



# First Baptist Church

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## Statement of Faith

Revised March 2014

**First Baptist Church**

**983 S. Ocotillo Ave**

**Benson, AZ 85602**

## First Baptist Statement of Faith

### 1. Of the Scriptures

We believe:

- 1) that the Holy Bible was written by men;  
2 Peter 1:19-21; Acts 1:16; 3:21
- 2) is divinely inspired; is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; 2  
Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20; Acts 3:21
- 3) has God for its author, salvation for its end;  
John 10:35; Luke 16:29-31; Psalm 119:111; Romans 3:1-2
- 4) is truth without any mixture of error for its matter;  
2 Timothy 3:15, 1 Peter 1:10-12; Acts 11:14; Romans 1:16; Mark  
16:16; John 5:38-39
- 5) reveals the principles by which God will judge us;  
Proverbs 30:5-6; John 17:17; Revelation 22:18-19; Romans 3:4
- 6) is and shall remain, to the end of the world;  
Romans 2:12; John 12:47-48; 1 Corinthians 4:3-4;  
Luke 10:10-16; 12:47-48
- 7) is the true center of Christian union;  
Philippians 3:16; Ephesians 4:3-6; Philippians 2:1-2; 1 Corinthians 1:10;  
1 Peter 4:11
- 8) is the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and  
opinions should be tried.  
1 John 4:1; Isaiah 8:20; 1 Thessalonians 5:21; 2 Corinthians 13:5;  
Acts 17:11; 1 John 4:6; Jude 3; Ephesians 6:17; Psalm 119:59-60;  
Philippians 1:9-11

### 2. Of one true God:

We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God; an infinite, intelligent Spirit who is:

- 1) named Jehovah, the maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth;  
John 4:24; Psalm 147:5; Psalm 83:18; Hebrews 3:4; Romans 1:20;  
Jeremiah 10:10
- 2) inexpressibly glorious in holiness:  
Exodus 15:11; Isaiah 6:3; 1 Peter 1:15-16; Revelation 4:6-8
- 3) worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love;  
Mark 12:30; Revelation 4:11; Matthew 10:37; Jeremiah 2:12-13
- 4) that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons; the Father,  
and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;  
Matthew 28:19; John 15:26; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6; 1 John 5:7
- 5) equal in every divine perfection, and  
John 10:30; 5:17; 14:23; 17:5-10; Acts 5:3-4; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11;  
Philippians 2:5-6
- 6) executing distinct, but harmonious, offices in the great work of  
redemption.  
Ephesians 2:28; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Revelation 1:4-5; 2:7

### 3. Of Jesus Christ

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ:

- 1) is both true God and perfect man:  
2 Corinthians 5:19; 1 Timothy 3:16
- 2) was born of the virgin, Mary, after having been miraculously conceived by the Holy Spirit:  
Luke 1:35; Matthew 1:18-20
- 3) is the only Saviour of mankind, and is the proper object of Worship.  
Acts 4:10-12; John 14:6

### 4. Of the Virgin Birth

We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten of the Holy Ghost in a miraculous manner:

- 1) born of Mary, a virgin,  
Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:35
- 2) as no other man was ever born, or can ever be born of woman, and that He is both the Son of God and God the Son.  
Mark 1:1; John 1:14; Psalm 2:7; Galatians 4:4; 1 John 5:20; 1 Corinthians 15:47

### 5. Of the devil, or Satan

We believe that Satan:

- 1) was once holy and enjoyed heavenly honors, but through pride and ambition to be the Almighty, fell and drew after him a host of angels; that he is now the malignant prince of the power of the air and the unholy god of this world;  
Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:14-17, Revelation 12:9; Jude 6; 2 Peter 2:4
- 2) is man's great tempter, the enemy of God and Jesus Christ, the accuser of the saints, the author of all false religions, the chief power back of the present apostasy, the lord of the antichrist, and the author of all powers of darkness  
Ephesians 2:2; John 14:30; 1 Thessalonians 3:5, Matthew 4:1-3, 1 Peter 5:8; 1John 3:8; Revelation 12:10; 13:13-14; 2 Corinthians 11:13-15; Mark 13:21; 1John 4:3
- 3) is destined, however, to final defeat at the hands of God's own Son and to the judgment of an eternal justice in hell, a place prepared for him and his angels.  
2 Thessalonians 2:8-11; Revelation 19:11-20; 12:7-9; 20:1-3; 20:10

### 6. Of Creation

We believe:

God created the heavens and the earth, including all life, "Each after its own kind", by direct act, and not by the process of evolution.

