

Bible Baptist Church

Statement of Faith

ARTICLE I OF THE SCRIPTURES

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men supernaturally inspired; that it has 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, as originally written does not only contain and convey the Word of God, but IS the very Word of God
2. By "inspiration" we mean that the books of the Bible were written by holy men of old as they were moved by the Holy Spirit, in such a definite way that their writings were supernaturally and verbally inspired and free from error, as no others' writings have been or ever will be inspired

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

ARTICLE 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.

Ex. 20:2-3; Gen. 17:1; I Cor. 8:6; Eph. 4:6; John 4:24; Psalm 147:5; Psalm 83:18; Psalm 90:2; Jer. 10:10; Ex. 15:11; Rev. 4:11; I Tim. 1:17; Rom. 11:33; Mark 12:30; Matt. 38:19; John 15:26; I Cor. 12:4-6; I John 5:7; John 10:30; John 17:5; Acts 5:3-4; I Cor. 2:10-11; Phil. 2:5-6; Eph. 2:18; II Cor. 13:14

ARTICLE III OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is a divine Person; equal with God the Father and God the Son and the same nature; that He was active in creation; that in His relation to the unbelieving world He restrains the evil one 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.

John 14:16-17; Matt. 28:19; Heb. 9:14; John 14:6; Luke 1:35; Gen. 1:1-3; II Thes. 2:7; John 16:8-11; John 15:26-27; Acts 5:30-32; John 3:5-6; John 16:13; John 14:26; Rom. 8:14,16; II Thes. 2:13; I Peter 1:2; Rom. 8:26-27

ARTICLE IV OF THE DEVIL, OR SATAN

We believe that Satan was once holy, and enjoyed the heavenly honors, but through pride and ambition to be as 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 the powers of darkness—destined however to a final defeat at the hands of God's own Son, and to the judgment of eternal justice in a hell, a place prepared for him and his angels.

Isa 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:14-17; Rev 12:9; Jude 6; II Pet. 2:4; Eph. 2:2; John 14:30; I Thes. 3:5; Matt 4:1-3; I Peter 5:8; Zech. 1:3; I John 3:8; Matt. 13:25 & 37:39; Luke 22:3-4; Rev 12:10; II Cor. 11:13-15; Mark 13:21-22; I John 4:3; II John 7; I John 2:22; Rev 13:13-14; II Thes. 2:8-11; Rev. 19:11, 16, 20; Rev 20:1-3; Rev. 20:10; Matt. 25:41

ARTICLE V OF CREATION

We believe in the Genesis account of creation, and that it is to be accepted literally, and 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 evolutionary change of species, or development through interminable periods of time from lower to higher forms; that all animal and vegetable life was made directly and God's established law was they should bring forth only "after their kind."

Gen. 1:1; Ex. 20:11; Acts 4:24; Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 11:3; John 1:3; Rev. 10:6; Rom. 1:20; Acts 17:23-26; Jer. 10:12; Neh. 9:6; Gen. 1:26-27; Gen. 2:21-23; Gen 1:11; Gen 1:24

ARTICLE 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 therefore under just condemnation without defense or excuse.

Gen 3:1-6; Rom. 5:12; Rom. 5:19; Eph. 2:1, 3; Rom 1:18; Ezek 18: 19-20; Rom. 1:32; Rom 1:20; Rom; 1:28; Gal 3:22

ARTICLE 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, and that He is both the Son of God, and God, the Son.

Gen 3:15; Isa 7:14; Matt. 1:18-25; Luke 1:35; Mark 1:1; John 1:14; Psalm 2:7; Gal. 4:4; I John 5:20; I Cor. 15:47

**ARTICLE 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 and by His death 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, Christ, the Lord, bearing our sins in His own body on the tree, that, the having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in heaven and uniting in His wonderful person the tenderest of sympathies with divine perfection, He is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate and all sufficient Savior.

Eph 2:8; Acts 15:11; Rom. 3:24; John 3:16; Matt. 18:11; Phil 2:7; Heb. 2:14; Isa 53:4-7; Rom 3:25; I John 4:10; I Cor 5:21; John 10:18; Phil 2:8; Gal 1:4; I Peter 2:24; I Peter 3:18; Isa 53:11; Heb 12:2; I Cor. 15:23; Isa 53:12; Heb 9:12-15; Heb. 7:25; I John 2:2

**ARTICLE IX
OF GRACE IN THE NEW CREATION**

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be born again; that the new birth is a new creation in Jesus Christ; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that in the new birth, the one dead in trespasses and sins is made a partaker in the divine nature and received eternal life, the free gift of God; that the new creation is brought about in a manner above our comprehension, not by culture, not by character, nor by the will of man, but wholly and 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.

