

Liberty Baptist Church of Naples, Texas
ARTICLES OF FAITH

ARTICLE I

The Scriptures

We believe that the Inspired Scriptures are the Old and New Testaments, the infallible Word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice. We believe that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.

ARTICLE II

God

We believe that there is but one living and true God, an in the Godhead or Divine Essence, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

ARTICLE III

Fallen and Depraved

We believe that we are fallen and depraved creatures, and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature.

ARTICLE IV

Salvation, Etc.

We believe that Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification, Justification and Redemption are by the Life, Death, Resurrection, Ascension, and Intercession of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE V

Everlasting Life

We believe that God has provided for man's eternal salvation. The Holy Scriptures teach us in St. John Chapter 3 verse 16, that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

ARTICLE VI

Baptism and Communion

We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ appointed in the Church, and that none but true believers are subjects, and that the only proper mode of Baptism is immersion.

ARTICLE VII

The Lord's Day

We believe in the sanctity of the first day of the week or Lord's Day, and that it ought to be observed in the public or private worship of God, and that on it we should abstain from our worldly concerns, except in cases of necessity or mercy.

ARTICLE VIII

Christian Duties

We believe that it is a duty to be tender and affectionate one to another, and to study the happiness of the people of God in general, and to be singly engaged to promote the honor and glory of God.

ARTICLE IX

Atonement

We believe that Jesus Christ tasted death for every man, and none can partake of His divine benefits except by repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ; infants excepted, they being in the covenant of God's grace.

ARTICLE X

Door of the Church

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the door into the church, and that baptism is a duty in answer to a good conscience.

ARTICLE XI

Unity of God's People

We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him; therefore they should be one at His table.

ARTICLE XII

Rapture

We believe in the Premillennial Return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, for His Church. The dead in Christ shall rise first and those, living, born again, believers will be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye and will all go up to meet Him and be with Him for eternity.

Article XIII

Gender, Marriage, and Sexuality

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Genesis 1:26-27.) Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

We believe that the term “marriage” has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Genesis 2:18-25.)

We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (1 Corinthians 6:18; 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4.)

We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matthew 15:18-20; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10)

Article XIV

Sanctity of Human Life

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Ps 139.)

Final Authority for Matters of Belief and Conduct

The statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For purposes of Liberty Baptist Church’s faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Pastor (and Elder Board if established) is Liberty’s final interpretive authority on the Bible’s meaning and application.

Liberty Baptist Church of Naples, Texas
ARTICLES OF FAITH

THE SCRIPTURES

Article I

We believe that the Inspired Scriptures are the Old and New Testaments, the infallible Word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice. We believe that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.

Scripture References:

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17
All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.
- Hebrews 1:1-2
God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spoke in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoke unto us by his son.
- 2 Peter 1:21
For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man but by holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.
- Acts 3:21
...which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.
- Luke 1:70
As he spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets...
- Isaiah 8:20
To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.
See also Titus 1:2 and Hebrews 6:18
- Matthew 25:46
And these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal.
- John 5:28-29
...the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.
- See also Daniel 12:2, Matthew 25:32-46, Mark 9:43-44, Romans 6:23; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-10 and Jude 7

GOD

Article II

We believe that there is but one living and true God, an in the Godhead or Divine Essence, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Scripture References:

(THE GODHEAD)

- Matthew 28:19
Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
- Hebrews 9:14
How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

(GOD THE FATHER)

- Ephesians 4:6
One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all and in all.
- 1 Corinthians 8:6
But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things and we by him
- See also: Deuteronomy 4:39; Matthew 6:9, 11:25; John 17:3; 1 Thessalonians 1:9; 1 Timothy 2:5

(GOD THE SON)

- Isaiah 9:6
For unto us is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.
- John 1:1, 3, 14
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things were made by him, and without him was not anything made that was made. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth.
- See also: John 20:28; Romans 9:5; Colossians 1:17, 2:9; 1 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 1:8

(GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT)

- John 3:16
God...gave His only begotten Son. Matthew 1:18...she (Mary) was found with child of the Holy Ghost.
- 2 Timothy 3:16
All Scripture is given by inspiration of God. 2 Peter 1:21 ...holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

- See also: Romans 8:11; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6; 1 Peter 3:18

FALLEN AND DEPRAVED

Article III

We believe that we are fallen and depraved creatures, and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature.

Scripture References:

- Psalms 51:5
Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.
- Romans 3:10, 12
There is none righteous, no, not one. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no not one.
- Ephesians 2:3
...and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.
- See also: Isaiah 1:5-6; Jeremiah 13:23; Jeremiah 17:9; John 6:44; Romans 5:12, 17, 18, 6:23, 8:6-8; 1 Corinthians 2:14, 15:21, 22; Galatians 2:21; James 5:5; 1 Peter 1:18

SALVATION, ETC.

