

RESOLUTION #1
Appreciation of Prestonwood Baptist Church, Plano, TX

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Plano, Texas, October 25-26, 2004, wish to express gratitude and appreciation to Prestonwood Baptist Church, Plano, Texas, Pastor Jack Graham, and staff for their gracious and untiring effort on our behalf; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we pray God's continued blessing on this great church and all who come under its influence.

RESOLUTION #2
Regarding Appreciation of and Support for our Armed Forces during the War on Terror

WHEREAS, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention adopted Resolution Four in 2001 addressing and condemning the attack on America by terrorists on September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, Resolution Four affirmed our President, George W. Bush, for his courageous leadership during these days of national and international crisis along with the President's leadership team in all branches of government; and

WHEREAS, Resolution Four affirmed the leadership of both houses of Congress for their willingness to work together against a common foe; and

WHEREAS, Resolution Four expressed ardent support for our servicemen and servicewomen who bravely defend freedom's cause in our homeland and abroad; and

WHEREAS, our deep sense of support and our prayers continue even more fervently as the devotion and resolve of our armed forces are manifested in such a resolute and competent way under a myriad of circumstances that are presented on the varied fields of battle confronting our servicemen and servicewomen;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Plano, Texas, October 25-26, 2004, affirm and ratify Resolution Four passed by this Convention at the annual meeting in 2001 directed primarily to the terrorists' attacks on American, September 11, 2001; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commend our armed forces, beginning with our President as Commander-in-Chief, for a job well done and for staying the course now and in the future in the continuing fight against terrorism, a global scourge; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that our armed forces be apprised in an appropriate way of the Convention's gratitude for their sense of duty and for their service to our Country with honor in the greatest traditions of our armed forces, also giving assurance of our support and fervent prayers through the unfolding years.

RESOLUTION #3
Christian Citizenship

WHEREAS, the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention has historically encouraged Christian citizenship; and

WHEREAS, this is an important election year with many moral and ethical issues at stake; and

WHEREAS, the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention has founded and promoted the I VOTE VALUES campaign to encourage the public to understand the moral and ethical issues of our day (e.g. abortion, same-sex marriage, health care, faith-based initiative) and be responsible, well-informed voters who vote their values;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Plano, Texas, October 25-26, 2004, affirm the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention for this great and noble effort; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will work to inform others of the moral and ethical debates of this year; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we Vote Values and encourage as many as possible to be informed and mobilized to do the same.

RESOLUTION #4
Regarding Activist Judges

WHEREAS, the Founding Fathers believed, as we do, that God created us with inalienable rights; and

WHEREAS, we claim and cling to, most especially, the constitutional right of religious liberty and freedom of expression contained in the First Amendment to the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, ten landmark decisions have been handed down, beginning in 1962, including the Supreme Court restricting prayer in the public schools, through 2004; ruling that same-sex couples may marry under the laws of the state (in this case, Massachusetts); and also including *Roe v. Wade* by the Supreme Court which gives a woman the right to kill her unborn baby for any reason; and

WHEREAS, these decisions are used as precedents upon which future decisions can be based and rationalized; and

WHEREAS, all states are required by Article IV, section 1 of the Constitution to render “full faith and credit” to the laws of all other states, except by act of Congress (e.g. Defense of Marriage Act, 1996); and

WHEREAS, these decisions result in sinful laws bringing God’s condemnation on our Republic for institutionalizing sin in the manner;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Plano, Texas, October 25-26, 2004, do hereby reaffirm our conviction that our nation was founded and predicated on a fundamental commitment o individual religious liberty as stated in the First Amendment of the Constitution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we ask our Senators, both from Texas and other states, to confirm only judges who will not “legislate from the bench;” and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we ask the United States Senate to bring presidential judicial nominees to the floor for a vote; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we call upon the Congress of the United States to exercise it power, granted by the Constitution, to regulate and limit court jurisdiction, which power it has used repeatedly and courts have accepted.

RESOLUTION #5
Regarding the Sudan

WHEREAS, genocide is reportedly being attempted against Christians in the Sudan:

1. More than one million displaced; up to 50,000 killed; Arab militias accused of ethnic cleansing (Colin Powell speaking before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee);
2. May 22, 2003; Longochok and nine other villages in Eastern Upper Nile attacked by Sudanese forces; Homes burned; 59 killed; women and children taken captive; and Pastor Jacob Gadet Manyiel buried alive in his home. (Freedom Now News/Servant’s Heart); and

WHEREAS, Sudanese government policy is:

1. Forced conversion to Islam;
2. Churches closed, destroyed, and not allowed to rebuild;
3. Christian home groups considered a public disturbance and teachers arrested;
4. Open preaching prohibited and punishable by beating and a jail sentence; and

