

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL (By-Laws) CHANGES

To be voted on November 1, 1991, at Annual Meeting

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BYLAWS OF THE WESLEYAN THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

(As officially adopted by the WTS, November 8, 1969, at Marion, IN, and subsequently amended and revised through November 2, 1990.)

ARTICLE I. Name

The name of this organization shall be The Wesleyan Theological Society.

ARTICLE II. Relationship to the CHA and Purposes

Section 1. Relationship to the Christian Holiness Association

This Society shall be regarded as a Commission of the Christian Holiness Association and through its President shall submit a report of its activities to the Annual Convention of the CHA.

Section 2. Purposes

- A. To encourage an exchange of ideas among Wesleyan-Arminian scholars and other persons interested in this area;
- B. To accept leadership for the doctrinal seminar program of the Christian Holiness Association;
- C. To stimulate scholarship among younger theologians and pastors;
- D. To publish a journal consisting of significant contributions to Wesleyan-Arminian scholarship.

ARTICLE III. Doctrinal Statement

We Believe:

1. In the plenary-dynamic and unique inspiration of the Bible as the Divine Word of God, the infallible, sufficient, and authoritative rule of faith and practice.
2. That there is one God, eternally existent in the Holy Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, each with personality and Deity;
3. That the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, was manifested in the flesh through the Virgin Birth, and died on Calvary for the redemption of the human family, all of whom may be saved from sin through faith in Him;
4. That Man, although created by God in His own image and likeness, fell into sin

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Section 1. Relationship to the Christian Holiness Association

This Society shall be regarded as a Commission of the Christian Holiness Association and through its President shall submit a report of its activities to the annual convention of the CHA.

Section 2. Purposes

- A. To promote theological interchange among Wesleyan/holiness scholars and other persons interested in this area;
- B. To provide theological leadership to the CHA, including offering a doctrinal seminar at its annual convention;
- C. To stimulate scholarship among younger theologians and pastors;
- D. To publish a journal consisting of significant contributions to Wesleyan/holiness scholarship.

ARTICLE III. Statement of Faith

The Wesleyan Theological Society works within the context of the CHA and its statement of faith / mission statement:

The Christian Holiness Association is a body of churches, organizations, and individuals who accept the inspiration and infallibility of sacred Scripture and evangelical doctrine that pertains to divine revelation, the incarnation, the resurrection, the second coming of Christ, the Holy Spirit, and the Church as affirmed in the historic Christian creeds. The particular concern of this fellowship is the biblical doctrine of sanctification identified historically in what is known as the Wesleyan position.

The association believes that personal

through disobedience and "so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Romans 5:12);

5. In the salvation of the human soul, including the new birth; and in a subsequent work of God in the soul, a crisis, wrought by faith, whereby the heart is cleansed from all sin and filled with the Holy Spirit; this gracious experience is retained by faith as expressed in a constant obedience to God's revealed will, thus giving perfect cleansing moment by moment (I John 1:7-9), as taught by John Wesley;

6. That the Church is the body of Christ; that all who are united by faith to Christ are members of the Church, and that, having thus become members one of another, it is our solemn and covenant duty to fellowship with one another in peace, and to love one another with pure and fervent hearts;

7. That our Lord Jesus Christ in His literal resurrection from the dead is the living guarantee of the resurrection of all human beings, the believing saved to conscious eternal joy, and the unbelieving lost to conscious eternal punishment;

8. That our Lord Jesus Christ, in fulfillment of His own promise, both angelically and apostolically attested, will personally return in power and great glory.

ARTICLE IV. Membership

Section 1. Types and Privileges of Members in the WTS.

A. Full Members: Those persons who hold Master of Divinity, Master of Arts, Doctor of Philosophy or equivalent degrees; or any persons who, in the judgment of the Membership Committee, qualify for full membership. Full Members are entitled to attend all meetings, to vote and to hold office, to present papers and to receive the Journal upon the payment of annual dues.

