

For Immediate Release

November 2, 2011

### **Nicene Faith Book Includes Chapter by President Pinson**

NASHVILLE, TN—A new book titled *Evangelicals and Nicene Faith: Reclaiming the Apostolic Witness* includes a 23-page chapter by Free Will Baptist Bible College president Matt Pinson. The 16-chapter, 272-page paperback edited by Timothy George, dean of Beeson Divinity School and a senior editor of *Christianity Today*, was published in October 2011 by Baker Publishing Group.

Dr. George said, "*Evangelicals and Nicene Faith: Reclaiming the Apostolic Witness* is a fascinating collection of essays by first-rate scholars from various evangelical traditions. What is surprising is how each one affirms the abiding validity and relevance of the Nicene faith for the life of the church today."

Commenting on chapter eight written by President Pinson, Dr. George said, "Dr. Matthew Pinson has written a superb essay, 'Confessional, Baptist, and Arminian,' in which he surveys the importance of Nicene belief within the General-Free Will Baptist Tradition. He traces this trajectory through early Baptist pioneers like Thomas Grantham and Joseph Hooke as well as their spiritual descendants in America."

Dr. George continued, "Dr. Pinson is one of the leading Baptist scholars, and he illuminates his own ecclesial heritage by placing it in continuity with the Great Tradition of historic Christianity. In doing so, he aptly illustrates this famous statement by the late Jaroslav Pelikan in whose memory we have dedicated this book: 'Tradition is the living faith of the dead; traditionalism is the dead faith of the living.'"

The book grew out of a 2009 conference, "The Will to Believe and the Need for Creed: Evangelicals and the Nicene Faith," at Beeson Divinity School at which President Pinson spoke. Pinson's chapter in the book is joined by contributions from scholars such as Timothy George, Gerald Bray, Thomas Oden, and Ralph Wood.

Dr. Pinson said, “I am delighted to have a chapter in this book, and especially excited that the Free Will Baptist story can be told in this wider evangelical venue.”

Dr. Pinson is frequently published in professional theological journals. He has written two books—*A Free Will Baptist Handbook* (1998) and *The Washing of the Saints’ Feet* (2006)—and served as general editor for two others: *Four Views of Eternal Security* (2002) and *Perspectives on Christian Worship: Five Views* (2006). He also wrote a pamphlet in the Heritage Series titled “Free Will Baptists and Church Government” (2008) for the Free Will Baptist Historical Commission.

He is a member of the Commission for Theological Integrity of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.