

**Resolution #1
On Appreciation**

WHEREAS, The messengers to the annual session of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention have enjoyed a time of worship, encouragement, and fellowship; and

WHEREAS, We acknowledge God's providence for all of these blessings; and

WHEREAS, We acknowledge the kind hospitality and generosity of the people of Great Hills Baptist Church to host this convention; and

WHEREAS, We acknowledge the extraordinary commitment, extensive labor, and excellent leadership of Great Hills Baptist Church Pastor Michael Lewis, his church staff, and volunteers; and

WHEREAS, We gratefully acknowledge that other area churches have also extended hospitality and provided volunteer assistance; and

WHEREAS, We also acknowledge the Lord's work in enabling all our officers, various committees, convention speakers, musicians, and other platform personnel to conduct the affairs of this convention with dignity and a Christ-like spirit; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention meeting in Austin, Texas, November 13-14, 2006, express our profound gratitude to the Lord and to all those He used to bring about a meeting characterized by evangelism, worship and encouragement.

**Resolution #2
On the Sufficiency of the Word of God for the Entire Christian Life**

WHEREAS, the Word of God is the divinely inspired revelation of God (2 Timothy 3:16), holy men having been moved by the Holy Spirit to speak the Word of God and write the Bible (2 Peter 1:19-21); and

WHEREAS, the Word of God accomplishes the purposes for which the all-wise God sends it (Isaiah 55:8-11), being a living, active, searching, and judging instrument of God (Hebrews 4:11-13); and

WHEREAS, the Word of God converts souls, makes wise, rejoices hearts, and enlightens eyes (Psalm 19:7-8); moreover, it endures forever, is altogether true and righteous, and is to be desired above all things (Psalm 19:9-10); and

WHEREAS, the Word of God brings warning against human sin and reveals eternal reward (Psalm 19:11-12), having the ability to make one wise unto salvation (2 Timothy 3:15), through the instrument of preaching and its reception by faith (Romans 10:14, 17); and the Word approaches the human heart and mouth through preaching and must itself be internally believed and externally confessed for human salvation (Romans 10:8-10); and

WHEREAS, the Word of God is the only source of wisdom and knowledge that is eternal (Isaiah 40:6-8), that is profitable for teaching, reproving, correcting, and instructing in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16), and that is able to bring completion to pious people, thoroughly equipping them for every work that is good (2 Timothy 3:17); and

WHEREAS, all human forms of wisdom and knowledge are temporary and thus ultimately lack relevance (Isaiah 40:6-7), are corrupted by sin and thus utterly lack righteousness (Isaiah 55:6-7), and are severely limited and thus are unable to redeem (Isaiah 55:8-9); now, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention meeting in Austin, Texas, November 13-14, 2006, calls Texas Southern Baptists to remember that the Word of God alone is relevant, and that the Word

of God establishes the standards by which all forms of human wisdom and knowledge and all aspects of human culture and activity must be judged; and be it further

RESOLVED, we call on Texas Southern Baptists to remember that the Word of God alone is righteous, and that fallen human beings lack righteousness; and be it further

RESOLVED, we encourage Southern Baptists to remember that the Word of God alone is able to redeem sinful human beings, and that they may look nowhere else than to the Bible for the source of redemption; and be it further

RESOLVED, we encourage every Christian home to place the Word of God at the center of its life through daily family worship, private devotions, and personal memorization; and be it further

RESOLVED, we encourage Southern Baptists of Texas Convention churches, every pastor, every Sunday School teacher, and other church leaders to keep the Word of God central in worship, proclamation, discipleship, evangelism, and in any and all methodologies adopted for these ends; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention encourages every missionary and every missionary board to keep the Word of God central in worship, proclamation, discipleship, and evangelism, and in any and all methodologies adopted for these ends; and be it further

RESOLVED, we encourage every Southern Baptist educational institution, including home schools, schools, colleges, universities, and seminaries, to make the Word of God central to their educational goals, entire educational curriculum, and every course's content; and be it further

RESOLVED, we encourage every Southern Baptist engaged in secular education, including public elementary schools, high schools, technical schools, colleges, and universities to present the Word of God constantly, consistently, and compellingly to the lost people with whom they are engaged; and be it further

RESOLVED, we encourage every Southern Baptist engaged in secular commerce, whether as an employer or employee or as a seller or Buyer of goods or as a provider or recipient of services, to present the Word of God constantly, consistently, and compellingly to the lost people with whom they are engaged; and be it further

RESOLVED, we encourage every Christian voter and every Christian magistrate to make their decisions with regard to the making, execution, and judgment of laws based upon and under the authority of the Word of God, and therefore with the highest regard for universal religious liberty; and be it finally

RESOLVED, in summary, that the totality of the Christian life, corporately and individually, in the family, in the church, and in the broader society, must be based upon, focused upon, and have as its goal the proclamation of, the Word of God.

