



Beijing Baptist Church Statement of Faith

1. The Scriptures

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction (1); that it has God for its author, salvation for its end (2), and truth without any mixture of error for its matter (3); that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us (4); and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union (5), and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions should be tried (6).

(1) 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:21; 1 Sam. 23:2; Acts 1:16; 3:21; John 10:35; Luke 16:29-31; Psa. 119:11; Rom. 3:1-2; (2) 2 Tim. 3:15; 1 Pet. 1:10-12; Acts 11:14; Rom. 1:16; Mark 16:16; John 5:38-39; (3) Prov. 30:5-6; John 17:17; Rev. 22:18-19; Rom. 3:4; (4) Rom. 2:12; John 12:47-48; 1 Cor. 4:34; Luke 10:10-16; 12:47-48; (5) Phil. 3:16; Eph. 4:3-6; Phil. 2:1-2; 1 Cor. 1:10; 1 Pet. 4:11; (6) 1 John 4:1; Isa. 8:20; 1 Thess. 5:21; 2 Cor. 8:5; Acts 17:11; 1 John 4:6; Jude 1:3-4; Eph. 6:17; Psa. 119:59-60; Phil. 1:9-11

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 (1); inexpressibly glorious in holiness (2), and worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love (3); that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (4); equal in every divine perfection (5), and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption(6).

(1) John 4:24; Psa. 147:5; 83:18; Heb. 3:4; Rom. 1:20; Jer. 10:10; (2) Exod. 15:11; Isa. 6:3; 1 Pet. 1:15-16; Rev. 4:6-8; (3) Mark 12:30; Rev. 4:11; Matt. 10:37; Jer. 2:12-13; (4) Matt. 28:19; John 15:26; 1 Cor. 12:4-6; 1 John 5:7; (5) John 10:30; 5:17; 14:23; 17:5, 10; Acts 5:3-4; 1 Cor. 2:10-11; Phil. 2:5-6; (6) Eph. 2:18; 2 Cor. 13:14; Rev. 1:4-5

3. Creation

We believe that God created out of nothing in six literal days, and declared all His creation to be very good (1); that He created not out deficiency in Himself (2), but out of a desire to display His glory (3) for the everlasting joy (4) of the redeemed, from every tribe and tongue and people and nation (5).

(1) Genesis 1:1; Psalm 24:1-2; Hebrews 1:2; 11:3; John 1:1-3; (2) Exodus 3:13-14; Psalm 50:9-15; Acts 17:25; (3) Isaiah 43:7; (4) Isaiah 35:10; Matthew 25:23; (5) Rev. 5:9; 7:9-10

4. The Creation of Man and Woman

We believe that God directly created Adam from the dust of the ground and Eve from his side. We believe that Adam and Eve were the historical parents of the entire human race (1); that they were created male and female equally in the image of God (2) without sin (3); that they were created to glorify their God and live together in joyful harmony in distinct yet complementary roles to subdue the earth and multiply the human race (4); that this pattern of one man and one woman in marriage until death parts them is God's benevolent will (5); that God gave the gift and pleasure of marital intimacy for the mutual benefit of husband and wife, for the bearing of children, for the prevention of immorality and ultimately as a picture of the relationship between Christ and the church (6); that God's pattern for the family is the Lord as Head of the home, the husband as loving head of the wife, the wife submitting to her own husband in reverential trust of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the children as obedient to their parents (7).

(1) Genesis 2:7; 1:27; 2:21-22; 1 Cor. 15:22; 15:45; Rom. 5:14; (2) Genesis 1:27; Genesis 9:6; James 3:9; (3) Genesis 1:31; (4) Genesis 1:28; 2:18; (5) Genesis 2:21-24; Matt. 19:4-6; 1 Cor. 7:39; (6) Genesis 1:28; 1 Cor. 7:2-3; Hebrews 13:4; Ephesians 5; (7) Ephesians 5:22-33; 6:1-3; Col. 3:18-21

5. The Fall of Man

We believe that man fell, by voluntary transgression, from his perfect and joyful state (1), that now, as a consequence of the first man's disobedience all mankind are sinners by birth and by choice (2), completely lacking the holiness that God demands, positively inclined to evil (3); and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse (4).

