

Where We Stand

An Overview of the Beliefs and Teachings



Revised by Pastor S.L. Eaton

This booklet is made free for members and non-members to download in pdf format. While. It does not contain the full Constitution, rather, offers those areas within the Constitution which may be applied as “church beliefs” on specific issues.

All questions should be fielded to Pastor Shannon Eaton.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. The Scriptures

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men supernaturally inspired; that it has truth without any mixture 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 the Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

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.

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.

[2 Tim. 3:16,17; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Acts 1:16, 28:25; Psalms 119:160, 119:105, 119:130, 119:89; Luke 24:25-27, Jn. 17:17, 5: 45-47, 5:39; Luke 24:44-45; Proverbs 30:5-6; Romans 3:4; 1 Peter 1:23; Rev. 22:19; Ephesians 6:17]

2. 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, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

[Ex. 20:2-3; Genesis 17:1; 1 Cor. 8:6, 12:4-6, 2: 10-11; Eph. 4:6, 2:18; Jn. 4:24, 15:16, 15:5; Ps. 147:5, 83:18; Jere. 10:10; Exodus 15:11; Rev. 4:11; 1 Tim. 1:17; Ros. 11:33; Mark 12:30; 1 Jn. 5:7; Acts 5:3,4; Philippians 2:5-6, 2 Cpr. 13:14]

3. The Holy Spirit

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 the Evil one until God's purpose is fulfilled; that He convicts of sin, of preaching and testimony; and that He is the agent in the New Birth; that He seals, endures, guides, teaches, witnessed, sanctifies, and helps the believer.

[Mtt. 28:19; Heb. 9:14; Jn 14:26; Luke 1:35; Gen. 1:1-3; 2 Thess. 2:7; Jn 16:8-11, 15: 26-27; Acts 5:30-32; Jn 3:5-6; Eph. 1:13-14; Mtt. 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; Jn 1:33; Acts 11:16; Luke 24:49; Jn 16:13; Jn 14:21; Ro 8:14, 16; 2 Thess. 2:13; 1Peter 1:2; Ro 8: 26-27]

3. The Devil or Satan

We believe that Satan was once holy and enjoyed 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 false religions, the chief power backer of the present apostasy; the lord of the Antichrist, and the author of all the powers of darkness- destined however to final defeat at the hands of God's own Son, and to the judgment of an eternal justice in hell, a place prepared for him and his angels.

[Is. 14:12-15; Eze. 28:14-17; Rev. 12:9; Jude 6; 2 Peter 2:4; Eph. 2:2; Jn 14:30; 2 Thess 2:3-5; Matt 4: 1-3; 1 Peter 5:8; 1 Jn 3:8; Matt 13:25, 37-39; Luke 22:3-4; Rev 12: 10; 2 Cor 11:13-15; Mark 13: 21-22; 1 Jn 4:3; 2 Jn 7:1; 1 Jn 2:22; Rev 13:13-14; 2 Thess 2:8-11; Rev 19:11, 16:20, 12:7-9; 20:1-3]

4. 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 evolution or evolutionary change or 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 that they should bring forth fruit only "after their kind."

[Gen 1:1; Ex 20:11; Acts 4:24; Colossians 1: 16-17; Heb 11:3; Jn 1:3; Rev 10:6; Ro 1:20; Acts 17:23-26; Jerem 10:12; Neh 9:6; Gen 1: 26-27; Genesis 2: 21-23]

5. 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, 24; Ro 5:12, 3:10-19; Eph 2:1-3; Ro 1:18; Eze 18:19-20; Ro 1:32, 20, 28; Gal 3:22]

6. 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.

[Gen 3:15; Is 7:14; Matt 1: 18-25; Luke 1:35; Mark 1:1; 1 Jn 1:14; Psalms 2:7; Gal. 4:4; 1 Jn 5:20; 1 Cor 15:47]

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

[Eph 2:8; Acts 15:11; Ro 3:24; Jn 3:16; Matt 18:11; Philippians 2:7; Heb 2:14; Is 53:4-7; Ro 3:25; 1 Jn 4:10; 1 Cor 15:3; 2 Cor 5:21; Jn 10:18; Philippians 2:8; Gal 1:4; 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18; Is 53:11; Heb 12:2; 1 Cor 15:20; Is 53:12; Heb 9:12-15, 7:25; 1 Jn 2:2]

8. 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 creatio in Christ Jesus; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that in the new birth the one dead in trespasses and sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives 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 obedience to the gospel; that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

[Jn 3:3; 2 Cor 5:17; Luke 2:27; 1 Jn 5:1; Jn 3:6-7; Acts 2:41; 2 Peter 1:4; Ro 6:23; Eph 2:1; 2 Cor 5:19; Colossians 2:13; Jn 1:12-13; Gal 5:22; Eph 5:9]

9. 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 an obedient faith; and 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.

[1 Thess 1:4; Col 3:12; 1 Peter 1:2; Titus 1:1; Ro 8:29-30; Matt 11:28; Is 55:1; Rev 22:17; Ro 10:13; Jn 8:37; Acts 2:38; Is 55:7; Jn 3: 15-16; 1 Tim 1:15; 1 Cor 15:10; Eph 2: 4-5; Jn 5:40; Jn 3:18; Jn 3:36]

10. Justification

We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secure to sch as believe in Him is Justification; the justification includes the pardon of sin, and the gift of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that is bestowed not n 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.

[Acts 13:39; Is 53:11; Zech 13:1; Ro 8:1; Ro 5:9, 5:1; Titus 3: 5-7; Ro 1:17; Heb 2:4; Gal 3:11; Ro 4:1-8; Heb 10:38]

11. 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; Luke 18:13; Ro 10:13; Psalms 51:1-4; Psalms 51:7; Is 55: 6-7; Luke 12:8; Ro 10:9-11]

12. 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; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws; exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in 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 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 the 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; on all matters of membership, of policy, of government, of discipline, of benevolence, the will of the local church is final.