B. Associate Members: Those persons who are not eligible for full membership but who, in the judgment of the Membership Committee, are otherwise qualified for membership. Associate Members shall be entitled to attend all meetings, to present papers upon the recommendation of a Full Member and to receive the Journal upon the payment of annual dues. Associate Members may be transferred to full membership status by action of the Membership Committee at

salvation includes both the new birth and the entire sanctification wrought by God in the heart by faith. Entire sanctification is the crisis experience subsequent to conversion that results in a heart cleansed from all sin and filled with the Holy Spirit. This grace is witnessed to by the Holy Spirit. It is maintained by that faith which expresses itself in constant obedience to God's revealed will and results in a moment-by-moment cleansing.

ARTICLE IV. Membership

Section 1. Types and Privileges of Members in the WTS.

A. Full Members: Full members are those who affirm the purposes of the society as expressed in Articles II and III, above. Full Members are entitled to attend all meetings, to vote and to hold office, to present papers and to receive the Journal upon the payment of annual dues. [Associate membership discontinued.]

B. Affiliate Members: The Society offers affiliate membership to persons who are interested in the work of the Society but who do not wish to become full members. Affiliate members shall be entitled to attend all meetings, to present papers and to receive the Journal upon the payment of annual dues, but do not vote or hold office.

the request of the member, or upon the recommendation of a Full Member.

C. Student Members: Those persons who are currently enrolled in undergraduate or graduate studies. Student Members shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Society and to receive the Journal upon the payment of annual dues. Upon the completion of their formal academic training, Student Members must notify the Secretary in writing and elect the type of membership they desire and for which they are qualified.

D. Honorary Members: Those Full, Associate, or Student Members who were charter members of the WTS, or who have twenty or more years of continuous membership in the Society, and who notify the Secretary in writing, shall be exempted from further payment of dues upon retirement, with full rights and privileges accorded them in the type of membership they have maintained immediately prior to retirement.

E. Active Members: Those Full, Associate or Student Members who have not become delinquent in the payment of their dues or who have not requested an inactive status in the Society.

F. Inactive Members: Those Full, Associate or Student Members who have become delinquent in the payment of their dues for two consecutive years or who have requested an inactive status in the Society. Inactive Members shall forfeit all rights and privileges of their membership.

Section 2. Qualification for Membership

A. All members shall be in accord with the doctrinal statement of the Society, as given in Article III of these Bylaws.

B. Persons who desire membership in the WTS shall complete the membership application form, pay the membership dues for the current calendar year and submit the application to the Membership Committee.

C. All applications for membership must be recommended by a Full Member of the Society.

D. After having been approved for membership in the Society by the Membership Committee, members may change as desired from one type of membership to another for which they are qualified, at any time by a written request to the Secretary and upon approval of the Membership Committee.

C. Student Members: Those persons who are currently enrolled in undergraduate or graduate studies. Student Members shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Society and to receive the Journal upon the payment of annual dues. Upon the completion of their formal academic training, Student Members must notify the Secretary in writing and elect the type of membership they desire and for which they are qualified.

D. Honorary Members: Members who were charter members of the WTS, or who have twenty or more years of continuous membership in the Society, and who notify the Secretary in writing, shall be exempted from further payment of dues upon retirement, with full rights and privileges accorded them in the type of membership they have maintained immediately prior to retirement.

[E. and F. deleted as unnecessary in view of Sect. 3, D, below.]

Section 2. Qualification for Membership

A. All Full Members shall be in accord with the purposes of the Society as expressed in Articles II and III of these Bylaws.

B. Persons who desire membership in the WTS shall complete the membership application form and pay the membership dues for the current calendar year.

C. All applications for membership must include recommendation by a Full Member of the Society. Additional wording deleted.]

D. Members may change as desired from one type of membership to another at any time by a written request to the Secretary.

Section 3. Membership Dues

A. Membership dues shall be based upon the calendar year.

B. Membership dues shall be determined annually upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee and by a majority vote of the Full Members present and voting at a regular business meeting of the Society.

C. Any member who does not pay dues during a given calendar year will not receive the Journal the following year until the dues are paid in full for the current calendar year as well as for the past year.

D. Members who do not pay their dues for two years or more, up to five years, shall be placed on the inactive list; they may be restored to Active Membership when dues for the current year and the immediate past year are paid in full, whereupon they shall receive the Journal for both years.

