

Biblical Interpretation

WHEREAS there has been and continues to be a tendency in our culture at large toward subjective experience as the foundation for truth; and

WHEREAS there is a present tendency within the church (among both Charismatics and non-Charismatics) in which personal and subjective revelation appears to have equal weight with the objective divine revelation of the Bible; and

WHEREAS some current interpretative emphases are resulting in a hermeneutical and theological shift;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that we, the messengers of the churches in fellowship with the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, meeting for our 64th Annual Conference in Toledo, Ohio, on June 24–28, 1995, affirm our conviction that the objective written Word of God is the sole authority for the work of the Church and the lives of individual Christians; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Bible can and must be interpreted in a literal or normal way in which the grammatical, historical, and theological contexts of each passage are to be considered with the entire Scripture; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that literal interpretation of the Bible leads to a belief in the pretribulational rapture of the Church, the premillennial coming of Christ to establish a literal, political millennial kingdom, and a clear distinction between the ethnic nation of Israel and the spiritual entity which is the Church.

*Toledo, Ohio
June 24-28, 1995*