



September 1, 2021

Dear Friends of the Sword,

Eighty-Seven Years of Ministry

On this 87th anniversary of the *Sword of the Lord*, we have much reason to rejoice, praise the Lord and celebrate. Let me make note of several things.

- 1. Our coworkers!** Through the years, the Lord has brought us dedicated, gifted men and women to serve alongside us. We have today a team of thirty-five good people for whom we thank the Lord.
- 2. Our subscribers!** For all of you who read the *Sword of the Lord*, we are very thankful. We labor each day with you in mind. It is our privilege to have you as readers, and certainly we pray that every issue of the *Sword of the Lord* will be a blessing to you.
- 3. Our supporters!** What can we possibly say that will fully commend the churches and individuals who stand by us, pray for us and financially support our efforts? The *Sword of the Lord* has been a faith-based ministry every single day of its existence. The undergirding of our friends is a partnership that makes possible our continuing efforts in all that we do. We express our full gratitude to each one who helps us.
- 4. Worldwide influence!** When I refer to the “international headquarters” of the *Sword of the Lord*, I do so because we are serving pastors, missionaries, churches and individual Christians in countries far and near.
- 5. Prison outreach!** With over two million people incarcerated in America, there is a great mission field “inside the walls.” We work with prison chaplains, prison missionaries and individual prisoners on a daily basis.
- 6. Publishing!** Yes, we publish books, pamphlets and tracts—and lots of them. Getting salvation and discipleship tools into the hands of people helps combat the attacks of atheistic, humanistic, evolutionary, Marxist and worldly philosophies that are being spoon-fed to our citizens these days.
- 7. Church supplies!** In addition to the newspaper and the books, pamphlets and tracts, we try to offer a full range of supplies that churches and individual Christians need. This includes bulletins, supplies for Sunday school, bus ministry and soul-winning, as well as King James Bibles and New Testaments.
- 8. Custom printing!** If you need—or your church needs—something printed, such as brochures, tracts, or your book, we do custom work to serve your needs.
- 9. Conferences!** The annual National *Sword of the Lord* Conference and the *Sword Men’s* Conference (plus local and regional conferences across the nation) are major parts of the *Sword* ministry.
- 10. Livestreaming!** We utilize livestream technology to preach and teach worldwide.
- 11. Radio ministry!** Our *Making a Difference* radio ministry is now heard Monday through Friday on sixty-one stations across America and around the globe. All programs are also available any hour of every day on the *Sword* website, swordofthelord.com.
- 12. Social media presence!** In addition to our *Sword* website, we maintain a daily presence on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.
- 13. Our local bookstore!** Yes, we have an onsite bookstore open to the public right here at *Sword of the Lord* headquarters. It is open Monday through Friday.
- 14. Assistance to churches and pastors!** In addition to our publications, the conferences, etc., we are available to assist pastors and churches in whatever way they need us. It is our privilege to be the “pastor’s friend” and a strong local church advocate.
- 15. Foreign translations!** Over the years, we have provided *Sword* materials to missionaries and national pastors who have translated the books into the languages of their countries. Just this month, we have made agreements like this with men in two additional countries. What you

help us produce in English may very well wind up in another language somewhere across the globe.

16. Foreign projects! We provide free distribution of Sword-published materials to missionaries in English-speaking countries.

I have written these paragraphs rapidly as the various aspects of our ministry come to mind. I'm not sure I've listed everything, but these sixteen paragraphs will give you an idea of the scope of the work here.

For the privileges we are given in the Lord's work, we rejoice and lift our voices to say, "Praise His lovely name."

For these eighty-seven years of the Lord's blessings, we celebrate and we say, "Thank the Lord."

God bless you and do stay in touch.

Yours for Jesus Christ and the Bible,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Shelton L. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right from the end of the name.

Dr. Shelton L. Smith

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Our mailing address is:
Sword of the Lord Publishers
PO Box 1099
Murfreesboro, TN 37133-1099