E. After five or more years of inactive membership a person must reapply for membership in the Society.

ARTICLE V. Officers

Section 1. The officers of this Society shall be a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, and a Secretary-Treasurer. These officers shall perform the duties as prescribed by these Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Society.

Section 2. A Nominating Committee of not fewer than five persons, appointed by the Executive Committee, shall nominate candidates for the offices and committee memberships to be filled at the Annual Meeting of the Society. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a ballot using every reasonable effort to submit at least two names as nominees for each office or committee membership, with additional nominations from the floor permitted before the election.

Section 3. The officers shall be elected by ballot to serve for one year or until their successors are elected, with the exception of the Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be elected for three years. The term of the officers shall begin at the close of the Annual Meeting at which they are elected.

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Section 3. The officers shall be elected by ballot to serve for one year or until their successors are elected, with the exception of the Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be elected for three years. The term of the officers shall begin at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected.

Section 4. In case of a vacancy in any office except that of President, the Executive Committee shall appoint an eligible person from the membership to fill the unexpired term and/or until the regular election at the Annual Meeting. If the office of the President becomes vacant the First Vice-President shall succeed to that office, the Second Vice-President shall become First Vice-President and the Executive Committee may appoint an eligible person to fill the unexpired term of the Second Vice-President.

NO CHANGES PROPOSED IN FOLLOWING:

ARTICLE VI. Duties of Officers

ARTICLE VII. Meetings

ARTICLE VIII. The Executive Committee

ARTICLE IX. Committees

Section 1. A Program and Arrangements Committee shall consist of the Executive Committee, with the First and Second Vice-Presidents as chairs in the respective year of their office as First Vice-President. It shall secure personnel and complete all arrangements for the Annual Meetings and for all the seminar programs of the Society.

Section 2. A Membership Committee shall consist of three members, each of whom shall be elected for a term of three years, with one member retiring each year. The senior member of the committee shall serve as its chair. The committee shall review all applications for membership in the Society, as well as requests for change of the type of membership, and approve or disapprove the applications or requests in accordance with the Bylaws.

Section 3. An Editorial Committee shall consist of the Chair, who shall be elected for three years and who shall serve as the Editor of the Journal, in addition to two other persons, each of whom shall serve for a term of three years, with one member elected or reelected each year. The Committee shall select materials and prepare the Society's Journal for publication; it shall work in cooperation with the Executive Committee in determining the content of the WTS publications.

Section 4. In case of a vacancy in any office except that of President, the Executive Committee shall appoint an eligible person from the membership to fill the unexpired term and/or until the regular election at the annual meeting. If the office of the President becomes vacant the First Vice-President shall succeed to that office, the Second Vice-President shall become First Vice-President and the Executive Committee may appoint an eligible person to fill the unexpired term of the Second Vice-President.

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[Membership Committee discontinued.]

Section 2. An Editorial Committee shall consist of the Chair, who shall be elected for three years and who shall serve as the Editor of the Journal, in addition to two other persons, each of whom shall serve for a term of three years, with one member elected or reelected each year. The Committee shall select materials and prepare the Society's Journal for publication and shall work in cooperation with the Executive Committee in determining the content of the WTS publications.

Section 4. A Nominating Committee shall consist of the five most recent past presidents of the Society. The immediate past president of the Society shall serve as chair. Should any of the five most recent past presidents be unable or ineligible to serve, the next most recent past president, able and eligible, shall serve. Should the immediate past president be unable or ineligible to serve, the committee may elect its own chair. The committee shall present to the annual meeting or the Society a ballot as prescribed in ARTICLE V, Section 2.

ARTICLE X. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Society may adopt.

ARTICLE XI. Amendment of Bylaws

These Bylaws can be amended at any regular business meeting of the Society by a two-thirds vote of the Active Full Members present, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing to the members of the Society at least thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting to which it will be submitted.

STANDING RULES

I. Relating to Membership

A. All new membership applications received at or following the Annual Meeting and subsequently approved by the Membership Committee prior to the publication of the new volume of the Journal shall receive the current issue of the Journal as well as the new volume when it is published.

B. Upon approval by the Membership Committee all new members shall be notified in writing of their acceptance by the Secretary-Treasurer, together with a letter of welcome and the current issue of the Journal.

