

## Presbyterian

Statement excerpted from 194<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the  
United Presbyterian Church, 1982.

The evil inherent in nuclear weapons' mass destruction, which, even if the validity of traditional "just war" analysis is accepted, can in no way be justified. Such weapons violate the canons of proportionality and blur all distinctions between combatants and non-combatants. Since the use of these weapons constitutes a human action that would result in the destruction of all humanity, the act in itself would be both blasphemous and idolatrous in the ultimate sense, a human arrogation of final judgment that belongs only to God.

As their actual use can have no justification, we must question whether their very existence is morally acceptable. Their very existence can only lead to catastrophe unless there is a radical awakening and change.