## **Opposition to Religious Monopoly**

WHEREAS the National Council of Churches and its affiliates on the state and local levels have increasingly attempted to dominate Protestantism in America, opposing historical Christianity by monopolizing the media of public communications such as television and radio in religious programs, the control of zoning in commissions in local communities, in order to make impossible the construction of church buildings by congregations that are not in the framework of the National Council; and

WHEREAS the National Council has knowingly attempted to deceive the public with the propaganda that it is the voice of Protestantism in America; and

WHEREAS the Scriptures clearly teach that each congregation of Christians is independent and self-governing; and

WHEREAS Baptists have historically championed the principles of soul liberty for the individual Christian;

THEREFORE the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches meeting in 27th Annual Conference, May 12–16, 1958, in Columbus, Ohio, declares itself opposed to the monopolistic trend which threatens to destroy vital Christian principles, and reaffirms its position on independence of the local church, and calls upon all liberty loving Christians to join in withstanding this encroachment upon Christian liberty.

May 12-16, 1958 Columbus, Ohio