Resolution #3 On *Glossolalia* and Private Prayer Languages

WHEREAS, The Bible remains the standard by which we should judge all doctrines, and only the books of Mark, Acts, and 1 Corinthians directly address the doctrine of *glossolalia*, or "speaking with tongues"; and

WHEREAS, In Mark 16:17-18, Jesus prophesied that, among other signs intended to verify the gospel, the disciples would also "speak with new tongues"; and

WHEREAS, In Acts, our Lord's prophecy was fulfilled primarily at Pentecost, when the disciples "began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (2:4), indicating that they spoke publicly to people who understood those languages (2:6); that they spoke publicly in languages they had not learned (2:7); that they communicated meaningfully the gospel (2:11); and, that the intent of this sign was to focus

attention upon Peter's invitation to believe in the crucified and resurrected Jesus as both Christ and Lord (2:22, 33); and

WHEREAS, Also in Acts, our Lord's prophecy was again fulfilled at the major turning points in the advance of the gospel and only at those points, in order to proclaim the Gospel and verify that the followers of John the Baptist became Christians, and that Gentiles became Christians (10:46, 19:6); and

WHEREAS, In 1 Corinthians, Paul confronted the Corinthians who had been once led by meaningless idols to curse Christ, but were now led by the Holy Spirit to confess Jesus Christ as Lord (12:2-3); and

WHEREAS, Also in 1 Corinthians, the various spiritual gifts were public in nature, being intended for the common good (12:7), to be practiced in love towards others (13:8), and to edify the church (14:4, "He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church." and 14:12, "Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church."); and

WHEREAS, Also in 1 Corinthians, among the spiritual gifts, tongues were not given to every Christian (12:30); tongues were the least desirable of the gifts (12:31); and, tongues must be interpreted in order to be allowed in public worship (14:27-28); and

WHEREAS, Also in 1 Corinthians, the public and intelligible proclamation of the gospel so that lost people might be saved is the church's primary concern (14:1-3, 24-25; cf. Matthew 28:19-20, the Great Commission); and

WHEREAS, Also in 1 Corinthians, Paul warned against the pagan practice of tongues (12:2); because it was unintelligible (14:13-14); because it did not edify others (14:6-12, 16-17); and, because it was incapable of proclaiming the gospel to the lost (14:21-23); and

WHEREAS, Proponents of the modern practice of private prayer languages appeal to passages wherein *glossolalia* is not explicitly considered by the biblical writers (Romans 12:6; Ephesians 5:18-20, 6:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:19; Jude 20); and

WHEREAS, Some conservative Texas Southern Baptists affirm that certain spiritual gifts have ceased to be necessary, because the apostolic witness is now canonized in the New Testament (Hebrews 2:3-4); and

WHEREAS, Other conservative Texas Southern Baptists are cautiously open to the continuation of spiritual gifts, but are extremely wary of sanctioning modern practices as biblical; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention meeting in Austin, Texas, November 13-14, 2006, declare that Southern Baptists in Texas typically believe that the modern practice of private prayer languages lacks a tangible foundation in Scripture; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we are opposed to unscriptural teaching relating to speaking in tongues, whether such speech be done in private or public; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention not knowingly to employ consultants and ministry staff who participate in or promote views or practices contrary to the position described herein; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage all Southern Baptists to be patient, kind, and loving toward one another (1 Corinthians 13:4-8) regarding this ancillary theological issue, which ought not to constitute a test of fellowship; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we encourage all Southern Baptists to refocus their attention upon the public and intelligible proclamation of the saving gospel of Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the divine Trinity, Who

became a man, died on the cross, and arose from the dead, so that those who believe in Him may have eternal and abundant life.