Article IV

We believe that Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification, Justification and Redemption are by the Life, Death, Resurrection, Ascension, and Intercession of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Scripture References:

(SALVATION)

- Hebrews 5:9
...The author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him...
- Acts 4:12
Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.
- See also: Titus 1:4; 1 John 4:14

(REGENERATION)

- Titus 3:5
Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost
- See also: John 3:3-8; 1 Peter 1:23

(SANCTIFICATION)

- Hebrews 10:10

...we are sanctified, through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

- Hebrews 10:29
...the blood of the covenant, where-with he was sanctified...
- See also: 1 Corinthians 1:2, 6:11

(JUSTIFICATION)

- 1 Corinthians 6:11
...ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus...
- Romans 5:9
...being now justified by his blood...
- See also: Colossians 1:14; Revelation 5:9

(REDEMPTION)

- Galatians 3:13
Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us:
- Hebrews 9:12
..., but by his own blood, he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.
- See also: Colossians 1:14; and Revelation 5:9

(LIFE AND DEATH)

- Romans 5:10
...we shall be saved by his life
- John 1:4
In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.
- Hebrews 9:15
...that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.
- See also: John 10:11, 15 and 1 John 3:16

(RESURRECTION)

- Romans 4:25
Who was delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification.
- 1 Peter 1:3
...hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead

(ASCENSION)

- Ephesians 4:8

When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.

- Hebrews 4:14
Seeing then that we have a great high priest that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession

(INTERCESSION)

- Romans 8:34
It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.
- Hebrews 7:25
Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.
- See also: Isaiah 53:12

EVERLASTING LIFE

Article V

We believe that God has provided for man's eternal salvation. The Holy Scriptures teach us in St. John Chapter 3 verse 16, that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Scripture References:

- John 10:27-29
“My sheep hear my voice and I know them, and they follow me, and I give unto them eternal life. And they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.”
- 1 Peter 1:10
“Wherefore the rather Brethen, give diligence to make your calling and election sure, for if ye do these things ye shall never fall, for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

BAPTISM AND COMMUNION

Article VI

We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ appointed in the Church, and that none but true believers are subjects, and that the only proper mode of Baptism is immersion.

Scripture References:

(BAPTISM)

- Matthew 28:29
“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost;”

- Acts 2:38
“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized...”
- Acts 2:41
“Then they that gladly received his word were baptized. Believers’ Baptism”
- Acts 8:37
“And Phillip said, if thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest”
- 1 Corinthians 1:2
“Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints:...”
- Acts 2:41
“Then they that gladly received his word were baptized...”
- Acts 2:47
“And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”

(COMMUNION)

- Matthew 26:26-29
“And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, take, eat; This is my body. And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, drink ye all of it: for this is my blood for the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”
- Mark 14:22-25
“And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and gave to them, and said, take, eat; this is my body. And He took the cup; and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them: and they all drank of it. And He said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many. Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it ne in the kingdom of God.”
- Luke 22: 19-20
“And He took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body, which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise, also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.”
- 1 Corinthians 11:23-29
“For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread: And when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, take, eat; this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying. This cup is the New Testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord’s death till he come. Wherefore, whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But

let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."

THE LORD'S DAY

Article VII

We believe in the sanctity of the first day of the week or Lord's Day, and that it ought to be observed in the public or private worship of God, and that on it we should abstain from our worldly concerns, except in cases of necessity or mercy.

Scripture References:

- John 20:19
"Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus, and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you."
- Acts 20:7
"And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them..."
- Mark 2: 27-28
"The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath."
- See also: Exodus 20:8; Isaiah 58:13-14; John 20:26; 1 Corinthians 16:2; and Revelation 1:10

CHRISTIAN DUTIES

Article VIII

We believe that it is a duty to be tender and affectionate one to another, and to study the happiness of the people of God in general, and to be singly engaged to promote the honor and glory of God.

Scripture References:

- Galatians 6:10
"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."
- 1 Peter 2:17
"Honor all men. Love the brotherhood."
- Romans 12:10
"Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another;"
- 1 Peter 1:7
"...And to Godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity."

- See also: John 7:18; 1 Corinthians 2:2; 1 Thessalonians 3:12

ATONEMENT

Article IX

We believe that Jesus Christ tasted death for every man, and none can partake of His divine benefits except by repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ; infants excepted, they being in the covenant of God's grace.

Scripture References:

- Hebrews 2:9
“But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor: that He by the grace of God, shall taste death for every man.”
- Luke 13:5
“I tell you, Nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.”
- Hebrews 11:6
“But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently see him.”
- Romans 5:13
“For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputer when there is no law.”
- See also: Mark 16:16; John 3:16, 18, 36, 12:32; Acts 3:19, 17:30; 2 Corinthians 5:15; 1 Timothy 2:6; Hebrews 4:2; and 1 John 2:2

DOOR OF THE CHURCH

Article X

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the door into the church, and that baptism is a duty in answer to a good conscience.

Scripture References:

- John 10:9
“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture”
- 1 Peter 3:21
“The like figure, whereunto, even baptism doth also now save us, (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”
- See also: Hebrews 10:20

UNITY OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Article XI

We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him; therefore they should be one at His table.

Scripture References:

- Matthew 26:27-28
“And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it: For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.”
- I Corinthians 12: 13-14
“For by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free, and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many.”
- See also: John 17: 20-21; Galatians 3:28

RAPTURE

Article XII

We believe in the Premillennial Return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, for His Church. The dead in Christ shall rise first and those, living, born again, believers will be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye and will all go up to meet Him and be with Him for eternity.

Scripture References:

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; John 4: 1-3; Acts 1: 10-11; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52