(1) Genesis 3:6-24; Romans 5:12; (2) Romans 5:15-19; John 3:6; Psalm 51:5; Isaiah 53:6; (3) Genesis 6:12; Romans 3:9-18; James 1:13-15; Genesis 6:5; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 1:28-32; Titus 1:15; (4) Romans 1:20; 3:19; Ezekiel 18:19-20; Galatians 3:22

6. The Way of Salvation

We believe that the offer of salvation is made free to all by the gospel of Jesus Christ (1), who by means of the Holy Spirit and virgin birth (2) retained His full deity (3) while freely taking upon him our nature, yet without sin (4); that, through His perfect obedience to the law of God (5), His death on the cross (6), His bodily resurrection from the dead and His ascension to His Father's right hand (7), He fully satisfied the wrath of God, making a blood atonement for sinners and securing forever the justification of all who are called of God; of all who believe on His name.

(1) John 3:16; 1:1-14; Heb. 4:14; 12:24; (2) Is. 7:14; Matt. 1:23; Lk. 1:30-35; (3) John 1:14-18; (4) Phil. 2:6-7; Heb. 2:9, 14; 2 Cor. 5:21; (5) Isa.42:21; Phil. 2:8; Gal. 4:4-5; Rom. 3:21; (6) Is.

53:4-5; Matt. 20:28; Rom. 4:25; 3:21-26; 1 Jn. 4:10; 2:2; 1 Cor. 15:1-3; Heb. 9:13-15; (7) Heb. 1:8, 3; 8:1; Col. 3:1-4

7. The New Birth

We believe this salvation is best described as a “new birth” or regeneration (1), whereby the Spirit of God, in fulfillment of God’s promise in the new covenant, cleanses the sinner of his personal record of sins against God, secures the sinner’s voluntary obedience to the gospel, and gives the sinner a new heart to love God, to desire His will, and to obey His commands.

(1) John 3; (2) Jeremiah 31:31-34; Luke 22:20; 2 Cor. 3:6; Heb. 8:8-12

8. Repentance and Faith

We believe that God commands all people everywhere to repent (1) and place their personal faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord (2); that each person is absolutely dependent on the Spirit of God to graciously and freely grant the grace of repentance and faith (3); that these are evidenced by confession of sin, prayer for mercy (4), and wholehearted receiving of the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, relying on Him alone as the only and all-sufficient Savior (5).

(1) Acts 17:30; Mark 1:15; (2) John 3:16-18; Acts 16:31; Romans 6:23; Romans 10:9-10; (3) Acts 11:18; Ephesians 2:8; John 1:12-13; 1 John 5:1; (4) Luke 18:13; 15:18-21; James 4:7-10; 2 Cor. 7:11; Rom. 10:12-13; Psa. 51; (5) Rom. 10:9-11; Acts 3:22-23; Heb. 4:14; Psa. 2:6; Heb. 1:8; 8:25; 2 Tim. 1:12

9. Sanctification

We believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness (1); that it is a progressive work (2); that it begins at regeneration (3); and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means, – especially, the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer (4). We believe that at the moment of salvation, the believer is indwelt by the Holy Spirit, and that the believer does not seek the Spirit’s baptism as an evidence of salvation. It is the believer’s responsibility to seek to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit (5).