Resolution #4
On Alcohol Use in America

WHEREAS, Years of research confirm biblical warnings that alcohol use leads to physical, mental, and emotional damage; and

WHEREAS, God's inerrant Word says in Proverbs 23:29-35, "Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder. Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things. Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again"; and

WHEREAS, In 1 Corinthians 6:19, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"; and

WHEREAS, Alcohol use has led to countless injuries and deaths in our nation; and

WHEREAS, The breakup of many families and homes can be directly and indirectly attributed to alcohol use by one or more members of a family; and

WHEREAS, The use of alcohol as a recreational beverage has been shown to lead individuals down a path of addiction to alcohol and toward the abuse of other kinds of drugs, both legal and illegal; and

WHEREAS, There are some religious leaders who are now advocating the consumption of alcoholic beverages based on a misinterpretation of the doctrine of "our freedom in Christ"; and

WHEREAS, The messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina, June 13-14, 2006, expressed their total opposition to the manufacturing, advertising, distributing, and consuming of alcoholic beverages; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention meeting in Austin, Texas, November 13-14, 2006, express our total opposition to the manufacturing, advertising, distributing, and consuming of alcoholic beverages; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we urge that no one be elected to serve as a trustee or member of any board or committee of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention that is a user of alcoholic beverages; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we urge Southern Baptists to take an active role in supporting legislation that is intended to curb alcohol use in our communities and nation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we urge Southern Baptists to be actively involved in educating students and adults concerning the destructive nature of alcoholic beverages; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we commend organizations and ministries that treat alcohol-related problems from a biblical perspective and promote abstinence and encourage local churches to begin and/or support such biblically-based ministries.

**Resolution #5
On Immigration**

WHEREAS, The Bible commands us that “every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities” (Romans 13:1, NASB); and

WHEREAS, At the borders of the United States of America security is so porous and inconsistent as to have permitted millions of illegal immigrants to gain residence within our country; and

WHEREAS, The preamble of the Constitution of the United States of America lists among the founding purposes of our federal government to “establish justice” and to “provide for the common defense”; and

WHEREAS, Immigration into the United States without the permission of our federal government is a crime; and

WHEREAS, The vast majority of immigrants into the United States of America wish no harm to our country or its citizens but merely wish to improve their lives by taking advantage of the opportunities offered here; and

WHEREAS, Even in our personal quests to provide for our families and seek God’s blessing we are all under obligation to obey the law; and

WHEREAS, It is the government’s responsibility to enforce the law and the churches’ responsibility to minister the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ to all people; and

WHEREAS, The Bible commands God’s people that “the stranger who resides with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself” (Leviticus 19:34, NASB); and

WHEREAS, The presence of immigrants in the United States of America represents a God-given opportunity to preach the gospel to all nations; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention meeting in Austin, Texas, November 13-14, 2006, hereby request that the Congress of the United States of America in its next legislative session adopt with regard to our nation’s immigration laws a comprehensive set of reforms that embody biblical justice and mercy while vigilantly protecting the sovereignty and security of our nation’s borders; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we request that the Government of the United States of America better coordinate the work of the various governmental agencies involved in order to respond consistently and effectively in the enforcement of immigration laws; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage all employers to obey the law in their hiring practices; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage Southern Baptist churches to cultivate opportunities to minister to immigrants in times of need, to offer classes in English as a Second Language, to help immigrants in their pursuit of legal residency or citizenship, and to demonstrate the love of Christ to all those residing in our communities; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we encourage Southern Baptist churches to obey the Great Commission by redeeming every opportunity to present the gospel of Jesus Christ to the immigrants whom God has brought into our communities.

Resolution #6
On Wal-Mart Company Policy

WHEREAS, Wal-Mart was founded on Christian principles by Sam Walton; and

WHEREAS, Texas Southern Baptists and their children have for many years shopped and trusted the Wal-Mart stores for their family-values image, pro-family roots, children friendly environment, family literature, and money-saving values to families; and

WHEREAS, The virtues promoted by Wal-Mart stores have contributed to the development of a generation of Texans who have come to expect and demand high levels of moral and virtuous leadership from the Wal-Mart stores; and

WHEREAS, Recently, the Wal-Mart corporate officers have made it appear that the promotion of homosexuality is more important than their historic commitment to traditional family values and have taken a direction which is contrary to its previous commitment; apparently so that they may leave the south and expand into the urban areas; and