Genesis 1:1; Psalm 33:6-9; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17

## 7. Of the Fall of Man

We believe that man was created in holiness:

- 1) under the law of his Maker  
Genesis 1:27; 1:13; Ecclesiastes 7:29; Acts 17:26-29; Genesis 2:16-17
- 2) but, by a voluntary transgression, fell from that holy and happy state  
Genesis 3:6-24; Romans 5:12
- 3) in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners  
Romans 5:19; John 3:6; Psalm 51:5; Romans 5:15-19; 8:7
- 4) not by constraint, but choice  
Isaiah 53:6; Genesis 6:12; Romans 3:9-18
- 5) being, by nature, utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin  
Ephesians 2:1-3; Romans 1:18; 1:32; 2:1-16; Galatians 3:10; Matthew 20:15
- 6) without defense or excuse  
Ezekiel 18:19-20; Romans 1:20; 3:19; Galatians 3:22

## 8. Of the Atonement of Sin:

We believe that the salvation of sinners is:

- 1) wholly of grace  
Ephesians 2:8; Matthew 18:11; 1 John 5:10; 1 Corinthians 3:5-7  
Acts 15:11
- 2) through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who, by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon Him our nature; yet, without sin, honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and by His death made a full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in heaven and uniting in His wonderful person, tender sympathies with divine perfections, He is in every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and all sufficient Saviour.  
John 1:1-14; 3:16; Hebrews 4:14; 12:24  
Philippians 2:6-7; Hebrews 2:9-14; 2 Corinthians 5:21  
Isaiah 42:21; Philippians 2:8; Galatians 4:4-5; Romans 3:21-26  
Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 20:28; Romans 4:45; 3:21-26; 1 John 2:2; 4:10;  
1 Corinthians 15:1-3; Hebrews 9:13-15; Hebrews 9:13-15; 1:8; 8:1;  
Colossians 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:18; 7:25-26; Colossians 2:9; Psalm 89:19

## 9. Of Justification:

We believe:

- 1) that the great gospel blessing which Christ  
John 1:16; Ephesians 3:8
- 2) secures to such as believe in Him is justification  
Acts 13:39; Isaiah 53:11-12; Romans 8:1
- 3) that justification includes the pardon of sin  
Romans 5:9; Zechariah 13:1; Matthew 9:6; Acts 10:43;

- 4) the promise of eternal life on the principles of righteousness  
Romans 5:17; Titus 3:5-7; 1 Peter 3:7; 1 John 2:25; Romans 5:21
  - 5) that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood;  
Romans 4:4-5; 5:21; 6:23; Philippians 3:7-9
  - 6) by virtue of which faith His perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God  
Romans 5:19; 3:24-26; 4:23-25; 1 John 2:12
  - 7) that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.  
Romans 5:1-2; 5:3,11; 1 Corinthians 1:30-13; Matthew 6:33  
1 Timothy 4:8
10. Of the freeness of Salvation:  
We believe that the blessings of salvation
- 1) are made free to all  
Isaiah 55:1; Revelation 22:17; Luke 14:17)
  - 2) that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent and obedient faith  
Romans 16:25-26; Mark 1:15; Romans 1:15-17
  - 3) and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel.  
John 5:40; Matthew 23:37; Romans 9:32; Proverbs 1:24; Acts 13:46
  - 4) which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation  
John 3:19; Matthew 11:20; Luke 19:27; 2 Thessalonians 1:8
11. Of Grace in the New Creation:  
We believe that in order to be saved:
- 1) sinners must be regenerated, or born again;  
John 3:3; 3:6-7; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Revelation 14:3; 21:27
  - 2) that in the new birth, the one dead in trespasses and sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life; the free gift of God  
2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 John 5:1; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:1
  - 3) that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth  
John 3:8; 1:13; James 1:16-18; 1 Corinthians 1:30; Philippians 2:13
  - 4) so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel  
1 Peter 1:22-25; 1 John 5:1; Ephesians 4:20-24; Colossians 3:9-11
  - 5) And that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance,  
Ephesians 5:9; Romans 8:9; Galatians 5:16-23; Ephesians 3:14-21;  
Matthew 3:8-10; 1 John 5:4, 18

## 12. Of Repentance and Faith

We believe that repentance and faith:

- 1) are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating spirit of God  
Mark 1:15; Acts 11:18; Ephesians 2:8; 1John 5:1
- 2) whereby, being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger, and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ,  
John 16:8; Acts 2:37-38; 16:30-31
- 3) we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy  
Luke 18:13; 15:18-21; James 4:7-10; 2 Corinthians 7:10  
Romans 10:12-13; Psalm 51
- 4) at the same time, heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on Him alone as the only all sufficient Saviour.  
Romans 10:9-11; Acts 3:22-23; Hebrews 4:14; Psalm 2:6  
Hebrews 1:8; 7:25; 2Timothy 1:12

## 13. Of the Perseverance of Saints:

We believe that such only are real believers

- 1) endure unto the end  
John 8:31; 1 John 2:27-28; 3:9; 5:18
- 2) that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors  
1 John 2:19; John 13:18; Matthew 13:20-21; John 6:66-69
- 3) that a special providence watches over their welfare  
Romans 8:28; Matthew 6:30-33; Jeremiah 32:40  
Psalm 121:3; 91:11-12
- 4) and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.  
Philippians 1:6; 2:12-13; Jude 24-25; Hebrews 1:14; 1 John 4:4

