

Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

WHEREAS Dr. C. I. Scofield penned the little booklet, “Rightly Dividing The Word Of Truth,” in 1896 as he saw an increase in a blurring of the distinctions that had been part of historic Bible Christianity, and

WHEREAS the hermeneutic for interpreting the Scriptures was changing to conform to a method of interpretation that allowed for human rationalization instead of the literal interpretation that had been the norm in Bible Christianity in the early church and was the norm in the interpretation of all human communication, and

WHEREAS the religious landscape of today is increasingly characterized by those who have abandoned the literal, historical, grammatical and contextual interpretation of Scripture to follow a more allegorical and rationalistic approach, and

WHEREAS modern religious leaders have turned to seeking the desires of the people in their communities in order to determine the kinds of church they will lead, what kinds of programs they will offer, and what doctrines they will teach and practice, and

WHEREAS this method influences not only the programs that are used to “reach” people through the church, but it also influences the doctrines that are practiced, taught, and how they are interpreted from Scripture.

THEREFORE, we the messengers of the Pennsylvania Association of Regular Baptist Churches, meeting in Hope Baptist Church of Hanover, PA on September 12-14, 2011, do hereby reaffirm our commitment to the literal, historical, grammatical, and contextual interpretation of the Word of God.

WE AFFIRM that the Scriptures themselves assert that we can understand the Word of God and that we can trust it for life, doctrine, and practice (Joshua 1:18; Psalm 119:9, 65, 89, 105, 160; John 17:17; 2 Tim. 3:16-17), and

WE FURTHER AFFIRM that our practices, theology, and philosophies of ministry and life must come from the Word of God and not from the pens of Christian celebrities, or the “itching ears” of people in the communities or in the pew.

We exhort every believer to be a student of the Word of God so that they “Rightly Divide The Word of Truth,” and live in obedience to the written Word of God, and in fellowship with the Living Word, our Savior Jesus Christ.