

30 (WCF 25.3); and, that “*The purest Churches under heaven are subject both to mixture and error; and some*
31 *have so degenerated, as to become no Churches of Christ, but synagogues of Satan. Nevertheless, there shall be*
32 *always a Church on earth, to worship God according to His will*” (WCF 25.5); and

33 **WHEREAS** Elders in particular, and all faithful Christians in general, have a sacred duty to expel
34 from the Church all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God’s Word; and both privately
35 and openly to call upon and encourage others to do the same⁹; and

36 **WHEREAS** the Holy Scriptures teach that heresies will come so those who are genuine believers
37 will be manifested, and false professors and heretics exposed (1 Corinthians 11:9)¹⁰; and

38 **WHEREAS Harold Camping**, President and co-founder of Family Stations, Inc. having gained
39 notoriety by wrongly predicting the return of Christ in September 1994¹¹; has, since 2001, openly
40 taught, contrary to the Holy Scriptures, that *the king in the churches is Satan*¹²; that *the Church age is*
41 *over*¹³; that, *in obedience to God, Christians should depart from their churches*¹⁴, and *retreat into home*
42 *fellowship groups where there are no officers*¹⁵, *no discipline*¹⁶, and *the sacraments of Baptism and Holy*
43 *Communion are merely ceremonial ordinances that have passed away*¹⁷; and

44 **WHEREAS** Mr. Camping's false teaching has caused numerous individuals to depart from God-
45 centered, Christ-oriented, and Bible-believing churches¹⁸; and

46 **WHEREAS** since 1956 Family Stations, Inc. has carried doctrinally sound programming, as a
47 result of which many faithful Christians listen to Family Stations, Inc. and have a high degree of
48 confidence in the teaching heard there, possibly causing them uncritically to accept whatever
49 teaching is broadcast; and

50 **WHEREAS** several ministries have withdrawn their programs from Family Radio because their
51 broadcasts were edited so they would not contradict Camping’s teaching on the Church¹⁹; and

52 **WHEREAS** Family Stations, Inc. affiliates within the geographic boundaries of the Chesapeake
53 Presbytery carry Mr. Camping's teachings, potentially exposing members within our presbytery
54 to those teachings through the regular broadcast media²⁰, as well as by short-wave radio, and the
55 internet²¹;

⁹ *As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine, nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith.* (1 Timothy 1:3-4, ESV); and *As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.* (Titus 3:10-11, ESV); *Declare these things; exhort and rebuke with all authority. Let no one disregard you.* (Titus 2:15, ESV); *He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.* (Titus 1:9, ESV); *preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.* (2 Timothy 4:2, ESV); *As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear.* (1 Timothy 5:20, ESV)

¹⁰ *But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.* (2 Peter 2:1, ESV); and *for there must be factions among you in order that those who are genuine among you may be recognized.* (1 Corinthians 11:19, ESV)

¹¹ Harold Camping. 1994. (New York:Vantage Press, 1992), 531. In his book 1994?, Harold Camping stated definitively the return of Christ would occur on or between September 15, 1994 and September 27, 1994.

¹² Harold Camping, *The End of the Church Age...And After* (Oakland, CA: Family Stations, Inc., 2002), 296.

¹³ Camping, *The End of the Church Age*, 83 ff, 311.

¹⁴ Camping, *The End of the Church Age*, 206 ff.

¹⁵ Camping, *The End of the Church Age*, 255.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, 255.

¹⁷ Camping, *The End of the Church Age*, 232 ff.

¹⁸ <http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2002/may21/12.21.html>

¹⁹ <http://www.eastbayexpress.com/gyrobase/quit-your-church/Content?oid=1070870&showFullText=true> – Harold Camping's radio ministry has lost key associates, with the *Back to God Hour*, *Back to the Bible Hour*, and the large satellite network known as *Sky Angel* all pulling out – not only for Camping's divisive comments, but because he has taken to editing any mention of pastors, deacons, or churches out of the programs. Also note Tenth Presbyterian's comments regarding the *The Bible Study Hour*—featuring the teaching of Dr. James Montgomery Boice, http://www.tenth.org/index.php?id=57&tx_xdssermonbase_pi1%5BshowUId%5D=110&cHash=81c7dad468

²⁰ “*Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea.*” (Mk. 9:42, ESV)

²¹ Family Radio, Inc. is affiliated with eBibleFellowship.com

56 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Session of Timonium Presbyterian Church,
57 at its Stated meeting on September 30, 2010, does hereby declare the aforementioned teachings of
58 Mr. Harold Camping to be heretical and contrary to Holy Scripture; and warns believers of the
59 danger of these teachings, inasmuch as they wrest the Scripture to the destruction of the soul, as
60 the Apostle Peter warns in his second Epistle: *“And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as
61 our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, as he does in all his letters
62 when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which
63 the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. You therefore,
64 beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people
65 and lose your own stability.”* (2 Pet. 3:15-17, ESV); and

66 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Session of Timonium Presbyterian Church does hereby
67 rebuke Harold Camping for his faulty hermeneutic²², for his failure to grasp and sustain the true
68 nature of either the local or universal Church²³, and for wrongly stating that the Biblical date for
69 the Rapture will be on May 21, 2011²⁴, and we hereby call upon all believers earnestly to pray that
70 Mr. Harold Camping will repent of and renounce his heretical teachings; who, because of such
71 teachings, has demonstrated himself to be a false teacher (2 Peter 2:1²⁵; Deuteronomy 18:22²⁶); and

72 **BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Session of Timonium Presbyterian Church, in
73 accordance with scriptural admonition, does hereby call upon the members within our presbytery,
74 as well as upon sincere Christians everywhere, to reject the heretical teachings of Mr. Harold
75 Camping, imploring all the faithful to avoid him as the Scriptures command: *“I appeal to you,
76 brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you
77 have been taught; avoid them. For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and
78 by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.”* (Rom. 16:17-18, ESV); and we
79 encourage Christians everywhere to exercise discernment in stewardship by withholding financial
80 support from Harold Camping and Family Stations, Inc.

81 **DONE** in Timonium, Maryland, this 30th day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand
82 ten.

83

84

85 **Passed by unanimous vote of the Session.**

86

²² <http://www.rcus.org/index.php/doctrine/position-papers/263-harold-camping>. Mr. Camping's interpretive method, which includes assertion, proof texts removed from their context, spiritualization, and allegory, undermines the authority of Scripture.

²³ http://www.alliancenet.org/partner/Article_Display_Page/0,,PTID307086_CHID560462_CHID1526032,00.html

²⁴ Camping, *The End of the Church Age*, 24. Harold Camping teaches the Rapture of the true believers on May 21, 2011. After this date, there will be five months of judgment on the unsaved, which will be followed by the total destruction on the last day of this earth's existence on October 21, 2011. Remember, however, Jesus' words, *“And he said, “See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them.”* (Luke 21:8, ESV)

²⁵ *“But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.”* (2 Pet. 2:1, ESV)

²⁶ *“when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that is a word that the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously. You need not be afraid of him.”* (Deut. 18:22, ESV). According to Moses, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, a person who speaks or prophesies in the name of the Lord must be 100% accurate, a 100% of the time.