

Overture for Producing Biblically Faithful Textbooks/Curricula For our Day Schools, High Schools, and Home Schools

Whereas, education in all subject areas is first and foremost about what is taught, namely that which is good, true, and beautiful; and

Whereas, secular education in all subject areas is increasingly subject to forces from anti-God, anti-Christ, anti-family, pro-death, amoral, anti-truth, and even anti-beauty perspectives; and

Whereas, the Holy Scriptures provide the norm and framework for knowledge in all subject areas, all being interwoven in significant ways with right theology, ethics, history, and human nature as revealed by God therein; and

Whereas, the LC-MS has the second largest system of parochial schools in America, but too often they are using secular textbooks/curricula, or publications from non-Lutheran traditions; and

Whereas, many Lutheran parents who homeschool their children find good, biblically faithful textbook/curricula options to be sorely lacking; and

Whereas, Christian schools and home schools in general would benefit greatly from having more biblically faithful Christian textbook/curricula options; and

Whereas, the natural sciences, especially biology and earth sciences, are prone to the grievous errors of Darwinism and Deep Time which directly undermine the integrity of the Scriptures, and the Gospel itself by putting Death before the Fall; and

Whereas, the *Discovery Works* science textbooks available from Concordia Publishing House (the only day school curricula available from CPH besides Religion Curriculum and some Lesson Plans) are outdated (© 1999) and rather limited (Grades 1-6); and

Whereas, it was resolved in Synodical Convention in 2019 ‘that pastors and other church workers be encouraged to confess, witness to, and uphold in their teaching the Synod’s publicly stated positions as set forth in A Brief Statement of the Doctrinal Position of the Missouri Synod, Article 5 (adopted 1932):

We teach that God has created heaven and earth, and that in the manner and in the space of time recorded in the Holy Scriptures, especially Gen. 1 and 2, namely, by His almighty creative word, and in six days. We reject every doctrine which denies or limits the work of creation as taught in Scripture. In our days it is denied or limited by those who assert, ostensibly in deference to science, that the world came into existence through a process of evolution; that is, that it has, in immense periods of time, developed more or less of itself. Since no man was present when it pleased God to create the world, we must look for a reliable account of creation to God’s own record, found in God’s own book, the Bible. We accept God’s own record with full confidence and confess with Luther’s Catechism: “I believe that God has made me and all creatures.”’

which certainly should include the written word as presented to students by their teachers via textbooks/curricula; and

Whereas, the need is urgent, for surveys show that sixty percent of young adults raised as Christian are rejecting the faith,ⁱ their doubts arising in middle school and high school when Darwinism and its many related false “-isms” are preached by the secular textbooks but either no counter arguments for biblical truth are available or those presented are inadequate; and

Whereas, the LC-MS has a university system and two seminaries housing expertise across all subject areas, including early childhood education, for producing excellent textbooks/curricula for grades K-12 as well as providing theologically sound editorial oversight to ensure content is biblically faithful in its Christian apologetic (defending Gen. 1-11 as it defines marriage between one man and one woman, and human nature as fallen, infected with original sin from Adam, but tells of the seed of the woman, the second Adam, Who would crush Satan's head, and as it describes Earth's early history with creation *ex nihilo* in six natural days less than 10,000 years ago and the global flood in Noah's day); and

Whereas, the LC-MS has its own publishing house; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Rocky Mountain District of the LC-MS memorialize the Synod in convention to direct and coordinate the systematic preparation and production of biblically faithful textbooks/curricula across all subject areas, prioritizing biological and earth sciences, for grades K-12; and be it further

Resolved, that this curriculum be ready for market by 2024.

ⁱ Ham, K., Beemer B., Hillard, T. (2009). *Already Gone: Why your kids will quit church and what you can do to stop it*. Master Books.