

# Bible Presbyterian Observer

OCTOBER, 1955

2143 No. Ballas Rd. « St. Louis 22, Mo.

No. 1

## The Session's Resolution

Whereas a few of the brethren of our Synod have disagreed with the actions of the 18th General Synod of the Bible Presbyterian Church and now regularly publish articles attacking the activities of this Synod, and

Whereas we believe that the publication of this misinformation and the activities of these men will disrupt the peace and unity of our church, and

Whereas we believe the actions of the 18th General Synod are in accord with the Constitution of the Bible Presbyterian Church and with historic Presbyterian principles,

It is therefore resolved that we, the Session and Pastor of the First Bible Presbyterian Church of St. Louis, Mo., endeavor to publish facts, documents, and articles intended to preserve and strengthen the unity of the Bible Presbyterian Church.

We will gladly list with our names the names of any Bible Presbyterians who, feeling of like mind with us, choose to use this medium to express their convictions.

Signed:

T. R. Barker  
L. P. Bradley  
W. E. Davis  
P. W. Edwards  
E. N. Franks  
O. A. Gerstung  
R. A. Heist  
H. N. Johnson  
K. R. Lindley  
R. C. Roberts  
D. J. MacNair, Moderator.



## THIS WE BELIEVE!

1. "Under the name of Holy Scripture, or the Word of God written, are now contained all the books of the Old and New Testaments, which are these: Genesis, . . . The Revelation. All which are given by inspiration of God, to be the rule of faith and life." (W.C.F., Ch. I, Paragraph II.)

2. "The visible Church, which is also catholic or universal under the gospel (not confined to one nation, as before under the law), consists of all those throughout the world, that profess the true religion, together with their children; and is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, the house and family of God, out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation." (W. C. F., Chapter XXV, Paragraph II.)

3. "It belongeth to synods and councils, ministerially, to determine controversies of faith, and cases of conscience; to set down rules and directions for the better ordering of the public worship of God, and government of his Church; . . ." (W. C. F., Chapter XXXI, Paragraph IIa.)

4. "The Bible Presbyterian Church declares itself to be a branch of the catholic visible Church of Christ and further declares its willingness to hold Christian fellowship with all other such branches of the church." (F. of G., Ch. 2, Paragraph 4.)

4. "Believing that Synods and Councils as set forth in our Confession of Faith are founded upon and agreeable to the Word of God, and believing further that, when Scripturally conducted, such courts are an aid to the faith and life of the flock of Christ, we authorize the spiritual government of this Church by sessions, presbyteries and synods, which are to be composed only of presbyteries." (F. of G., Ch. 4, Paragraph 3.)

6. "The General Synod may, at its own discretion, set up committees to act as its agents in conducting benevolent, missionary and educational enterprises, or it may commend to the churches, for their support, other such Christian enterprises." (F. of G., Ch. 10, Paragraph 6.)

7. The National Missions Committee of the Bible Presbyterian Synod, and the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions are illustrations, respectively, of two kinds of organizations authorized by our Constitution (see No. 6). We believe both have been blessed of God, and we take opportunity to praise God for both and wait on Him to continue to bless both.

8. We believe that the adoption of No. 6 above by our church leads us to assume a duty of prayer and support toward any agency organized and directed by us or recommended by us.

9. We believe that with the adoption of No. 6 above by our church we are identified with any agency organized and directed by us or recommended by us and consequently are represented by the said agency.

10. We believe that, since we are responsible before God for our own church's testimony, we are consequently responsible for the effect borne upon our testimony by the actions of any agency with which we are identified, whether independently directed or Synod directed.

11. We believe that the implications to pray and support along with the implication to be responsible for our testimony must be maintained with Christ-like grace and steadfastness. Under no circumstances may we overlook the responsibilities connected with these implications.