gross injustice and a perversion of the truth. If the truth could be known it would reveal that my relations with the seminary and the contact with such giants as Berquist, Wamble, Elliott, Ashcraft and Morton actually discouraged, rather than encouraged, my decision. I suppose that I shall never have the opportunity to say this to the school's misguided critics but if you can use it in any way — please do so.

I do not know what the future holds for me. I have made my decision, one which I made with a sound mind and cognizant of the consequences, and now it is my intention to abide with it. My only deep regret about the matter is that some of you, who have labored so admirably and faithfully, may think that your efforts for me have been in vain. I should like to assure you that I do not count them to be such.

May God continue to richly bless your efforts for Him.

Respectfully yours
Richard Hollingsworth