

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

1. I believe in the verbal/plenary inspiration of the Bible, both the Old and New testaments.
2. I believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. I believe that Jesus Christ is the virgin-born Son of God, begotten by the Holy Spirit, and is true God and true man.
4. I believe man is born with a sinful nature and is in need of the New Birth.
5. I believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for the sins of all mankind as our substitutionary sacrifice.
6. I believe that all those that receive the Lord Jesus Christ by faith are born again of the Holy Spirit, become children of God, and receive the gift of eternal life.
7. I believe in the security of the believer.
8. I believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord and His ascension into Heaven.
9. I believe in the personal, pre-millennial, pretribulational, and imminent return of our Lord Jesus Christ.
10. I believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust. The everlasting blessedness of the saved and the everlasting punishment of the lost is assured.
11. I believe in personal and ecclesiastical separation.

BAPTIST DISTINCTIVES

Bible: the only rule of faith and practice!

- A. Approach to the Bible - Baptist - the soul of man bows to the authority of the Bible.
- B. Meaning of inspiration
 1. It is God-breathed (II Timothy 3:16)
 2. God vouches for the accuracy of the record

Autonomy of each local church!

- A. Local church serves in self-discipline of members (I Cor. 5:13)
- B. Local church protects its own ordinances (I Cor. 11:23)
- C. Local church must determine its own relationships (Acts 15:1-30)

Priesthood of the believers!

- A. The believer is directly accountable to God through Christ (I Tim. 2:15)
- B. Therefore the believer is to live holy and upright (I Peter 2:5,9)

Two ordinances for the local church!

- A. Immersion of the believer
 1. Baptism is not part of salvation (I Cor. 1:14-18)
 2. Baptism is only for believers (Acts 2:41)
 3. Baptism is by immersion. Word demands it; symbolic (Rom. 6:4-5)
- B. The Lord's supper

Individual soul responsibility!

- A. The believer has the right to worship God as his conscience allows
- B. This leads to "religious freedom" (John 1:11-13)

Separation!

- A. Personal (Romans 12:1-2)
- B. Ecclesiastical (II Cor. 6:14-17, Romans 16:17)

Two officers of the local church!

- A. Pastors = Elder, Bishop, Preacher, & Teacher (I Tim. 3:1-7)
- B. Deacons (Acts 6:1-4; I Timothy 3:8-13)