

Reaction to the Terrorist Attacks of September 11

On September 11, 2001, our nation suffered a great tragedy in which nearly 3,000 people lost their lives through terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. This tragedy impacted not only the United States of America but also the entire world, leading to an international war against terrorism.

The attacks triggered a national emergency and international mourning along with confusion and distress while thrusting many into heroic roles of physical and spiritual service.

Though we grieve over our losses, God used these attacks to awaken a new sense of American patriotism and dependence upon God.

Terrorism has resulted in the capture, retention, and death of others around the world, including the death of Martin Burnham and wounding of the Gracia Burnham, missionaries to the Philippines.

This war may have continuing impact on mission work throughout the world.

In light of these attacks, we, the messengers of the churches in fellowship with the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, meeting for our 71st Annual Conference in Cedarville, Ohio, June 24–28, 2002, resolve to:

1. Express our thanks to God for His faithfulness to our nation throughout this crisis;
2. Express our appreciation to President Bush for his leadership through this national crisis;
3. Express our appreciation for all the individuals and organizations who risked, and in many cases, gave their lives to help during the crisis;
4. Commend Col. John Murdoch and our GARBC chaplains for their steadfast service in the emergency and conflict zones;
5. Express appreciation to Dr. David Crandall and Gospel Literature Services for their rapid response in providing resources for churches and individuals to use throughout the crisis;
6. Commend Dr. David Gower and *The Baptist Bulletin* team for their insightful and diligent reporting of God's working through this tragedy.

WE FURTHER RESOLVE to commit ourselves to fervent prayer for our nation and its leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-3) and to encourage all U.S. Christian citizens everywhere to pursue a continuing revival of American patriotism and a genuine spiritual awakening as we reflect on this event.

*Cedarville, OH
June 24-28, 2002*