WHEREAS, Wal-Mart has entered into a partnership with the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce; the company “is making a very sincere effort to reach out to people who are a significant part of our customer base,” Wal-Mart corporate office said; and

WHEREAS, In recent years we have watched the world’s largest family-value supermarket with growing disappointment as Wal-Mart store’s moral leadership has been eroded by a variety of corporate decisions, which have included but are not limited to:

1. High publicized partnership with the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce in which Wal-Mart will pay the chamber \$25,000 a year for sponsorship of events and initiatives and has agreed to conduct workshops for homosexual business owners on how to break into the Wal-Mart supplier ranks; and
2. Wal-Mart promotes its alliance with homosexual groups along with other minority groups on a webpage devoted to diversity. Among a list of minority groups including African Americans, Asians, women and Hispanics is a subheading called “Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender.” The groups listed under this category are the Human Rights Campaign, National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, Out & Equal [Workplace Advocates]; and
3. The Point Foundation, a national scholarship fund that “provides financial support, mentoring and hope to meritorious students who are marginalized due to sexual orientation, gender expression or gender identity.” and
4. Some books sold by Wal-Mart promote “gay marriage.” Among the titles have been: “*What God Has Joined Together: The Christian Case for Gay Marriage.*” “*Gay Marriage: Why it is Good for Gays, Good for Straights, and Good for America,*” “*Why Marriage Matters: America, Equality, and Gay People’s Right to Marry*” and “*Gay Marriage, Real Life: Ten Stories of Love and Family.*” and

WHEREAS, These and other corporate decisions and actions represent a significant departure from Wal-Mart’s Christian, family-values image, and a gratuitous insult to Christians and others who have long supported and traded with Wal-Mart and contributed to its corporate profits; and

WHEREAS, Though we cannot impose Christian ethics or morals on people who do not know Christ, the Word of God says to believers in 2 Corinthians 6:14 [NIV] “Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?” Also in 2 Corinthians 6:17 [NIV] “Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord”; and

WHEREAS, Boycotts are a legitimate method for communicating moral convictions; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, We as Southern Baptists of Texas Convention messengers meeting in annual session on November 13-14, 2006, go on record expressing our deep disappointment for these corporate actions by the Wal-Mart stores; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we affirm the employees of the Wal-Mart stores who embrace and share our concerns; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage Texas Southern Baptists to give serious prayerful reconsideration to their purchases and support of Wal-Mart stores in light of this anti-Christian and anti-family trend; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we encourage the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention to monitor Wal-Mart's progress in returning to its previous philosophy of family-values image, pro-family roots, children friendly environment, family literature, and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage our *Southern Baptist TEXAN* newspaper of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention continue to assist in informing our Texas Southern Baptist family of these issues; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Convention requests the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention President Steve Swofford to send a copy of this resolution to H. Lee Scott, Jr., President & CEO, the Wal-Mart stores; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we encourage the Texas Southern Baptist families to reflect biblical values with their purchasing power, letters, and influence.

**Resolution #7
On North Korea**

WHEREAS, North Korea is one of the most repressive regimes in the world with a history of belligerence, terrorist bombings, human rights abuses and missile proliferation; and

WHEREAS, The North Korean government on October 9, 2006, issued an announcement that it had successfully conducted a nuclear test; and

WHEREAS, North Korea's nuclear test threatens to set off an arms race; and

WHEREAS, North Korea is one of the major weapons suppliers to rogue nations committed to destabilizing the world; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the 2006 Southern Baptists of Texas Convention meeting in Austin, Texas, November 13-14, 2006, strongly urge the United States government and all nations concerned about peace in our world to address decisively the provocative actions of North Korea; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we clearly state that human rights and religious freedom issues must be addressed in any negotiations with North Korea; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we pray for courageous determination guided by godly wisdom for those involved in negotiations with the North Korean government.

