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Gundry Asked to Resign from ETS

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Failed Battle Gundry Asked to Resign from ETS

s Bailey, said the undation in law. en both parties to have been unsuc- e parents "are still ement as long as stake; that is, with rotection of their Bailey added that ey for the school ere is no room for ents may return to nd reading classes. textbook dispute. h in this East Ten- rs. Frost has had e. Attorney Mike d by a prominent n that "there's go- en this is all over. it Bill Snodgrass up "extremists," a referred to Con- erica which has a "outside agitators and attorney from dgrass made the re- : PTA meeting of dents, and school il of COBS mem- s. Jean Price, prin- ere Mrs. Frost was er to the editor of parents' protest is -out attack against

At its 35th annual meeting, the Evangelical Theological Society reaffirmed its

commitment to the inerrancy of Scripture. With a decisive majority the society

voted to reject the views of one of its members and to request his resignation for "detracting from the historical trustworthiness of the Gospel of Matthew."

Meeting December 15-17 at the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies in Dallas, the Conservative debating society was urged by Paige Patterson to go on record as rejecting the position taken by Robert Gundry in his recent commentary on Matthew. Professor Gundry of Westmont College disturbed many of his colleagues with such assertions as: "The gospel writer materially altered and embellished historical traditions." Employing the adjective *midrashic* and *haggidic* to describe the genre of Matthew's gospel he states "Matthew treats us to history mixed with elements that cannot be called historical in the modern sense . . . hence, 'Jesus said' or 'Jesus did' need not always mean that in history Jesus said or did what follows."

The ETS requires its members to affirm that "the Bible alone and . . . in its entirety, is the Word of God written, and therefore inerrant." Many of the founding fathers and elder statesmen of the society were visibly and vocally present to express "grave concern" for the future of the society if Gundry's views were accepted. In the tense and sometimes heated business session on Saturday the members overwhelmingly brushed aside efforts to table the Gundry issue, and went on to ask him to resign from the society.

Gundry responded: "Of course, I will resign." He then commended the society for its diligence and expressed his regrets at their decision. He graciously urged his supporters to remain in the society and to put this incident behind them. It is not yet certain how this will affect his position at Westmont College, a school that has a strong Conservative constituency.

Daniel R. Mitchell
Dallas, Texas

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Price assessed the controversy as part of education move- o indoctrinate stu- iligious and philo- v." s. "We don't want ce on anyone else want them to force s on us."

—Suzanne Clark
Morgersville, Tennessee