

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH STATEMENT OF FAITH

(Adopted at Annual Meeting, 2004)

1. THE SCRIPTURES

We believe the Bible is the inspired word of God and without error in the original writings.

We believe that this divine inspiring extends equally to each word and to all parts of the sixty-six books of the Bible.

We believe that all the Scriptures center on Jesus Christ, both the Old and New Testament and that they are the believer's sole authority.

We believe that all Scripture is to be taken in its natural and literal sense, all the while recognizing the interpreter must take into account the metaphors of the Bible.

We believe that all Scripture were designed for our practical instruction.

2. THE TRUE GOD

We believe there is only one living and true God existing as three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We believe that the members of the Godhead have the same nature and attributes and are worthy of the same worship and honor.

We believe that the Father is the source of all things and the one who sent the Son as His gift into the world.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, eternal and equal with the Father, born of the Virgin Mary, and that He is both true God and true man.

We believe that Jesus Christ died for our sin on our behalf.

We believe that Jesus Christ rose physically from the dead and ascended to the right hand of the Father, where He is now ministering on our behalf.

We believe that Jesus Christ will receive us unto Himself at His coming and will return to establish His earthly kingdom.

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a divine person who is co-equal with the Father and Son and that He was active in creation, convicts the world of sin, reveals Christ and unites all believers as one body along with such work as indwelling, empowering, and gifting.

We believe that revelatory and sign gifts of the Holy Spirit were given to the early church for the primary purpose of authenticating its ministry.

3. MAN/SIN

We believe that man is the product of the direct creative act of God, made in the image of God.

We believe in the sanctity of human life that begins at the point of conception.

We believe that all sexual relationships must pattern themselves after a faithful heterosexual relationship within marriage.

We believe that man fell from his original position through sin, and, as a consequence, became separated from God in fellowship and became subject to the power of Satan.

We believe that sin has been transmitted to the entire human race so that every child of Adam is born into the world with a fallen nature devoid of spiritual life and no power to recover oneself from this condition.

4. SALVATION

We believe that salvation is entirely of God, by grace, through personal faith in the death of Christ, wholly apart from any human merit, works, or foreseen faith.

We believe that believers were chosen sovereignly by God before the foundation of the world for salvation and are enabled by the Spirit to believe.

We believe that the new nature and eternal life are communicated to believers by a supernatural work of the Spirit.

We believe that believers have a right standing before God in that their sins were put on Christ and His righteousness was accredited to us.

We believe that all believers were set apart at the point of salvation and the believer is progressively brought closer to conformity to the holiness of God, a process culminating at the return of Christ.

We believe that all who are truly born again will be kept by Christ and will persevere in faith unto the day of complete redemption.

5. THE CHURCH

We believe that all who are united to the risen and ascended Son of God are members of the church that began fifty days after the crucifixion.

We believe the local church is a congregation of immersed believers, associated in the faith, the body of truth embodied in Scripture, for the spreading of the gospel, and worship of God.

We believe that the ordinances of the church are baptism by immersion as the identifying symbol of one's belief in Christ's death and resurrection, and communion that is a commemoration of Christ's death until He comes.

We believe the church has the responsibility to take the gospel message to all nations of the earth and to be a voice for justice and truth in the world.

We believe in separation from all sinful practices and all spiritual apostasy.

6. ANGELS

We believe angels are spirit beings created to serve and worship God.

We believe Satan was created holy but rebelled against the Creator, involving numerous angels in his fall, and introducing sin to the human race by the temptation of our first parents.

We believe Satan was defeated in the death of Christ and will be tormented forever.

We believe Satan's control over Christians is limited to external influences that may be resisted by the believer.

7. FUTURE EVENTS

We believe in the any moment coming of Jesus Christ for His church at which time all church saints will be raised, glorified and rewarded.

We believe that Christ will return at the second coming to set up His kingdom, to overthrow Satan, and to re-gather Israel to their promised land.

We believe in the physical resurrection of all the dead; the saved to life eternal, the unsaved to eternal judgment and separation from God in the lake of fire.

We believe the eternal state will begin following the judgment for the lost with believers of all time enjoying God forever.

Doctrinal Statement verses:

1. THE SCRIPTURES

2 Timothy 3:15-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21, 3:15-16; 1 Corinthians 2:13; John 14:26, 16:13, 17:17; Hebrews. 1:1-2.

2. THE TRUE GOD

John 4:24; Deuteronomy 6:4; Genesis 1:1; Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 1:1-2; John 1:1, 14-18; John 8:58; Philippians 2:5-8; 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18; Hebrews 7:25; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13-14; Matthew 1:18-25; John 14:26, 16:7-14; Psalm 139:7-12; Acts 5:3,4; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19, 12:13; 2 Corinthians 12:12.

3. MAN/SIN

Genesis 1:26-27, 2:7; Romans 3:1-24, 5:12-14.

4. SALVATION

Ephesians 2:1-8; Titus 3:5-6; Acts 16:31; John 3:3-7; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 Peter 1:23; 2 Peter 1:4; Eph. 1:4-11; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Romans 5:1; 1 Cor. 1:2; Philippians 1:6; Romans 8:33-39; John 10:27-29.

5. CHURCH

2 Corinthians 6:14; Matthew 6:15-16; Ephesians 1:22-24, 4:11-12; 1 Corinthians 11:23-28; 1 John 2:15-16, 4:1-3; 2 Corinthians 5:20; Matthew 18:15-17; Acts 2:41-42; Matthew 16:18.

6. ANGELS

Hebrews 1:6; Revelation 5:11; Genesis 3:1-5; Matthew 4; 1-11; Revelation 20:10.

7. FUTURE EVENTS

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:22-24; Revelation 1:5-7, 19:11-16, 20:1-7; John 5:22, Romans 14:10-13; Revelation 21-22; John 14:1-3.