

Oh Praise the greatness of our God
- Deut. 32:3

The Doctrinal Statement



FIRST BAPTIST
Church
OF WYOMING, NY
28 Main Street
Phone: 585.495.6503

Section 1

We believe in the verbal and plenary inspired Word of God, and that it is His direct revelation to man. It was written by holy men of God as they were guided by the Holy Spirit, therefore, it is the final and complete authority in all matters of faith and practice.

Proverbs 30:5; Matthew 24:35; II Timothy 3:16, 17; II Peter 1:21; Hebrews 1:1, 2.

Section 2

We believe in God the Father who is perfect in holiness, infinite in wisdom, and measureless in power. It is God the Father who saves all those who call upon His name, through Jesus Christ. He makes His will known to us through His divine revelation.

Exodus 20:2, 3; Matthew 28:19; John 1:1, 2; I Corinthians 8:6; II Corinthians 13:14; Hebrews 1:1, 3.

Section 3

We believe that Jesus Christ is God the Son, conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, and as the Scriptures declare, "That God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself." Jesus Christ died on the cross of Calvary, offering the only sacrifice acceptable to God for the sin of man. Christ hung and died in our place, He was buried, and on the third day, literally and bodily rose from the dead as proof of our justification. We believe that He shall return soon for His church, the body of believers.

Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:21; John 1:1-3; Philippians 2:2-6.

Section 4

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person, possessing all of the divine attributes possessed by the Father and the Son. We believe that He is co-equal in every way with the Father and the Son, that at salvation it is the Spirit who convicts of "sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment," and that upon acceptance of Christ as Savior, He seals, endues, guides, teaches, witnesses, indwells, baptizes, helps, and sanctifies the believer.

John 14:16, 17; Romans 8:14, 16, 26, 27; I Corinthians 12:12-14; Ephesians 1:13, 14.

We further believe in a continual need for the filling of the Spirit, Ephesians 5:18.

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Section 5

We accept the Genesis account of creation, totally as an act of the triune God,

Genesis 1, 2; John 1:1-3.

Section 6

We believe in the total depravity of man, that there is no goodness within him, that every man is born in sin and by nature is a child of wrath, that every man sinned in Adam, and in so doing, became a sinner by birth through Adam. We further believe that man is also a sinner by choice and can only merit the grace of God through Jesus Christ in salvation. God is obligated to save no one, but does so because of His love and grace revealed in Jesus Christ.

Psalms 51:5; Romans 3:11, 23; 5:1; I Corinthians 15:22; Ephesians 2:1-9.

Section 7

We believe that salvation is wholly an act of grace through faith in the merits of Jesus Christ, who, being perfect God, became perfect man, who offered Himself and shed His blood as our sacrifice for sin. We further believe that those who have accepted our risen Lord as their Savior are justified, redeemed, freed from the curse of sin, and have everlasting life.

John 3:16, 36; Acts 16:31; Romans 5:1, 9; 6:23; Ephesians 2:8, 9; Philippians 1:6; Hebrews 9:13, 14, 22.

Section 8

We believe that the church is the Body of Christ, composed of all those who have by faith received Jesus Christ as Savior.

I Corinthians 12:12-14; Ephesians 2:20, 21.

Section 9

We believe that the local church is a congregation of believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ's Baptism and the Lord's Supper, governed by His laws and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word; that its only Scriptural officers are Pastor (Bishops, Elders) and Deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in Acts 6:20; I & II Timothy, and Titus. Other

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functions of the local church are the sending forth of missionaries and church discipline.
Acts 13:1-4; I Corinthians 5:1-7; II Thessalonians 3:14, 15.

Section 10

We believe that every human being is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith, that this church is independent and autonomous and must be free from interference of any ecclesiastical or political authority, that, therefore, church and state must be kept separate as having different functions, each fulfilling its duties apart from the dictation or patronage of the other. When the state begins to infringe upon our rights and freedoms, we will not hesitate to do whatever is necessary to regain and preserve them. However, we do believe in civil government as a divine institution of God, and unless it opposes the Word and will of God, we will submit, support, and honor it.

Acts 4:19; 5:29; 15:4, 7, 12, 22, 25; Romans 13,1-7; Titus 3:1; I Peter 2:13-17.

Section 11

We believe in the imminent, pre-tribulational rapture of the church. Immediately following will be the seven year tribulation period, when God pours out His righteous judgment upon the unbelieving world. This is culminated with the second coming of Christ to the earth, with His saints, to establish His glorious and literal kingdom over all the nations for one thousand years.

John 14:1-3; I Corinthians 15; I Thessalonians 1:10; 4:13-18; Revelation 19:11-16; 20:1-6.

Section 12

We believe in the priesthood of all believers, that Christ is our Great High Priest and through Him every born again person has direct access into God's presence without the need of a human priest; that the believer has the right and responsibility to personally study and interpret the Scriptures, guided by the Holy Spirit.

I Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 4:14-16; Revelation 1:5, 6.

Section 13

We believe that the spirit of the saved at death goes immediately to be with Christ in Heaven; that following the rapture of the church their works will be judged and rewards determined, that the spirit of the unsaved at death descends immediately into Hades, until the final day of

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judgment, at which time their bodies shall be raised from the grave, judged, and cast in to Hell; the place of final and everlasting punishment.

Matthew 7:21-23; Luke 16:19-31; John 16; I Corinthians 3:11-15; II Corinthians 5:6-8; Revelation 20:11-15.

Section 14

We believe that Satan (Lucifer, the devil) is the prince and power of the air, with the earth as his dominion during the church age. He is counterfeit of everything that the true God is, and his final doom is in the lake of fire. We believe that the Occult Movement and all the things connected with it are directly controlled and used by Satan. Therefore, we take a definite stand against any involvement with the Occult in any way, shape, or manner.

Deuteronomy 18:10-12; Galatians 5:17-19; Job 1; Isaiah 14:12-15; Matthew 4:1-3; II Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 20:10.

Section 15

Our official position concerning the Ecumenical Church (The World Council of Churches) is to stand opposed to this movement, since this Ecumenical Movement includes all denominations and religions that are willing to join with them, and since they are not doctrinally sound; denying the fundamentals which we hold to in our doctrinal statement.

Ephesians 5:8-11; Philippians 3:18, 19; II Thessalonians 3:6.

Section 16

Our official position on the Modern Tongue's Movement: We accept the fact that tongues were present in the Apostolic Church, but we believe this was only a temporary gift and that it ceased with the apostles. We do not believe it is for this day or any future day during the Church Age.

Acts 2; I Corinthians 14:13.

Section 17

God has ordained marriage (**Genesis 1:27, 28**) to be the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime (**Genesis 2:23, 24; Malachi 2:14-16; Matthew 5:31-33; 19:3-6; Mark 10:5-12**). It is to provide the man and the woman the proper framework for

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intimate companionship (**Amos 3:3; 2 Corinthians 6:14, 15; Ephesians 5:22, 23**), the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards (**Hebrews 13:4**), and the means for procreation of the human race (**Genesis 1:28; Psalm 127:3**). Any deviations of this ordained order are sinful and will be open to God's judgment (**Romans 1:18-27**). Therefore, we as a church body, will not approve any deviations as normal or acceptable (**Romans 1:32**).

Section 18

We believe that God has commanded that no sexual activity 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 and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance.

Genesis 2:24; 19:5-13, 24; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; I Corinthians 5:1, 6:9; I Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4

Note: This doctrinal statement was proposed and accepted July 11, 1979.

Note: We are in fellowship with the Empire State Fellowship of Regular Baptist Churches.