John 3:3; II Cor 5:17; Luke 5:27; I John 5:1; John 3:6-7; Acts 2:41; II Peter 1:4; Rom. 6:23; Eph. 2:1; II Cor. 5:19; Col. 2:13; John 1:12-13; Gal 5:22; Eph. 5:9

**ARTICLE 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; and not prevent the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel; which in rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

I Thes 1:4; Col. 3:12; I Pet 1:2; Titus 1:1; Rom 8:29-30; Matt 11:28; Isa 55:1; Rev 22:17; Rom 10:13; John 6:37; Isa 55:6; Acts 2:38; Isa 55:7; John 3:15-16; I Tim 1:15; I Cor. 15:10; Eph. 2:4-5; John 5:40; John 3:18; John 3:36

**ARTICLE XI
OF JUSTIFICATION**

We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is Justification; that Justification includes the pardon of sin, and the right of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that 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 to us.

Acts 13:39; Isa 53:11; Zech 13:1; Rom. 8:1; Rom. 5:9; Rom. 5:1; Titus 3:5-8; Rom 1:17; Hab 2:4; Gal 3:11; Rom 4:1-8; Heb 10:38

ARTICLE XII OF REPENTANCE AND FAITH

We believe that Repentance and Faith are solemn obligations, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the quickening Spirit of God; thereby, being deeply convicted of our guilt, danger and helplessness and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, 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 Savior.

Acts 20:21; Mark 1:15; Acts 2:37-38; Luke 18:13; Rom 10:13; Psalm 51:1-4, 7; Isa 55:6-7; Luke 12:8; Rom 10:9-11

ARTICLE XIII OF THE CHURCH

We believe that a Church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers associated by a covenant of faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws; excising gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word; that its officers of ordination are pastors (elders, bishops) and deacons, 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 teach 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; and that the one and only superintendent is Christ through the Holy Spirit; that it is scriptural for true church 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; on all matters of membership, of policy, of government, of discipline, of benevolence, the will of the local church is final.

Acts 2:41; Acts 2:42; I Cor. 11:2; Eph. 1:22-23; Eph. 4:11; I Cor. 12:4, 8-11; Acts 14:23; Acts 6:5-6; Acts 15:23; Acts 20:17-18; I Tim. 3:1-7; I Tim. 3:8-13; Matt. 28:19-20; Col. 1:18; Eph. 5:23-24; I Pet. 5:1-4; Acts 15:22; Jude 3:4; II Cor. 8:23-24; 1 Cor. 16:1; Mal. 3:10; Lev. 27:32; I Cor. 16:2; I Cor. 6:1-3; I Cor. 5:11-13.

ARTICLE XIV OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer: in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, with the authority of the local church, to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation and to the Lord's supper; in which the members of the church, by the sacred use of bread and wine are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination.

Acts 8:36-39; Matt. 3:6; John 3:23; Rom. 6:4-5; Matt. 3:16; Matt. 28:19; Rom. 6:3-5; Col. 2:12; Acts 2:41-42; Matt. 28:19-20; I Cor. 11:23-28.

**ARTICLE XV
OF THE PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS**

We believe that such are only real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare; and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto eternal salvation.

John 8:31-32; Col. 1:21-23; I John 2:19; Matt. 13:19-20; Rom. 8:28; Matt. 6:20; Psa. 121:3; Heb. 1:14; I Pet. 1:5; Phil. 1:6; John 10:28; John 10:29; John 16:8; Rom. 8:35-39.

**ARTICLE XVI
OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND 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 sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in His esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked, and under the curse, and this distinction holds among men both in and after death, in the everlasting felicity of the saved and the everlasting conscious suffering of the lost.

Mal. 3:18; Gen. 18:23; Rom. 6:17-18; Prov. 11:31; I Pet. 4:18; Rom. 1:17; I Cor. 15:22; Acts 10:34-35; I John 2:29; I John 3:7; Rom. 6:16; I John 5:19; Gal. 3:10; Rom. 7:6; Rom. 6:23; Prov. 14:32; Luke 16:25; Matt. 25:34, 41; John 8:21; Luke 9:26; John 12:25; Matt. 7:13-14.