Section 3. A Nominating Committee shall consist of the five most recent past presidents of the Society. The immediate past president of the Society shall serve as chair. Should any of the five most recent past presidents be unable or ineligible to serve, the next most recent past president, able and eligible, shall serve. Should the immediate past president be unable or ineligible to serve, the committee may elect its own chair. The committee shall present to the annual meeting or the Society a ballot as prescribed in ARTICLE V, Section 2.

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These Bylaws may be amended at any regular business meeting of the Society by a two-thirds vote of the active Full Members present, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing to the members of the Society at least thirty days prior to the annual meeting to which it will be submitted.

STANDING RULES

I. Relating to Membership

A. All new membership applications received at or following the annual meeting shall receive the current issue of the Journal as well as the new volume when it is published. [Reference to approval by Membership Committee deleted.]

B. All new members shall be notified in writing of their acceptance by the Secretary-Treasurer, and shall receive a letter of welcome. [Additional wording deleted.]

C. Members who are deceased in any given fiscal year shall be included in the Secretary-Treasurer's annual report.

D. An honor roll of deceased charter members, active at the time of their death, shall be printed in the Journal each year with the date of their death.

II. Relating to Officers, Committees and Procedures

A. The expenses of the Officers and Committee Members shall be paid for everything pertaining to The Wesleyan Theological Society, except for the Annual Meeting expense of travel and entertainment, provided a written, itemized report is presented to the Secretary-Treasurer.

B. The dates of the expiration of Committee Members' term of office on the various Standing Committees shall be carried in the Journal along with the Committee and Officer listings.

C. The Advertising rate in the Journal shall be reviewed periodically by the Executive Committee. It is currently \$50.00 per page of \$30.00 per half page.

D. A cumulative index shall be included in the Journal in the fifteenth year of publication and subsequently updated and included at five-year intervals thereafter.

E. Guidelines for the Nominating Committee (cf. Bylaws, ARTICLE V, Section 2).

1. While perceived ability to carry forward the work of the Society in an acceptable manner and spirit should be the primary consideration in making nominations, due attention should be given to the fact that the membership do tend to give consideration to denomination identity and proportionate representation in the administration of the Society.

2. The Nominating Committee should have its work done no less than thirty days before the Annual Meeting of the Society. This would include consultation with any candidates to ascertain their availability for service. The Secretary of the Society should be informed as soon as

C. Members who are deceased in any given fiscal year shall be included in the Secretary-Treasurer's annual report.

D. An honor roll of deceased charter members, active at the time of their death, shall be printed in the Journal each year with the date of their death.

II. Relating to Officers, Committees and Procedures

A. The expenses of the officers and committee members shall be paid for everything pertaining to The Wesleyan Theological Society, except for the annual meeting expense of travel and entertainment, provided a written, itemized report is presented to the Secretary-Treasurer.

B. The dates of the expiration of committee members' term of office on the various standing committees shall be carried in the Journal along with the committee and officer listings.

C. The advertising rate in the Journal shall be reviewed periodically by the Executive Committee. It is currently \$50.00 per page of \$30.00 per half page.

D. A cumulative index shall be included in the Journal at five-year intervals. [Wording simplified.]

E. Guidelines for the Nominating Committee (cf. Bylaws, ARTICLE V, Section 2).

1. While perceived ability to carry forward the work of the Society in an acceptable manner and spirit should be the primary consideration in making nominations, the Nominating Committee may give consideration also to variety of denominational representation in the leadership of the Society.

2. The Nominating Committee should have its work done no less than thirty days before the annual meeting of the Society. This includes consultation with any candidates to ascertain their availability for service. The Secretary of the Society should be informed as soon as the

the Committee has decided upon a ballot so that it may be prepared for the meeting by the Secretary.

3. While it would be unwise to limit the Committee to but two nominees for each office (see ARTICLE V, Section 2 of the Bylaws), it would seem that a ballot with more than two names for any position unnecessarily complicates the voting and could serve divisive purpose.

Committee has decided upon a ballot so that it may be prepared for the meeting by the Secretary.

[#3 Deleted as unnecessary.]