

1 RESOLUTION 2

2 Concerns Regarding the General Council Position Paper Titled  
3 “The Doctrine of Creation” as Adopted August of 2010  
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the leadership and deliberative body of the AG Kansas District  
6 Council in session appreciates the scholarship and diligence that produced the  
7 current position paper titled *The Doctrine of Creation* that declares many positive,  
8 orthodox truths which need no adjustment; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the current position paper contains this particularly concerning  
10 portion that may bring the validity of the whole document into question,

11 *“The advance of scientific research, particularly in the last few centuries,*  
12 *has raised many questions about the interpretation of the Genesis accounts of*  
13 *creation. In attempting to reconcile the Bible and the theories and conclusions of*  
14 *contemporary scientists, it should be remembered that the creation accounts do*  
15 *not give precise details as to how God went about His creative activity. Nor do*  
16 *these accounts provide us with complete chronologies that enable us to date*  
17 *with precision the time of the various stages of creation. Similarly, the findings*  
18 *of science are constantly expanding; the accepted theories of one generation are*  
19 *often revised in the next.*

20 *As a result, equally devout Christian believers have formed very different*  
21 *opinions about the age of the earth, the age of humankind, and the ways in*  
22 *which God went about the creative processes. Given the limited information*  
23 *available in Scripture, it does not seem wise to be overly dogmatic about any*  
24 *particular creation theory. We urge all sincere and conscientious believers to*

25 *adhere to what the Bible plainly teaches and to avoid divisiveness over*  
26 *debatable theories of creation.”* Position paper, page four, section titled  
27 *Theories of Creation;* and

28 **WHEREAS**, the AG Kansas District leadership has received multiple inquiries  
29 of concern from thoughtful and articulate members of our district family regarding  
30 this current position paper; and

31 **WHEREAS**, the AG Kansas Board recognizes the concerns of these ministers  
32 as valid and worthy of General Council efforts to reconsider and review the  
33 document, particularly the implications of statements from the page four segment;  
34 and

35 **WHEREAS**, the current paper avoids correcting believers who may embrace  
36 theories that contradict the doctrine of “The Fall of Man” – Holding to any “creation”  
37 theory that indicates directly or implies indirectly that death entered earths  
38 ecological system prior to the presence of human sin contradicts Genesis 3 and our  
39 published statements should challenge and correct such contradictory belief; and

40 **WHEREAS**, evolutionary theory depends on a very old earth (billions of years)  
41 but Genesis clearly displays God orchestrating age into His creation – He created  
42 vegetation, air, land, and sea creatures with the appearance and benefit of “age” for  
43 immediate use. God created Adam and Eve as mature people, not pre-pubescent,  
44 but capable at once of responsible work in the Garden and of sexual reproduction; and

45 **WHEREAS**, our position paper should clarify such biblically sustainable  
46 truths and challenge sincere believers who attempt unnecessarily to reconcile  
47 evolutionary theory with Genesis Truth; and

48           **WHEREAS**, our General Council is best served by a continuing policy of valid  
49 review and continuous improvement for strengthening Position Papers to reflect  
50 consistently on our overall view of Scripture; and

51           **WHEREAS**, the General Council desires to maintain global leadership in  
52 upholding a strict view and attitude supporting accuracy whenever the Bible  
53 addresses any topic – incidentally, by logical extension or specifically – whether  
54 theological, scientific, or any other topic; therefore, be it

55           **RESOLVED**, that the AG Kansas District Council in session, April 2011,  
56 forward for consideration by the General Council in session the essence of this  
57 resolution including the following specific resolutions:

58           Therefore, be it resolved that the General Council in session direct the  
59 Executive Leadership (Superintendent and his Team) to:

60           1. Appoint a new study committee to address the concerns  
61 generated by the current position paper titled “The Doctrine of Creation”  
62 (Adopted by the General Presbytery in session August 9-11, 2010.) The  
63 committee membership shall include one or two scholarly proponents of  
64 scientific creationism.

65           2. Remove from the official website (as soon as practical) the  
66 current position paper titled “The Doctrine of Creation,” and repost the  
67 original 1977 position paper also titled “The Doctrine of Creation,” until  
68 completion and submission of the revised position paper receives  
69 General Presbytery action in 2012.

70                   3. Utilize electronic and any other means they deem proper to  
71                   notify the General Council at large regarding said action of the General  
72                   Presbytery.

73

74   *Submitted by The AG Kansas District Board, in session February 2011*