

Articles of Faith

A Bible Baptist is one who believes in a supernatural Bible, which tells of a supernatural Christ, Who had a supernatural birth, Who spoke supernatural words, Who performed supernatural miracles, Who lived a supernatural life, Who died a supernatural death, Who rose in supernatural splendor, Who intercedes as a supernatural Priest, and Who will one day return in supernatural glory to establish a supernatural Kingdom on the earth.

I. Of The Scriptures

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men supernaturally inspired; that it is truth without any admixture of error for its matter; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the age, the only complete and final revelation of the will of God to man, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions should be tried.

1. By the holy Bible we mean that collection of sixty-six books, from Genesis to Revelation, which as originally written does not only contain and convey the Word of God, but IS the very Word of God. We believe the holy Bible, as it appears in the English language, is the Authorized 1611 King James Bible. We believe this Bible is the product of God's watchful hand of preservation.
2. By inspiration we mean that the books of the Bible were spoken first by holy men of old, as they were moved by the Holy Spirit according to 2 Peter 1:21, in such a definite way that their writings were supernaturally and verbally inspired and free from error, as no other writings have ever been or will ever be inspired.

Psalms 19:7-11; 119:89,105,130,160; Proverbs 30:5-6; Isaiah 8:20; Luke 16:31; 24:25-27,44-45; John 5:39,45-47; 12:48; 17:17; Acts 1:16; 28:25; Romans 3:4; 15:4; Ephesians 6:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Peter 1:23; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Revelation 22:19.

II. Of the True God

We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth, inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

Genesis 17:1; Exodus 15:11; 20:2-3; Psalms 83:18; 90:2; 147:5; Jeremiah 10:10; Matthew 28:19; Mark 12:30; John 4:24; 10:30; 15:26; 17:5; Acts 5:3-4; Romans 11:33; Ephesians 2:18; 4:6; Philippians 2:5-6; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11; 8:6; 12:4-6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Timothy 1:17; 1 John 5:7; Revelation 4:11.

III. Of the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a divine person, equal with God the Father and God the Son, and of the same nature; that He was active in the creation; that in His relation to the unbelieving world He restrains Satan until God's purpose is fulfilled; that He convicts of sin, of judgment, and of righteousness; that He bears witness to the truth of the Gospel in preaching and testimony; that He is the agent in the New Birth; that He seals, endues, guides, teaches, witnesses, sanctifies, and helps the believer.

Genesis 1:1-3; Matthew 3:11; 28:19; Mark 1:8; Luke 1:35; 3:16; 24:29; John 1:33; 3:5-6; 14:16-17,26; 15:26-27; 16:8-11,13; Acts 5:30-32; 11:16; Romans 8:14,16,26-27; Ephesians 1:13-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:7,13; Hebrews 9:14; 1 Peter 1:2.

IV. Of the Devil, or Satan

We believe that Satan was once holy and enjoyed heavenly honors, but through pride and ambition to be above the Almighty, fell and drew after him a host of angels; that he is now the malignant prince of the power of the air, and the unholy god of this world. We hold him to be man's great tempter, the enemy of God and His Christ, the accuser of the saints, the author of all false religions, the chief power behind the present apostasy; the lord of the Antichrist, and the author of all the powers of darkness ó destined, however, for final defeat at the hand of God's own Son, and for the judgment of eternal justice in Hell, a place prepared for him and his angels.

Isaiah 14:12; Ezekiel 28:14-17; Matthew 4:1-3; 13:25; 25:41; Mark 13:21-33; Luke 22:3-4; John 14:30; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15; Ephesians 2:2; 1 Thessalonians 3:5; 2 Thessalonians 2:8-11; 1 Peter 5:8; 2 Peter 2:4; 1 John 2:22; 3:8; 4:3; 2 John 7; Jude 6; Revelation 2:2; 12:7-10; 13:13-14; 19:11,16,20; 20:1-3,10.

V. Of Creation

We believe in the Genesis account of creation, and that it is to be accepted literally, not allegorically or figuratively; that man was created directly in God's own image and after His own likeness; that man's creation was not a matter of evolution or evolutionary change of species, or development through interminable periods of time from lower to higher forms; that all animal and vegetable life was created directly, and God's established law was that they should bring forth only after their own kind. Genesis 1:1,24,26-27; 2:21-23; Exodus 20:11; Nehemiah 9:6; Jeremiah 10:12; John 1:3; Acts 4:24; 17:23-26; Romans 1:20; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 11:3; Revelation 10:6.

