

Bethel Baptist Temple

Declaration of Faith

1. We believe the Bible is the whole, verbally-inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God (II Peter 1:22; II Timothy 3:16).
2. We believe in the Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ (John 10:33); in His Virgin Birth (Isa. 7:14); (Matt. 1:23; Luke 1:35); in His sinless life (Heb. 4:15; 7:25); in His miracles (John 2:11); in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood (Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14); in His bodily resurrection (John 11:25); in His ascension to the right hand of the Father (Acts 1:11); and in His personal, imminent, premillennial return in power and glory (Rev. 19:11-16).
3. We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Gen. 1:1; John 10:30; John 4:24).
4. We believe that all men are sinful by nature and, as such, at enmity with God, therefore, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential to their salvation (Rom. 3:19).
5. We believe that men are justified on the single ground of faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ and that only by God's grace and through faith alone are we saved (Acts 13:33-39).
6. We believe that Satan is a person and that hell is a place of eternal conscious punishment of all unsaved (Job 1:6-7; Matt. 25:46; Rev. 20:14-15).
7. We believe that the Holy Spirit convicts of sin, makes believers children of God through the new birth, assuring them of heaven, and by His indwelling enables Christians to live a Godly life (John 16:8; 1 Cor. 3:16; 1 Cor 12:13).
8. We believe in the eternal security of the believer (John 10:28-29).
9. We believe that the local church is composed of born again, immersed believers, voluntarily united together for the purpose of the worship of God, the instruction and fellowship of believers, and the proclamation of the Gospel of Christ throughout the world (Acts 2:41-42; Matt. 28:19-20).
10. We believe that tongues ceased after the completion of the New Testament. There is no reliable evidence today of the miraculous gift of speaking in tongues, therefore we do not support the modern charismatic movement (1 Cor. 13:8; 2 Pet. 1:19; Eph 2:20; Heb. 2:4).
11. We believe in the pre-tribulation rapture of the Church and the pre-millennial return of Christ (1 Thess. 4:17; Mark 13:24-26; Rev. 20:4).
12. We believe that our distinctives are scripturally sound. They include: the Bible as the supreme authority in all matters of faith and practice (2 Tim. 3:16); the Lordship of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:36; 1 Cor. 12:3; Col. 1:17-18); the priesthood of all believers (1 Pet. 2:5); a

regenerate church membership (Acts 2:41-42); the symbolic ordinances of Believer's Baptism (immersion) and the Lord's Supper (Acts 8:36-39; Rom. 6:3-5; 1 Cor. 11:23-32); the autonomy of the local church (Eph 1:22-23; 1 Timothy 3:1-15); wide program of missionary endeavor in obedience to the final command of our Lord (Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:19-20).