

Depression, Hardship, and Need for a National Day of Prayer

Minutes of the Convocation of Regular Baptists held in the Belden Avenue Baptist Church, Chicago, Illinois, May 15–18, 1932

The first business session was held Monday afternoon, May 16, at 4:00 o'clock, at which time Dr. J. E. Conant of Illinois called to our attention the drastic financial and industrial conditions of the times, and he suggested that a resolution be drafted and sent to the President of the United States, urging that he call the people of the United States to observe a day of humiliation and prayer. Dr. Conant was requested to draw up such a resolution and present it to the assembly at a later session.

WHEREAS the economic depression which is upon our country is causing such serious and apparently increasing suffering to millions as to be reaching the proportions of a national calamity; and

WHEREAS the precedent has already been established in other times of national crisis and distress, notably humiliation, penitence and prayer to God, by Divine intervention, to relieve the distress;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the convocation of Regular Baptist Churches meeting in the City of Chicago, May 15–18, 1932, respectfully petition the honorable President of the United States, in concurrence with the honorable Body of Congress, to designate at an early date a weekday on which, in recognition of our dependence upon Almighty God, the people of this nation shall be exhorted to gather in their respective churches, humbly to confess and repent of our sins, and to pray for the success of those measures of relief that are in harmony with His Divine Will.

*Passed unanimously May 18, 1932
Belden Avenue Baptist Church
Chicago, Illinois
May 15–18, 1932*