

Primitive Baptist Highland Association Articles of Faith

Compared To

1655 Baptist Midland Association Articles of Faith

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THE BIBLE

**Elder Jeff Winfrey, Pastor
Dawson Springs Primitive Baptist Church
101 East Walnut Street
Dawson Springs, KY 42408
www.dspbc.com**

1655 MIDLAND BAPTIST ASSOCIATION ARTICLES OF FAITH

- 1st We believe and profess, that there is only one true God, who is our God*, who is eternal, almighty, unchangeable, infinite, and incomprehensible; who is a Spirit, having His being in Himself, and giveth being to all creatures; He doth what He will, in heaven and earth; working all things according to the counsel of His own will.
- 2nd That this infinite Being is set forth to be the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three agree in one. (1Jn 5:7)
- 3rd We profess and believe the Holy Scriptures, the Old and New Testament, to be the word and revealed mind of God, which are able to make men wise unto Salvation, through faith and love which is in Christ Jesus; and that they are given by inspiration of God, serving to furnish the man of God for every good work; and by them we are (in the strength of Christ) to try all things whatsoever are brought to us, under the pretence of truth. (2Ti:15-17; Isa 8:20)
- 4th That though Adam was created righteous, yet he fell through the temptations of Satan; and his fall overthrew, not only himself, but his posterity, making them sinners by his disobedience; so that we are by nature children of wrath, and defiled from the womb, being shapen in iniquity and conceived in sin. (Psa 51:5; Rom 5:12-15)

- 5th That God elected and chose, in His Eternal counsel, some persons to life and salvation, before the foundation of the world, whom accordingly He doth and will certainly keep by His power, through faith to salvation. (Act 13:48; Eph 1:2-4; 2Th 2:13; I Pet 1:2, etc.)
- 6th That election was free in God, of His own pleasure, and not at all for, or with reference to, any foreseen works of faith in the creature, as the motive thereunto. (Eph 1:4; Rom 11:5-6)
- 7th That Jesus Christ was, in the fullness of time, manifested in the flesh; being born of a woman; being perfectly righteous, gave Himself for the elect to redeem them to God by His blood. (Joh 10:15; Eph 5:25-27; Rev 5:9)
- 8th That all men until they be quickened by Christ are dead in trespasses—(Eph 2:1); and therefore have no power of themselves to believe savingly—(Joh 15:5). But faith is the free gift of God, and the mighty work of God in the soul, even like the rising of Christ from the dead—(Eph 1:19). Therefore consent not with those who hold that God hath given power to all men to believe to salvation.
- 9th That Christ is the only true King, Priest, and Prophet of the Church. (Act 2:32-33; Heb 4:14; Heb 8:1)
- 10th That every man is justified by Christ—Rom 8:33; 1Co 6:11; apprehended by faith; and that no man is justified in the sight of God partly by Christ and partly by work. (Rom 3:20, 28, 30; Gal 5:4)
- 11th That Jesus of Nazareth, of whom the scriptures of the Old Testament prophesied, is the true Messiah and Saviour of men; and that He died on the cross, was buried, rose again in the same body which He suffered and ascended to the right hand of the majesty on high, and appeareth in the presence of God, making intercession for us.
- 12th That all those who have faith wrought in their hearts by the power of God, according to His good pleasure, should be careful to maintain good works, and to abound in them, acting from principles of true faith and unfeigned love, looking to God's glory as their end. (Tit 3:8; Heb 11:6; 1Co 6:10, 10:31)
- 13th That those who profess faith in Christ, and make the same appear by their fruits, are the proper subjects of Baptism (Mat 28:18-19)
- 14th That this baptizing is not by sprinkling, but dipping the persons in the water, representing the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. (Rom 6:3-4; Col 2:12; Act 8:38-39)
- 15th That persons so baptized ought, by free consent, to walk together, as God shall give opportunity in distinct churches, or assemblies of Zion, continuing in the Apostle's doctrine, and fellowship, breaking of bread and prayers, as fellow-men caring for one another, according to the will of God. All these ordinances of Christ are enjoined in His Church, being to be observed till His Second Coming, which we all ought to diligently wait for.

16th That at the time appointed of the Lord, the dead bodies of all men, just and unjust, shall rise again out of their graves, that all may receive according to what they have done in their bodies, be it good or evil.

MIDLAND STATEMENT CONCERNING ELECTION

5th That God elected and chose, in His Eternal counsel, some persons to life and salvation, before the foundation of the world, whom accordingly He doth and will certainly keep by His power, through faith to salvation.

6th That election was free in God, of His own pleasure, and not at all for, or with reference to, any foreseen works of faith in the creature, as the motive thereunto.)

Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world

Eph 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

Rom 8:30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Rom 9:11 (For *the children* being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

Rom 9:16 So then *it is* not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.

Rom 11:6 ...if by grace, then *is it* no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace...

MIDLAND STATEMENT CONCERNING THE WORK OF CHRIST

7th That Jesus Christ was, in the fullness of time, manifested in the flesh; being born of a woman; being perfectly righteous, gave Himself for the elect to redeem them to God by His blood.

Mat 1:21 ...thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Isa 53:8 ..for the transgression of my people was he stricken.

Joh 10:15 ...I lay down my life for the sheep.

Joh 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

Joh 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.

Rom 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ...

Rom 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved...

Rom 8:33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? *It is* God that justifieth.

Rom 8:34 Who *is* he that condemneth? *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.

MIDLAND STATEMENT CONCERNING REGENERATION (BORN AGAIN)

8th That all men until they be quickened by Christ are dead in trespasses—Eph 2:1; and therefore have no power of themselves to believe savingly—Joh 15:5. But faith is the free gift of God, and the mighty work of God in the soul, even like the rising of Christ from the dead—Eph 1:19. Therefore consent not with those who hold that God hath given power to all men to believe to salvation.

Eph 2:1 And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Joh 5:40 And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

Joh 6:44 No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him...

Joh 6:65 ...no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.

1Co 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

1Co 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

Joh 15:5 I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Eph 1:19 And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,

Eph 1:20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead...

Joh 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth...so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

PRIMITIVE BAPTIST HIGHLAND ASSOCIATION ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in only one true and living God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin

4. We believe in the doctrine of election and that God chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world.
5. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability
6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ
7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, converted, regenerated, sanctified and glorified by the Holy Spirit.
8. We believe the saints shall persevere in grace and never fall finally away.
9. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the subjects, and we believe that immersion is the only Scriptural baptism.
10. We believe the punishment of the wicked and the joys of the righteous eternal.
11. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.
12. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as are regularly baptized, called and under imposition of hands by the presbytery.