**ARTICLE 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; except only in 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.

Rom. 13:7; II Sam. 23:3; Ex. 18:21-22; Acts 23:5; Matt. 22:21; Titus 3:1; I Pet. 2:13-14; I Pet. 2:17; Acts 4:19-20; Dan. 3:17-18; Matt. 10:28; Matt. 23:10; Rev. 10:6. Phil 2:10-11; Psalm 72:11.

**ARTICLE XVIII
OF THE RESURRECTION AND RETURN OF CHRIST AND RELATED EVENTS**

We believe in and accept the sacred Scriptures upon 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 ascended "to the right hand of the throne of God" 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 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;" and that "Christ shall reign a thousand years in righteousness until He hath put all enemies under His feet."

Matt. 28:6-7; Luke 24:39; John 20:27; I Cor. 15:4; Mark 16:6; Luke 24:2, 4-6; Acts 1:9; Acts 1:11; Luke 24:51; Mark 16:19; Rev. 3:21; Heb. 8:1; Heb. 12:2; Heb. 8:6; I Tim. 2:5; I John 2:1; Heb. 2:17; Heb. 5:9-10; John 14:3; I Thes. 4:16; Matt. 24:27; Matt. 24:42; Heb. 9:28; I Cor. 15:42-44; I Cor. 15:52-53; I Thes. 4:17; Phil. 3:30-21; Luke 1:32; Isa. 9:29-10; I Cor. 15:25; Isa. 23:1; Isa. 11:4-5; Psalm 72:8; Rev. 20:1-4; Rev. 20:6.

ARTICLE XIX OF MISSIONS

The command to give the gospel to the world is clear and unmistakable and this Commission was given to the churches.

Matt. 28:18-20: "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Ames."

Mark 16:15: " And he said unto them. Go ye into the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

John 20:21: " As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you."

Acts 1:8: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

Rom. 10:13-15: "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

ARTICLE XX OF THE GRACE OF GIVING

Scriptural giving is one of the fundamentals of the Faith.

II Cor. 8:7: "Therefore as ye abound in everything, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also."

We are commanded to bring our gifts into the storehouse (common treasury of the church) upon the first day of the week.

I Cor. 16:2 "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come."

Under grace we give, and do not pay, the tithe—" Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils"--

Heb. 7:2,4—and this was four hundred years before the law, and is confirmed in the New Testament; Jesus said concerning the tithe, "These ye ought to have done"—Matt. 23:23.

We are commanded to bring the tithe into the common treasury of the church.

Lev. 27:30: " The tithe is the Lord's."

Mal. 3:10: "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

In the New Testament it was the common treasury of the church.

Acts 4:34, 35, 37; "And brought the prices of the things that were sold and laid them down at the apostles' feet . . . Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet."

ARTICLE XXI
OF HUMAN SEXUALITY, MARRIAGE, GENDER IDENTITY, AND CHRISTIAN LOVE

Of Human Sexuality:

We believe that God created human sexuality to be an expression of love and unity between a biological man and a biological woman within the covenant of marriage. (Genesis 2:18-25, Matthew 19:3-6, I Corinthians 7:2-4, Ephesians 5:22-33) We believe that any heterosexual sexual activity outside the bond of marriage (including fornication and adultery), any homosexual sexual activity, and any other form of sexual immorality (including bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is an abomination to the Lord (Leviticus 18:19-23), is an indication of sin's decaying effects, deserving of God's righteous judgment (Romans 1:26-32), excludes one from inclusion in the kingdom of God if continually practiced, and can be conquered through Christ's sacrifice on the cross resulting in lasting change (I Corinthians 6:9-11).

Of Marriage:

We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one biological man and one biological woman in a single, exclusive, permanent, covenantal union, that displays God's redemptive work for His Church. (Genesis 2:18-25, Matthew 19:3-6; Ephesians 5:22-33) We believe that scripture condemns all homosexual activity and that marriage, by God's design, can only be entered into by a heterosexual couple.

Of Gender Identity:

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image of God. (Genesis 1:26-27) Rejection of one's biological gender is a rejection of the purpose of God for that person's gender and a repudiation and denial of the glory of God in His creation of that person. (Psalm 139:13-16)

Of Christian Love:

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity for the sake of the gospel. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31.) We believe that the most loving thing one can do is share the truth of what the Bible says about sinful behavior and the hope that the gospel brings (Romans 6:15-23). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture, the message of the gospel, nor the doctrines of Bible Baptist Church.