[Acts 2:41-42; 1 Cor 11:2; Eph 1:22-23, 4:11; 1 Cor 12:4, 8-11; Acts 14:23, 6:5-6, 15: 22-23; 20:17-28; 1 Tim 3:1-3; Matt 28: 19-20; Colossians 1:18; Eph 5:23-24; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Acts 15:22; Jude 3, 4; 2 Cor 8:23-24; 1 Cor 16:1; Malachi 3:10; Leviticus 27: 32; 1 Cor 16:2, 6:1-3, 5: 11-13]

13. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

xWe believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of the 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 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 the fruit of the vine (grape juice) are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination. Calvary Baptist Church believes in CLOSED communion when observing the Lord's Supper. By this we mean that only members of Calvary are allowed to partake of this solemn feast.

[Acts 8:36-39; Matt 3:6; Jn 3:23; Ro 6:4-5; Matt 3:16, 28:19; Ro 6:3-5; Colossians 2:12; Acts 2: 41-42; Matt 28:1, 9-20; 1 Cor 11:23-28]

14. The Perseverance of the Saints

We believe that such only are real believers as endure to 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 until eternal salvation.

[Jn 8:31-32; Colossians 1:21-23; 1 Jn 2:19; Matt 13:19-21; Ro 8:28; Matt 6:20; Psalms 121:3; Heb 1:14; 1 Peter 1:5; Philippians 1:6; Jn 10:28-29; Jn 18:8; Ro 8:35-39]

15. 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 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.

[Malachi 3:18; Gen 18:23; Ro 8:17-18; Prov 11:31; 1 Peter 1:8; Ro 1:17; 1 Cor 15:22; Acts 10: 34,35; 1 Jn 2:29; Ro 6:16; Jn 5:19; Gal 3:10; Ro 7:6, 6:23; Prov 14:32; Luke 16:25; Matt 25:34, 41; Jn 8:21; Luke 9:26; Jn 12:25; Matt 7:13-14]

16. 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.

[Romans 13:7,11; II Sam. 23:3; Ex. 18:21-22; Acts 23:5; Matthew 22:21; Titus 3:1; 1 Peter 2: 13,14 and 2:17; Acts 4:19-20; Daniel 3: 17-18; Matt. 10:28, 23:10; Philippians 2:10-11; Psalms 72:11]

17. Resurrection, 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 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;" 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; Jn. 20:27; 1 Cor. 15:4, 15:42-44, 15:25; Mark 16:6; Luke 24:2, 4-6; Acts 1:9-11; Luke 24:51; Mark 16:19; Revelation 3:21; Heb. 8:1, 2:17, 5:9-10, 12:2, 9:28 and 8:6; 1 Tim. 2:5; 1 Jn. 2:1; Jn 14:3; 1 Thess. 4:16,17; Mtt. 24:27, 24:42; Philippians 4:20-21; Like 1:32; Isaiah 11:4-5; Psalms 72:8; Rev. 20:1-4 and 20:6]

18. Missions

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

[Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; John 20:21; Romans 10: 13-15]

19. The Grace of Giving

Scriptural giving is one of the fundamentals of the faith. We are commanded to bring our gifts into the storehouse (common treasury of the church) upon the first day of the week. Under Grace we give, and do not pay, the tithe- "Abraham GAVE the tenth of the spoils" and this was four hundred years before the law, and is confirmed in the New Testament. We are commanded to bring the tithe into the common treasury of the church.

[Hebrews 7:2,4; II Corinthians 8:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2; Matthew 23:23; Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:10; Acts 4:34, 35, 37]

20. Human Sexuality

We believe that God commanded that no intimate sexual activity should be engaged in outside of marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, pornography, and common law marriages are sinful; an abomination in the sight of God.

[Genesis 2:24, 19:53, 26:8-9; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; 1 Corinthians 5:1, 6:9; Hebrews 13:4; John 4:16-10]

21. Abortion

We believe that life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. We believe that abortion, whether by doctor or through a pill, constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of unborn human life. We believe that abortion is murder. We reject any teaching that abortion of pregnancies due to rape, incest, birth defects, gender selection, birth or population control, or the mental well-being of the mother are acceptable.

[Job 3:16; Psalm 51:5, 139:14-16; Isaiah 44:24; Jeremiah 1:5, 20:15-18; Luke 1:44]

22. Lawsuits Between Believers

We believe the Bible forbids Christians from bringing civil lawsuits against other Christians within the church. However, there are civil lawsuits that come about to which the Christian has no control and therefore has to submit to the jurisdiction of the court's judicial system, yet when it comes to civil matter we believe the Word of God is clear that we are to resolve our personal disputes. We believe the church possesses all the resources necessary to resolve personal disputes among its members. We do believe that is acceptable for a Christian to seek compensation for injuries from another Christians' insurance company as long as the claim is pursued without malice, slander or personal profit. [1 Corinthians 6:1-8; Ephesians 4:31-32]

CBC is an Independent, Fundamental Baptist Church and is not overseen by conventions. It's government is Congregational in form.

Calvary Baptist Church adheres to the 1611 King James Bible and uses it as the sole authority in all matters pertaining to the church.

We do not recognize the authority of, nor affiliation with, the National Council of Churches, the World Council of Churches, the American, Northerns, or Southern Baptist Conventions, The Bible Baptist Fellowship, the World Baptist Fellowship, BMI nor the GARBC.

Calvary Baptist Church has no part of nor participation in any ecumenical movements, ministries or alliances.