

## **1999 Resolutions**

### **#1 – Appreciation of Criswell College**

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Dallas, recognize President Richard Wells, the administration, faculty, staff and students of The Criswell College for their support, hospitality, and use of the facilities of The Criswell College on this Second Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention on this Tuesday, November 16, 1999.

### **#2 – Sanctity of Human Life**

WHEREAS, all life is a gift from God, and  
WHEREAS, life begins at conception, and  
WHEREAS, man has been created in the image of God and for His glory, and  
WHEREAS, Christ dies for those men and women yet unborn, even before the creation of the world, and  
WHEREAS, the unjustifiable taking of any human life by another is prohibited and condemned by God, and  
WHEREAS, the presence of abortion in all its forms as well as the premature ending of human life for reasons of convenience or malice continues to be a defining moral issue for Christians everywhere.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Dallas, TX, November 16, 1999, adopt the following statement:

All human life, born and unborn, deserves equal dignity and rights, and those who are old, those who are ill, those who are mentally and physically impaired deserve full protection and honor as human beings.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that while we fully agree that the Holy Scriptures do not condone the unjustifiable taking of any human life, we faithfully affirm the biblical teaching of forgiveness and restoration.

### **#3 – Cooperative Program Support**

WHEREAS, we are commanded in The Great Commission to go forth and disciple all nations; and  
WHEREAS, Southern Baptists recognize the great opportunity for missions to advance at the beginning of the new millennium; and  
WHEREAS, that on the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Cooperative Program, the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Atlanta, GA, encouraged all our churches to participate in the “Partners in The Harvest” celebration in 2000, and to support its goals of 1,000,000 baptisms, more volunteers on missions than ever before, and \$750,000,000 in mission giving.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Dallas, November 16, 1999, do hereby support and encourage all of our churches to participate in the “Partners in The Harvest” celebration in 2000; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers, commend and support the International Mission Board and the North American Mission Board in their efforts to reach all people; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that we challenge every church to lead its members in personal evangelism ministries, to baptize those new believers, and to incorporate and disciple them into the church body so that they may do likewise.

## Resolution #4 – Christian Citizenship

WHEREAS, the year 2000 is a critical election year in the life of our nation, charting a course for the 21<sup>st</sup> century; and

WHEREAS, our nation continues to suffer from moral and spiritual decline; and

WHEREAS, some of our elected officials have chosen to disregard biblical standards of conduct and morality; and

WHEREAS, the Scripture calls us to be responsible Christian citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Dallas on November 16, 1999, encourage all members of Southern Baptists of Texas Churches to exercise their right and privilege to elect honorable and moral individuals to their offices of elected leadership; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we encourage our member churches to provide factual information concerning the positions of candidates on moral issues as is consistent with educated Christian Citizenship.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that we will pray for these elected officials as exhorted in 1 Timothy 2:1-3.

## #5 – Support for the Family Amendment

WHEREAS, the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention has adopted as its doctrinal statement the Baptist Faith and Message as amended at the 1998 annual session of the Southern Baptist Convention; and

WHEREAS, the amended Baptist Faith and Message is theologically sound, doctrinally correct, and biblically correct in its instruction concerning the equal worth of husband and wife before God, both being created in His Image; and

WHEREAS, the Bible, not culture, is to be our final source of authority.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Dallas, November 16, 1999, wholeheartedly support article XVIII, “The Family” as it is written in the *Baptist Faith and Message* of 1998.

## #6 – Student Led Voluntary Prayer in Schools

WHEREAS, a recent court ruling in the case of Doe vs. Santa Fe Independent School District in February, 1999, whereby prohibiting public pre-game prayers or other solemnizing activities; and

WHEREAS, voluntary, student-led praying is being slowly eliminated in our nation's schools by fear and threats of lawsuits and intervention by the government; and

WHEREAS, our forefathers never intended the removal of prayer from our nation's schools or any segment of society; and

WHEREAS, Christians are reminded that reverence for God is more important than fear of man,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Dallas, November 16, 1999, support the constitutional right of voluntary, student-led prayers in schools, at sporting events, and any other gathering place of students.

## #7 – Ten Commandments

WHEREAS, the Holy Bible and its principles and doctrines are the foundation upon which our nation and its government were built; and

WHEREAS, the moral principles and precepts contained in the Scriptures form the basis of all our civil constitutions and laws; and

WHEREAS, the Ten Commandments given to Moses on the Mount of Sinai perfectly and simply set forth the basic elements of man's relationship to God and his fellow man; and

WHEREAS, the founding fathers hold these commandments to be the foundation of civil law,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Dallas, on November 16, 1999, do hereby encourage the display of the Ten Commandments in schools, courthouses, libraries, universities, statehouses, and other places of public assembly; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that we encourage men and women everywhere to acknowledge and teach their children the Providence of Almighty God, to believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, for salvation, to be grateful for His many blessings, and to pattern their lives after His precepts, including those taught in the Ten Commandments. For the Scripture says, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people."

## #8 – Appreciation of Jim Richards, Staff, and Elected Leadership

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, Dallas, on November 16, 1999, affirm the leadership of Dr. Jim Richards and his staff during the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention; and FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that we recognize the elected leadership for a job well done this year; and FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that we continue to pray and support the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention staff and our elected leadership.