

Resolution on Racism

WHEREAS the Lord has created all people, male and female, in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27); and

WHEREAS the Lord, without respect of persons, has redeemed individuals out of “every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation” (Acts 10:34, 35; Revelation 5:9); and

WHEREAS all believers are commanded to love God and love their neighbor (Matthew 22:37-40); and

WHEREAS the sin of racism is a violation of these commands, and continues to be present in America’s social fabric, represented and expressed by, but not limited to groups such as Neo-Nazis, White Supremacists, Ku Klux Klan, Antifa, CAIR, and certain leaders of Black Lives Matter, as well as in individuals of every ethnicity in the world; and

WHEREAS the sin of racism is ultimately a lack of love and grace, while displaying pride and ethnic superiority, and can be a viewpoint or worldview easily held by an individual; and

WHEREAS the use of violence, indiscriminate attacks, fear tactics, thuggery, vandalism, as well as responses in like kind to wrongs experienced at the hands of violent people leads to further division and social upheaval; and

WHEREAS the current climate of social unrest is a result of spiritually dark forces at work in this world (Ephesians 6:10-12); and

WHEREAS the only solution to growing anger, unrest, and unloving responses among different groups within the fabric of American society is the gospel of peace of Jesus Christ (Romans 10:13-18; Ephesians 6:15).

Be it therefore resolved that we, the messengers of the churches in fellowship with the Pennsylvania Association of Regular Baptist Churches, meeting at the First Baptist Church in Elimsport, PA, on September 11-13, 2017, do hereby affirm and proclaim that the gospel message is a message of grace and reconciliation (Ephesians 2:11-22; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21), and is the only hope for overcoming anger, pride, bitterness and hatred between people.

Be it therefore further resolved that we will encourage our churches within the Fellowship to be intentional in proclaiming the gospel to all peoples that God has placed around them (Acts 1:8).

Be it therefore further resolved that we will encourage our churches and individuals to pray regularly for revival in our land, so that the gospel might impact our society, bringing greater reconciliation among the people of our country.

Be it therefore further resolved that we will encourage our churches and individuals to repent of any racism, pride, or anger, to disavow and repudiate the philosophies of any group which promote hate or ethnic superiority of one group against another.