VI. Of the Fall of Man

We believe that man was created in innocence under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from his sinless and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but of choice, and are therefore under just condemnation without defense or excuse.

Genesis 3:1-6; Ezekiel 18:19-20; Romans 1:18,20,28,32; 3:10-19; 5:12,19; Galatians 3:22; Ephesians 2:1,3.

VII. Of the Virgin Birth

We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten of the Holy Ghost in a miraculous manner, born of Mary, a virgin, as no other man was ever born or can ever be born of a woman, and that He is both the Son of God and God the Son.

Genesis 3:5; Psalms 2:7; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25; Mark 1:1; Luke 1:35; John 1:14; 1 Corinthians 15:47; Galatians 4:4; 1 John 5:20.

VIII. Of the Atonement for Sin

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, Who, by appointment of the Father, freely took upon Him our nature, yet without sin honored the divine law by His personal obedience by His death, and by the shedding of His blood made a full and vicarious atonement for our sins; that His atonement consisted not in setting us an example by His death as a martyr, but was the voluntary substitution of Himself in the sinner's place, the just dying for the unjust, The Lord Jesus Christ, bearing our sins in His own body on the tree; that, having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in heaven and has united in His wonderful Person the most tender sympathies with divine perfection; that He is in every way qualified to be a suitable, compassionate, and all-sufficient Saviour.

Isaiah 53:4-7,11-12; Matthew 18:11; John 3:16; 10:18; Acts 15:11; Romans 3:24-25; 1 Corinthians 15:3,20; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 1:4; Ephesians 2:8; Philippians 2:7-8; 1 Peter 2:24; 3:18; Hebrews 2:14; 7:25; 9:12-15; 12:2; 1 John 2:2; 4:10.

IX. Of Grace in the New Creature in Jesus Christ

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be born again; that the new birth results in a new creature in Christ Jesus; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that in the new birth, the one dead in trespasses and in sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life, the free gift of God; that the new birth is brought about in a manner beyond our comprehension, not by culture, not by character, nor by the will of man, but solely by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

Luke 5:27; John 1:12-13; 3:3,6-7; Acts 2:41; Romans 6:23; 2 Corinthians 5:17,19; Galatians 5:22; Ephesians 2:1; 5:9; Colossians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:4; 1 John 5:1.

X. Of the Freeness of Salvation

We believe in God's electing grace; that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent, and obedient faith; that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel, which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

Isaiah 55:1,6-7; Matthew 11:28; John 3:15-16,18, 36; 5:40; 6:37; Romans 8:29-30; 10:13; 1 Corinthians 15:10; Ephesians 2:4; Colossians 3:12; 1 Thessalonians 1:4; 1 Timothy 1:15; Titus 1:1; 1 Peter 1:2; Revelation 22:17.

XI. Of Justification

We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believers in Him is justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin and the gift of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood. His righteousness is imputed unto us.

Isaiah 53:11; Habakkuk 2:4; Zechariah 13:1; Acts 13:39; Romans 1:17; 4:1-8; 5:1,9; Galatians 3:11; Titus 3:5-7; Hebrews 10:38.

XII. Of Repentance and Faith

We believe that repentance and faith are solemn obligations and inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the quickening Spirit of God, thereby being deeply convicted of our guilt, danger, and helplessness, and the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned condition, confession, and supplication for mercy, at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ and openly confessing Him as our only and all-sufficient Saviour.

Isaiah 55:6-7; Psalms 51:1-4;7; Mark 1:15; Luke 12:8; 13:3; 18:13; Acts 17:30-31;20:21; Romans 2:4;10:9-11,13; 2 Corinthians 7:9-11

XIII. Of the Church

We believe that a Baptist Church is a congregation of baptized believers associated by a covenant of faith and fellowship of the Gospel; said church being understood to be the citadel and propagator of the divine and eternal grace and the pillar and ground of the truth; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws; exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges given to them by His Word; that its officers of ordination are pastors or elders whose qualifications, claims, and duties are clearly defined in the Scriptures; we believe the true mission of the church is found in the Great Commission: first, to make individual disciples; second, to build up the church; third, to reach and instruct as He has commanded. We do not believe in the reversal of this order. We hold that the local church has the absolute right of self-government, free from the interference of any hierarchy of individuals or organizations; that the one and only superintendent is Christ through the Holy Spirit; that it is scriptural for true churches to cooperate with each other in contending for the faith and for the furtherance of the Gospel; that every church is the sole and only judge of the measure and method of its cooperation; that on all matters of membership, of policy, of government, of discipline, and of benevolence the will of the local church is final.

Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:41-42; 6:5-6; 14:23; 15:22-23; 20:17-28; 1 Corinthians 5:11-13; 6:1-3; 11:2; 12:4,8-11; 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 8:23-24; Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:11; 5:23-24; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 3:1-15; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Jude 3,4

XIV. Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, done in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Baptism is performed under the authority of the local church to show solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Saviour. Baptism pictures our death to sin and resurrection to a new life. It is a prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and participation in the Lord's Supper.

The Lord's Supper commemorates the death of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the bread representing His body that was broken for us, and the fruit of the vine representing His blood that was shed for us. Before partaking of these elements each person should examine himself, "For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."

Matthew 3:6,16; 28:1,9-20,19; Acts 2:41-42; 8:36-39; 10:47; 16:15,30-33; Romans 6:3-5; 1 Corinthians 11:23-34; Colossians 2:12.

XV. Of Eternal Security

We believe that the new birth is a onetime event even as physical birth is a onetime event. Eternal life is the result of being born into an eternal family. The words "eternal," "everlasting," and "forever" are used to describe our redemption, our life with God, and how long the Holy Spirit abides with us. Because our salvation is entirely God's work, and our keeping is entirely God's work, we can have full confidence that nothing ". . . shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Psalms 121:3; Matthew 13:19-23; John 1:12; 3:7; 8:31-32; 10:27-29; 14:16; Acts 15:11; Romans 4:4-5; 8:28-29, 35,39; Ephesians 2:8-9; Philippians 1:6; Colossians 1:21-23; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 1:14; 9:12; 1 Peter 1:3-5; 1 John 2:19.

XVI. Of the Righteous and the Wicked

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and are sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in His esteem, while all those who continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked and under the curse; that this distinction holds among men both in life and after death, the everlasting felicity of the saved and the everlasting conscious suffering of the lost.

Proverbs 11:31; 14:32; Malachi 3:18; Matthew 7:13-14; 25:34; Luke 9:26; 16:25; John 8:21; 12:25; Acts 10:34-35; Romans 1:17; 6:16-18,23; 7:6; 1 Corinthians 15:22; Galatians 3:10; 1 Peter 1:18; 1 John 2:7,29; 5:19.

XVII. Of Civil Government

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, with the exception only of things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience and the coming Prince of the kings of the earth.

Exodus 18:21-22; 2 Samuel 23:3; Psalms 72:11; Daniel 3:17-18; Matthew 10:28; 22:21; 23:10; Acts 4:19-20; 23:5; Romans 13:7; Philippians 2:10-11; Titus 3:1; 1 Peter 2:17.

XVIII. Of the Resurrection and Return of Christ and Related Events

We believe in and accept the sacred Scriptures relating these subjects at their face and full value. Of the resurrection, we believe that Christ rose bodily the third day according to the Scriptures; that He alone is our merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God; "that this same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven" (bodily, personally, and visibly) that the dead in Christ shall rise first; that the living saints shall all be

“changed in a moment in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump,” that the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of His father David; that Christ shall reign a thousand years in righteousness until He hath put all enemies under His feet.

Isaiah 11:4-5; Psalms 72:8; Matthew 24:27,42; 28:6-7; Mark 16:6,19; Luke 1:32; 24:2,4-6,39,51; John 20:27; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:4,25,42-44,51-53; Philippians 4:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 2:17; 5:9-10; 8:1,6; 9:28; 12:2; 1 John 2:1; Revelation 3:21; 20:1-4,6.

XIX. Of Missions

The command to preach the Gospel to the world is clear and unmistakable, and this commission was given to the church, the body of Christ.

Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; John 20:21; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:13-15.

XX. Of the Grace of Giving

We believe in scriptural giving.

2 Corinthians 8:7 “Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.”

Scriptural giving means bringing our tithes and offerings to the local church in a systematic and faithful manner according to what God has provided.

Proverbs 3:9; Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Corinthians 15:58; 16:2; 2 Corinthians 8:8,11-12; 9:7,13; Philippians 4:19.

The amount of our scriptural giving is a gauge of our love for God, a measure of our faith in His Word, and a revealer of our commitment to fulfilling the “Great Commission.”

Matthew 6:21 “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

Scriptural giving is done cheerfully and glorifies and honors God and provides an avenue for God to bless us now and in the future; lack of scriptural giving results in chastisement and spiritual poverty.

2 Corinthians 9:6, “But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.”

Proverbs 3:9-10; 11:25; Haggai 1:6; Malachi 3:8-10; Matthew 6:31-33; Luke 6:38; Galatians 6:7; Philippians 4:19