Resolution #8
On the Cooperative Program

WHEREAS, The messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Memphis, Tennessee, May 14-15, 1925, shaped the modern Southern Baptist Convention by adopting *The Baptist Faith & Message* as "those articles of the Christian faith which are most surely held among us" and the Cooperative Program as our plan for funding convention ministries, forever linking these two pillars of Southern Baptist life; and

WHEREAS, The Cooperative Program as originally envisioned by its founders anticipated strong, sacrificial support from Southern Baptist churches; and

WHEREAS, The founders of the Cooperative Program, by making the state conventions the collecting agents of the plan, awarded to them the enviable position of being first to handle Cooperative Program funds, asking in return only that they affirm the goal of forwarding half of their Cooperative Program receipts through the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention to fund national and international causes; and

WHEREAS, The Cooperative Program remains the best system known for reducing inter-agency competition, practicing good denominational stewardship, involving churches large and small in cooperative missions, and reaching the world for Christ; and

WHEREAS, Recent years have witnessed a decline in sacrificial adherence to this plan both among some Southern Baptist churches and among some state conventions; and

WHEREAS, The messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina, June 13-14, 2006, called for Southern Baptists to "utilize the 2006 state convention meetings to launch statewide emphases on and celebration of the Cooperative Program"; and

WHEREAS, We joyously observe the recent revival of interest in the Cooperative Program, including some local churches that have increased Cooperative Program giving and some sister state conventions that have increased the percentage of Cooperative Program funds that they forward to national and international causes; and

WHEREAS, Both the urgency of our task and our opportunity to accomplish it are greater today than ever before; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention meeting in Austin, Texas, November 13-14, 2006, verbalize our continued commitment to forwarding 54% of our Cooperative Program receipts through the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention to fund national and international causes; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we jealously affirm the responsibility of autonomous local churches to discern God's plan for their financial involvement in the Great Commission and to expect doctrinal orthodoxy from the recipients of Cooperative Program funds; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we believe sacrificial support of the Cooperative Program to constitute a significant and integral part of being Southern Baptist; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we exhort our sister churches in the Southern Baptist Convention and especially in the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention to join in our commitment to increased funding of the Lord's work through the Cooperative Program.

Resolution #9
On The Conflict in Western Sudanese Region of Darfur

WHEREAS, A civil conflict erupted in the western Sudanese region of Darfur in early 2003 between rebel groups and the Sudanese government-backed militias called Janjaweed; and is still raging today; and

WHEREAS, This conflict, according to recent estimates, has resulted in the deaths of 400,000 people, 2.5 million displaced from their homes and communities and 3.5 million persons living in starvation; and

WHEREAS, Atrocities committed against the people of Darfur include, but are not limited to, murder, rape, torture, beatings, mutilations, and genocide; and

WHEREAS, Respected international observers place the blame for the abuses primarily on the Janjaweed and their practice of ethnic cleansing; and

WHEREAS, Some of the rebel groups who have been fighting against the Janjaweed are rejecting efforts to bring a peaceful settlement to the conflict; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Richard Land, president of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention is an initiating endorser of The Evangelicals for Darfur Coalition; and

WHEREAS, The Evangelicals for Darfur Coalition [www.evangelicalsfordarfur.org] have organized and has run full-page advertisements on October 18, 2006, in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post* and *USA Today*, calling on President George W. Bush to jumpstart the process of dispatching United Nations peacekeepers to the war-torn Darfur region of Sudan; and

WHEREAS, We wish to thank President George W. Bush for the interest and earnest work that he is doing to put more pressure on the international community to intervene and save these people of Darfur; and

WHEREAS, The Sudanese government has accepted a peace-keeping force from the African Union but has repeatedly declined to accept a force of 10,000 United Nations peacekeepers to bring about a cessation of hostilities and provide the stability necessary for safe food distribution, humanitarian relief, and development activities; and

WHEREAS, The Lord in Proverbs 24:11-12 [NIV], commands us to “*Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. If you say ‘But we knew nothing about this,’ does not He who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not He who guards your life know it? Will He not repay each person according to what he has done?*” now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Southern Baptist of Texas Convention meeting in Austin, Texas, November 13-14, 2006, commend the President of the United States, George W. Bush, and the United States government for steadfastly pursuing a resolution to this humanitarian crisis; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage the Khartoum government and President, General Omar al-Bashir, to disband and disarm the Janjaweed militias, and allow the United Nations peace-keeping force unlimited access to the Darfur region to secure the peace in the region; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we plead with the rebel groups to cease their hostilities and work toward a peaceful settlement to the conflict in Darfur; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we urge the international community to provide food, water, and international development assistance to the people of the Darfur region of Sudan and to help bring an end to this horror.