WHEREAS, the Sudanese government has ignored peace initiatives by the U.N.; and

WHEREAS, the Bible states that we should encourage our Christian brothers (1 Peter 2:17); and

WHEREAS, we are to pray for authorities that we may live a peaceful existence for the spreading of the gospel (1 Timothy 2:2);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Plano, Texas, October 25-26, 2004, object to violence against any person for religious reasons and we urge all nations to allow personal freedom regarding religion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that retaliation against Muslims is not acceptable Christian practice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we object to the persecuting, killing, enslaving, and forced conversion of Christians by Muslims or others; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the President of the United States, the U.S. government, and the United Nations to use whatever means necessary to bring these atrocities to an end; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we encourage believers in Texas pray, give, and support the Sudanese Christians in this time of suffering that God's kingdom may grow.

RESOLUTION #6

Regarding the Sanctity of Human Life: Stem Cell Research and Partial-Birth Abortion

WHEREAS, all life is sacred from the point of conception (Exodus 20:13; Psalm 139:13-16); and

WHEREAS, the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention has historically affirmed the sanctity of human life; and

WHEREAS, all human life is God's prerogative and embryonic stem cell research involves the destruction of a human life; and the practice of abortion is still far too common; and partial-birth abortions are still permitted by court order in certain states despite the law; and

WHEREAS, embryonic stem cell research has to this point produced no successful therapies for known diseases; and, therapeutic success, in any case, would not provide ethical justification for the destruction of human life; and

WHEREAS, adult stem cells have proven to be adaptable and useable for therapies now in over 70 diseases; and

WHEREAS, personal and corporate gains are being put ahead of the value of human life;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Plano, Texas, October 25-26, 2004, will be well-informed citizens on these issues through the fine resources of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and others; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we stand firm in the fight for all human life and that we encourage all governmental officials within our sphere of influence to do the same; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we not only support The Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act and those governmental officials who stand behind it, but that we urge them to go further to end all abortions.

RESOLUTION #7

On the Education of our Children

WHEREAS, the Lord through his Word (Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Proverbs 22:6) instructs parents to ensure the godly education of our children; and

WHEREAS, all matters of truth, including traditionally academic subjects, are subject to the lordship of Christ; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Plano, Texas, October 25-26, 2004, commit ourselves to the teaching of our children; whether in public schools, private schools, home schools, or through our church's education program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will work toward the continued improvement of education for the sake of our communities and to the glory of God; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we commend and will prayerfully support Christian people who work to educate our young people in any context.

RESOLUTION #8
Evangelism

WHEREAS, we believe the biblical mandate to share Jesus with every person in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the earth; and

WHEREAS, we believe Texas to be our Jerusalem and Judea; and

WHEREAS, we believe in equipping and assisting local churches in fulfilling the great commission; and

WHEREAS, the SBTC has a strategy to assist local churches to double their baptisms next year utilizing resources and training available through the ministry departments of our convention; and

WHEREAS, the SBTC will recognize churches who double their baptisms during a "Victory Celebration" at the Empower Evangelism Conference in 2006;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Plano, Texas, October 25-26, 2004, encourage affiliated churches to double their baptisms in 2005 over 2004.

RESOLUTION #9
Christian Holiness

WHEREAS, being untainted by the sin and corruption of the world, and having in His Being all righteousness and perfect purity, God is holy; and

WHEREAS, those who have trusted Jesus Christ as Savior and therefore follow Him as Lord are His people; and

WHEREAS, God has invested His name in His people and has called us to be holy like Him; and

WHEREAS, God has chosen to reveal His holiness to the world through us; and

WHEREAS, if our marriages do not endure trials and persevere, if we and our youth do not abstain from sexual activity outside the bond of marriage, and if our relationships within and without congregations are not guided by peace then we are not holy; and

WHEREAS, if we are ruled by carnal habit, and behaviors such as gluttony, the recreational use of drugs or alcohol, or participation in any product of the sexual industry, and if we are entertained by what does not delight our Heavenly Father, we are not holy; and

WHEREAS, if we do not spend time daily alone with God in prayer and in reading His Word, if we do not daily confess and forsake our sins, and if we do not daily seek His will to the neglect of our own, then we are not holy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, meeting in Plano, Texas, October 25-26, 2004, humble ourselves before our Creator and Redeemer, to acknowledge that we are not holy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we repent of our sins, confessing them to God and forsaking them in practice, pleading with God for the transformation which will come from the person and power of His resurrection through our brokenness; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we are committed to living out God's holiness in our culture so that those without Christ may see Him and begin to see what cannot be had in this world without Him.