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Articles of Faith

A Summary of Doctrinal Beliefs

We, the Liberty Baptist Church, believe the Holy Bible to be **the** source of

truth. We therefore gladly turn to it as the source of our faith. In this booklet

we have given a brief summary of our faith in a topical format.

Doctrine of the Bible . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1

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Doctrine of the Holy Spirit . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1

Doctrine of Angels . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 2

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Doctrine of Salvation . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 3

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**DOCTRINE OF THE BIBLE**

We believe the writings of the Old and New Testaments, as originally written, were verbally

inspired, therefore making God the actual author of the Bible. We believe that God has preserved

His words without error and that we have God's Word and word's in the original Biblical languages

today. We have confidence in the Greek testament commonly referred to as the *Textus Receptus*

and in it's English translation (the King James Version). The Old and New Testaments are our only

infallible and authoritative rule of faith and practice. II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:19-21

**DOCTRINE OF THE TRIUNE GOD**

We believe that God is one in essence and nature and yet composed of three persons; thus there

is one and only one true God and that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the

Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; that they are equal and execute distinct but harmonious offices

in the great work of redemption. Exodus 20:2-3; I Corinthians 8:6; Genesis 17:1; II Corinthians

3:17

**DOCTRINE OF JESUS CHRIST**

We believe that Jesus Christ is the second Person of the Triune God and therefore He has always

been and was never created. Without giving up His deity He became man by the miracle of the

virgin birth in that He was begotten of the Holy Spirit and born of Mary, a virgin. As the perfect

Lamb of God He gave Himself in death upon the cross, arose bodily and ascended into Heaven

where He is our High Priest and advocate with the Father. John 1:1, 14; Matthew 1:18-25;

Philippians 2:6-8; I Corinthians 15:3-7; Luke 24:2-8, 51; Hebrews 4:14-16

**DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**1. The Holy Spirit** — We believe the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Triune God who

convicts the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgement; that He indwells and seals

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all who become children of God through Christ; that He empowers, teaches, sanctifies, and

fills believers daily as they surrender to Him. John 16:8-11, 14:16, 17; Romans 8:9; I

Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 1:13; Acts 1:8; John 14:26; II Corinthians 3:18; Ephesians 5:18

**2. The Charismatic Movement** — We believe the current charismatic movement is not a

scriptural movement. The gifts of tongues, healing, drinking poison, and handling snakes were

"sign-gifts" confirming the truth of the new revelation which the apostles were preaching.

Once the new revelation was recorded in Scripture (New Testament) the confirming signs

were no longer necessary and thus ended. Tongues had a deeper meaning regarding the

destruction of Israel by a foreign power and ended when Israel was conquered by the

Romans in 70 A.D. Mark 16:15-20; Luke 16:27-31; I Corinthians 13:8, 14:21,22

**DOCTRINE OF ANGELS**

**1. Holy Angels** — We believe that God created a host of angelic beings. Their ministry to the

Christian is to protect, guide, and transport to heaven at death. Psalm 148:1-5; Hebrews

1:13,14; Psalm 91:10-12; Acts 27:23, 24; Luke 16:22

**2. Satan** — We believe in the personality of Satan; that he was an exalted angel which rebelled

against God; that he is now the unholy god of this age and is destined for eternal punishment

in the lake of fire. II Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 20:10

**3. Unholy Angels** — We believe that Satan led 1/3 of the angels in his rebellion against God

and they are now the demons which aid him in his efforts to destroy that which is godly.

Revelation 12:4; Ephesians 6:12

**DOCTRINE OF MAN**

**1. Creation** — We believe the Genesis account of creation as being neither allegory nor myth,

but a literal account of the direct creative acts of God. No evolution was employed. All of

mankind are descendants of the historical Adam and Eve. Genesis 1&2; John 1:3

**2. Fall** — We believe that when Adam and Eve disobeyed God in Eden, they brought about the

ruin of the entire human race causing it to fall into sin which brought spiritual, physical, and

eternal death. Genesis 3:1-6; Romans 5:12-19

**3. Destination** — We believe that man's destination is hell; that this comes as a result of his

rebellion against God and alignment with Satan. Romans 6:23a; II Thessalonians 1:7b-9;

Revelation 20, 21:8

**4. Family** — We believe that the family is the basic unit of society. God gives children to families

with the responsibility to rear them. Such responsibility includes their education. Genesis 2;

Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Psalm 127 & 128; Ephesians 6:1-4. We believe that the family is a man

and a woman covenanted together for life and 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 homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery

and pornography are sinful perversions of God’s gift of sex (Genesis 2:24; 19:5, 13; 26:8-9;

Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; I Corinthians 5:1; 6:9; I Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews

13:4).