(1) 1 Thess. 4:3; 5:23; 2 Cor. 7:1; 13:9; Eph. 1:4; (2) Prov. 4:18; 2 Cor. 3:18; Heb. 6:1; 2 Pet. 1:5-8; Phil. 3:12-16; (3) John 2:29; Rom. 8:5; John 3:6; Phil. 1:9-11; Eph. 1:13-14; (4) Phil. 2:12-13; Eph. 4:11-12; 1 Pet. 2:2; 2 Pet. 3:18; 2 Cor. 13:5; Luke 11:35; 9:23; Matt. 26:41; Eph. 6:18; 4:30; (5) Matthew 3:11; John 1:33; 3:5-7; Romans 6:3-5; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 5:18

10. The Perseverance of Saints

We believe that all who are real believers endure to the end (1); that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors (2); that a special Providence watches over their welfare (3); and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation (4).

(1) John 8:31; 1 John 2:27-28; 3:9; 5:18; (2) 1 John 2:19; John 13:18; Matt. 13:20-21; John 6:66-69; Job 17:9; (3) Rom. 8:28; Matt. 6:30-33; Jer. 32:40; Psa. 121:3; 91:11-12; (4) Phil. 1:6; 2:12-13; Jude 24-25; Heb. 1:14; 2 Kings 6:16; Heb. 13:5; 1 John 4:4

11. A Gospel Church

We believe that the Church, which is the espoused body of the bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all born-again persons (1); that a local body is a congregation of born-again believers (2), associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel (3); observing the ordinances of Christ (4); governed by His laws (5); exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word (6); that it is scriptural for churches of like faith and practice to cooperate with each other in contending for the faith and for the furtherance of the Gospel, with each local church as the sole judge of the measure and method of its cooperation; and that on matters of membership, policy of government, discipline, benevolence, etc., the will of the local church is final (7). We believe that the church's only scriptural officers are elders and deacons (8), whose qualifications, claims, and duties are defined in the letters to Timothy and Titus.

(1) Eph. 1:22-23; 5:25-27; 1 Cor. 12:12-24; (2) 1 Cor. 1:1-13; Matt. 18:17; Acts 5:11; 8:1; 11:31; 1 Cor. 4:17; 14:23; 3 John 9; 1 Tim. 3:5; (3) Acts 2:41-42; 2 Cor. 8:5; Acts 2:47; 1 Cor. 5:12-13; (4) 1 Cor. 11:2; 2 Thess. 3:6; Rom. 16:17-20; 1 Cor. 11:23; Matt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor 5:6; 2 Cor. 2:7; 1 Cor. 4:17; (5) Matt. 28:20; John 14:15; 15:12; 1 John 4:21; John 14:21; 1 Thess. 4:2; 2 John 6; Gal. 6:2; all the Epistles; (6) Eph. 4:7; 1 Cor. 14:12; Phil. 1:27; 1 Cor. 12:14; (7) Jude 1:3; 1 Cor. 5:1-13; (8) Phil. 1:1; Acts 14:23; 15:22; 1 Tim. 3; Titus 1

12. Baptism and The Lord's Supper

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer (1), into the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Spirit (2); 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 (3); that it is pre-requisite to the privilege of membership at Beijing Baptist Church. We believe that the Lord's Supper (4), in which the Body of Christ together, by the sacred use of bread and fruit of the vine, is to commemorate the dying love of Christ (5); that it is preceded

always by solemn self-examination and serves as a joyful proclamation of Christ's death until His return (6).

(1) Acts 8:36-39; Matt. 3:5-6; John 3:22-23; 4:1-2; Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 8:12; 16:32-34; 18:8; (2) Matt. 28:19; Acts 10:47-48; Gal. 3:27-28; (3) Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12; 1 Pet. 3:20-21; Acts 22:16; (4) Acts 2:41-42; Matt. 28:19-20; Acts and Epistles; (5) 1 Cor. 11:26; Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20; (6) 1 Cor. 11:28; 5:1, 8; 10:3-32; 11:17-32; John 6:26-71; 1 Cor. 11:26

13. The Lord's Day

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, celebrating the death and resurrection of Christ (1); that the day should be especially set aside for believers to gather together for worship by means of preaching and teaching God's Word, prayer, giving, and fellowship (2).

