

U.S. Supreme Court and Prayer

WHEREAS the U.S. Supreme Court has further undermined the religious freedom of American citizens by ruling on June 24, 1992, that prayers offered at public school graduations mentioning the term "God" constitute a violation of the separation of church and state; and

WHEREAS this ruling demonstrates a consistent pattern of hostility toward the religious freedom that formed the foundation of the American republic; and

WHEREAS prayer is, as Justice Antonin Scalia wrote in his dissenting opinion, "a tradition that is as old as public school graduation ceremonies"; and

WHEREAS people of faith are commanded to be people of prayer ("Pray without ceasing" 1 Thessalonians 5:17);

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that we, the messengers of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, meeting in Annual Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 22-26, 1992, express our moral outrage at this deplorable action by the Supreme Court in that the Court has further contributed to the secularizing of American culture under the guise of the separation of the church and state; that we support Justice Scalia's emphasis upon our great tradition of recognizing God in our public life; and that we pledge ourselves to engage aggressively in such preaching, teaching, exhortation, political action, and training our children that God might use us as agents of change to restore America to its Judeo-Christian roots.

*Milwaukee, Wisconsin
June 22-26, 1992*