**5. Abortion** — We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a

living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, without excuse taking of unborn

human life. Abortion is murder. We reject any teaching that abortions of pregnancies due to

rape, incest, birth defects, gender selection, birth or population control, or the mental wellbeing

of the mother are acceptable (Job 3:16; Psalm 51:5; 139:14-16; Isaiah 44:24; 49:1, 5;

Jeremiah 1:5; 20:15-18; Luke 1:44).

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**6. Civil Government** — We believe that civil government is of divine appointment for the

interest and good order of human society; that magistrates are to be prayed for, and obeyed

(except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ); that the church and state are

to be separate (no state established church), each having definite and distinct spheres of

responsibility. Neither the church nor the state has the right to infringe upon the God-ordained

responsibilities of the other. Romans 13:1-7; II Samuel 23:3; Exodus 18:21, 22; Matthew

22:21; Acts 5:29, 4:19, 20; Daniel 3:17, 18

**DOCTRINE OF SIN**

**1. Nature of Sin** — We believe that sin is the transgression of the law, will and desire of God;

that sin is disobedience, lawlessness, “a missing the mark” of God's revealed will; that man

was created in innocence and that by voluntary choice man transgressed God's law, and all

men sinned in him, therefore all men are totally depraved being sinners by nature and by

conduct. Genesis 3:1-6; Romans 3:10-19, 5:12, 19; I John 3:4

**2. Penalty of Sin** — We believe that the penalty of sin is death—spiritual death, physical death

and eternal death in hell. Genesis 2:17; Ephesians 2:1, 5; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:11-15

**DOCTRINE OF SALVATION**

**1. Meaning of Salvation** — We believe that the doctrine of salvation deals with God rescuing

(saving) man from the results of sin. God rescues man from the power of sin, enabling a

rescued man to live a holy life; from the penalty of sin, giving a rescued man a release from

hell; and from the presence of sin one day when taken to heaven. Luke 15; Romans 6;

Revelation 20:11-15; 21:24-27

**2. Death of Jesus Christ** — We believe Jesus' death made a full and vicarious (in our place)

payment for our sin; that His death consisted not in merely setting an example for us as a

martyr, but was a voluntary substitution of Himself in the sinner's place, the Just dying for the

unjust, bearing our sin in His own body on the tree. Romans 3:24, 25; Hebrews 2:14, 9:22;

Isaiah 53; I Peter 1:18-21, 2:24 There could be NO salvation without His death through the

shedding of His blood.

**3. Salvation By Grace** — We believe that our salvation is a free gift from God, not merited in

any way, therefore is wholly by grace. Salvation is received by the placing of one's faith (trust)

in the Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 2:8, 9

**4. Repentance** — We believe that repentance is a change of mind and purpose from sin

toward God; that it is characterized by godly sorrow for sin that separates man from God, and

that true repentance is inseparably related to true faith. Acts 20:21

**5. Remission** — We believe that remission (forgiveness) of sins is only received through and

because of the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Hebrews 9:22; I John 1:7

**6. New Birth** — We believe that salvation is a spiritual birth whereby one enters the family of

God and becomes partaker of God's nature. John 3:1-8, 1:12, 13; I John 2:29, 3:9, 4:7, 5:1,

4, 18; II Peter 1:4

**7. Atonement** — We believe that salvation involves atonement (“to cover over”) which deals

with the covering and removal of our sin. Lev. 6:1, 2, 6, 7; Psalm 103:10-12; Micah 7:19b

**8. Propitiation** — We believe that salvation involves the satisfying of God's holy wrath against

sin. I John 4:10; Romans 3:24-26

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**9. Reconciliation** — We believe that salvation involves our being restored to God's fellowship.

Romans 5:9, 10; Colossians 1:21-23

**10. Redemption** — We believe that salvation involves our being purchased from the slave

market of sin by the blood of Jesus Christ and being set free from the power of sin. I Peter

1:18, 19; Titus 2:13, 14; I Corinthians 6:19, 20

**11. Justification** — We believe salvation involves the judicial act of God by which He declares

the believing sinner to be righteous and acceptable before Him because Christ has borne the

sinner's sin on the cross, and has been made unto him righteousness. Romans 3:24, 28, 5:1;

Galatians 2:16; I Corinthians 1:30

**12. Sanctification** — We believe that salvation involves the act of setting apart a sinner unto

God, the process of daily becoming more set apart unto God, and the future event of being

completely set apart unto God. Sanctification has to do with holiness or separation from sin

unto God. I Corinthians 6:11, 15:51-54; Hebrews 10:10-14; II Peter 3:18; I John 3:2

**13. Righteous and Wicked** — We believe only those who are justified by faith in our Lord Jesus

Christ are righteous in the sight of God. Those who continue in unbelief are, in God's sight,

wicked and under the curse of the law and face everlasting conscious suffering. Malachi 3:18;

Romans 6:17, 18; Proverbs 14:32; Galatians 3:10

**14. Security of the Saints** — We believe that those who are truly saved are kept by the power

of God, and sealed by the spirit of God, therefore making it impossible to be lost once saved.