(1) Matt. 28:1-6; Col. 2:16-17; John 20:19; (2) Acts 2:42-47; 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Psalm 118:24; Luke 10:42

14. True Worship

We believe that Christians must live for God's glory alone (1) through their awareness and enjoyment of His Person (2), submission to His authority (3), and reliance upon His goodness (4). In truth, all things that have taken place or will transpire serve to glorify God as their highest purpose (5).

(1) Matt. 5:16; 1 Cor. 10:31; Phil. 1:9-11; 1 Pet. 4:11; (2) Psalm 23:4; 46:1; 139:7-10; Prov. 15:3; Jer. 16:17; Matt. 28:20; Heb. 13:5-6; (3) 1 Sam. 15:22-23; Ecc. 12:13-14; Micah 6:8; John 15:14-17; Heb. 12:28-29; (4) Psalm 23; 18:1-3; Isaiah 41:40; Hab. 3:17-19; Matt. 6:25-32; Luke 11:11-13; Phil. 4:6-7; (5) Psalm 46:10; 86:9; Malachi 1:11; Romans 11:36; Ephesians 1:3-14; 3:20-21

15. Civil Government

We believe that civil government is of Divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society (1); and that government leaders are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed (2); except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ (3), who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings of the earth (4).

(1) Rom. 13:1-7; Deut. 16:18; 1 Sam. 23:3; Exod. 18:23; Jer. 30:21; (2) Matt. 22:21; Titus 3:1; 1 Pet. 2:13; 1 Tim. 2:1-8; (3) Acts 5:29; Matt. 10:28; Dan. 3:15-18; 6:7-10; Acts 4:18-20; (4) Matt. 23:10; Rom. 14:4; Rev. 19:16; Psa. 72:11; Psa. 2; Rom. 14:9-13

16. The Righteous and The Wicked

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked (1); that only those who 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 (2); while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked, and under the curse (3); and this distinction holds among men both in and after death (4).

(1) Mal. 3:18; Prov. 12:26; Isa. 5:20; Gen. 18:23; Jer. 15:19; Acts 10:34-35; Rom. 6:16; (2) Rom. 1:17; 7:6; 1 John 2:29; 3:7; Rom. 6:18, 22; 1 Cor. 11:32; Prov. 11:31; 1 Pet. 4:17-18; (3) 1 John 5:19; Gal. 3:10; John 3:36; Isa. 57:21; Psa. 10:4; Isa. 55:6-7; (4) Prov. 14:32; Luke 16:25; John 8:21-24; Prov. 10:24; Luke 12:4-5; 9:23-26; John 12:25-26; Eccl. 3:17; Matt. 7:13-14

17. The World To Come

We believe in the imminent, visible and bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ (1); that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven as King of kings and Lord of lords (2) and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution (3); that a solemn separation will then take place (4); that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy (5); and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness (6).

(1) Matt. 16:27; Mark 14:62; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; Phil. 3:20; (2) Acts 1:11; Rev. 1:7; Heb. 9:28; Acts 3:21; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 5:1-11; Rev. 19:16; (3) Acts 24:15; 1 Cor. 15:12-59; Luke 14:14; Dan. 12:2; John 5:28-29; 6:40; 11:25-26; 2 Tim. 1:10; Acts 10:42; (4) Matt. 13:49, 37-43; 24:30-31; 25:31-33; (5) Matt. 25:35-41; Rev. 22:11; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Mark 9:43-48; 2 Pet. 2:9; Jude 7; Phil. 3:19; Rom. 6:32; 2 Cor. 5:10-11; John 4:36; 2 Cor. 4:18; (6) Rom. 3:5-6; 2 Thess. 1:6-12; Heb. 6:1-2; 1 Cor. 4:5; Acts 17:31; Rom. 2:2-16; Rev. 20:11-12; 1 John 2:28; 4:17