I Peter 1:5; Romans 8:35-39; Ephesians 1:13

**15. Priesthood of the Believers** — We believe that through Jesus Christ every believer has

direct access into God's presence without the need of a human priest; that every believer has

the right and responsibility to study the Scriptures guided by the Holy Spirit. Hebrews 4:16;

II Timothy 2:15; I Peter 2:9

**16. Separation** — We believe those who have been saved, as God's children, should live holy

lives and thus separate themselves from worldliness and ecclesiastical apostasy unto God.

II Corinthians 6:14-7:1; I Thessalonians 1:9; I timothy 6:3-5; Romans 16:17; II John 1:9-11;

I Jn. 2:15-17

**DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH**

**1. The Church** — We believe that a church is an organized assembly of saved, baptized

believers meeting for worship, prayer, fellowship, teaching, to practice the ordinances, and

to carry out the Great Commission; that this assembly is independent and free to govern itself

without ecclesiastical interference; that this assembly is accountable directly to it's Head

(Jesus Christ). Matthew 28:19, 20; I Corinthians 11:2; Acts 2:41, 42; Matthew 18:15-17; Acts

15; Colossians 1:18

**2. Bishops and Deacons** — We believe that God established the offices of the church to

minister to it and enable it to carry out it's function effectively. The office of bishop (terms

bishop, elder, pastor are used interchangeably) designates the overseer who provides

leadership to the church. The office of deacon designates men who are yielded to serving the

church in ways that enable the pastor to be more effective in the ministry of the Word of God

through preaching, teaching and praying. Philippians 1:1; Acts 20:17, 28; Titus 1:5-7; I Peter

5:1-4; Acts 6; I Timothy 3

“...ye should earnestly contend for the

faith which was once delivered unto

the saints.” Jude 3

**3. Baptism and Lord's Supper** — We believe that only two ordinances were given to the

church — baptism and the Lord's Supper; that Christian baptism is the immersion of a

believer in water under the authority of a New Testament church, portraying the death, burial

and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, through Whom we died to sin and rose to a new

life; that Christian baptism is the door into church membership. We believe that the Lord's

supper is a continuing memorial of the broken body and shed blood of Christ observed by the

church and should be preceded by solemn self-examination. Matthew 28:19, 20; Romans

6:3-5; Colossians 2:12; Acts 2:41, 42; Matthew 26:26-30; I Corinthians 11:23-34

**4. New Testament Church** — We believe that God established one kind of church and that

through sin, division and different doctrinal belief many different kinds of churches have been

established. We believe that the distinctive beliefs of the Baptists are those of the New

Testament church and that we have an historic and doctrinal continuity which stretches back

to Jesus Christ, a heritage stained with the blood of our Baptist forefathers. Matthew 3:1, 2,

13, 16:18; Acts 20:28-30; II Timothy 4:1-4; History

**DOCTRINE OF FUTURE THINGS**

**1. Rapture** — We believe in the imminent, pretribulational catching away of the saints, and that

at that moment the dead in Christ shall be raised in glorified bodies, and the living in Christ

shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. I Thessalonians 4:13-18; I Corinthians 15:42-

44, 51-54; Philippians 3:20, 21; Revelation 3:10

**2. Tribulation and Millennium** — We believe that the Tribulation Period, which follows the

Rapture of the saints, will be culminated by the revelation of Christ in power and great glory

to sit upon the throne of David and to establish a literal millennial reign. Daniel 9:25-27;

Matthew 24:29-31; Luke 1:30-33; Isaiah 9:6, 7, 11:1-9; Acts 2:29, 30; Revelation 20:1-4, 6

**3. Final Events** — We believe that following a 1000 year reign on earth Satan will be loosed,

a final battle fought, the earth renovated by fire, the Great White Throne Judgement held and

the New Paradise entered by the saints of the ages! Revelation 20:7-22:5

**4. Heaven and Hell** — We believe that the saved at death go immediately to be with Christ in

Heaven, that their works shall be brought before the Judgement Seat of Christ for the

determination of rewards which will take place at the time when Christ comes for His own; that

the spirits of the unsaved at death descend immediately into Hades where they are kept in

fiery punishment until the final day of judgment, at which time their bodies shall be raised from

the grave, that they shall be judged and cast into Hell, the place of final and everlasting fiery

punishment. John 14:1-6; II Corinthians 5:8-10; I Peter 3:22; Matthew 25:46; Luke 16:19-31;

Mark 9:42-48; Revelation 20:11-15

*This summary of our faith is to be viewed as a brief and orderly display of the core*

*doctrines which we believe are taught in God's Word.*