## 14. Of a Gospel Church:

We believe that a church of Christ is:

- 1) a congregation of baptized believers  
1 Corinthians 1:1-13; Matthew 18:17; Acts 5:11; 8:1; 1:22-23  
1 Corinthians 4:17; 14:23; 3 John 9
- 2) associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel  
Acts 2:41-42; 2Corinthians 8:5; Acts 2:47; 1Corinthians 5:12-13
- 3) observing the ordinances of Christ,  
1 Corinthians 11:2; 2 Thessalonians 3:6; Romans 16:17-20  
1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Matthew 18:15-20; 2 Corinthians 2:17  
1 Corinthians 4:17

- 4) governed by His laws  
Matthew 28:20; John 14:15; 15:12; 1 John 4:21; John 14:21;  
1 Thessalonians 4:21; 2 John 6; Galatians 6:2; All the Epistles
  - 5) and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His word  
Ephesians 4:7; 1 Corinthians 14:12; Philippians 1:27
  - 6) that its only scriptural officers are Bishops, or Pastors and Deacons  
Philippians 1:1; Acts 14:23; 15:22; 1 Timothy 3; Titus 1
  - 7) whose qualifications, claims, and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus. We believe the true mission of the church is found in the Great Commission.  
Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15
  - 8) First, to make individual disciples; second, to build up the church; third, to teach and instruct as He has commanded. We do not believe in the reversal of this order; we hold that the local church has the absolute right of self government, free from the interference of any hierarchy of individuals or organizations; and that the one and only Superintendent is Christ through the Holy Spirit;  
Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 5:23-24
  - 9) That it is scriptural for true churches to cooperate with each other in contending for the faith and for the furtherance of the Gospel;  
1 Peter 5:4; Acts 15:22; Jude 3-4; 2 Corinthians 8:23-24
  - 10) That every church is the sole and only judge of the measure and method of its cooperation on all matters of membership, of policy, of government, of discipline, of benevolence, the will of the local church is final.  
1 Corinthians 16:1; Malachi 3:10; Leviticus 27:32; 1 Corinthians 16:2  
1 Corinthians 6:1-3; 5:11-13
15. Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper:  
We believe that Christian baptism:
- 1) is the immersion in water, of a believer  
Acts 8:36-39; Matthew 3:5-6; John 3:22-23; Matthew 28:19;  
Acts 16:32-34; 18:8
  - 2) in the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost  
Matthew 28:19; Acts 19:47-48; Galatians 3:27-28
  - 3) to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Saviour, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life  
Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12; 1 Peter 3:20-21; Acts 22:16
  - 4) We believe that the Lord's Supper is a means by which the members of His church, by the sacred use of the bread and wine, shows forth the dying love of Christ,  
1 Corinthians 11:26; Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20
  - 5) Always to be preceded by a solemn self-examination.  
1 Corinthians 11:28; 5:1-8; 10:3-32; John 6:26-71

16. Of the Lord's Day:

We believe:

- 1) That the first day of the week is the Lord's Day,  
Acts 20:7; Genesis 2:3; Colossians 2:16-17; Mark 2:27  
John 20:19; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2
- 2) And is to be kept sacred to religious purposes  
Exodus 20:8; Revelation 1:10; Psalm 118:24
- 3) by abstaining from all secular labor, except works of mercy and  
necessity,  
Isaiah 58:13-14
- 4) by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private  
Psalm 118:15
- 5) and public,  
Hebrews 10:24-25; Acts 11:26
- 6) and by preparation for that rest that remains for the people of God.  
Hebrews 4:3-11

17. Of Civil Government:

We believe that civil government is:

- 1) of divine appointment for the interest and good order of human society,  
Romans 13:1-7; Deuteronomy 16:18; 2 Samuel 23:3; Exodus 18:21-23  
Jeremiah 30:31
- 2) and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored,  
and obeyed,  
Matthew 22:21; Titus 3:1; 1 Peter 2:13; 1 Timothy 2:1-3
- 3) except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Acts 5:29; Matthew 10:28; Daniel 3:15-18; 6:7-10; Acts 4:18-20
- 4) who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings of  
the earth.  
Matthew 23:10; Romans 14:4; Revelation 19:16; Psalm 72:11  
Psalm 2; Romans 14:9-13

18. Of the righteous and the wicked

We believe:

- 1) that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous  
and the wicked;  
Malachi 3:18; Proverbs 12:26; Isaiah 5:20; Genesis 18:23  
Acts 10:34-35; Romans 6:16
- 2) as such, only those who, through faith, are justified in the name of the  
Lord Jesus Christ and sanctified by the Spirit of our God are truly  
righteous in His esteem;  
Romans 1:17; 7:6; 1 John 2:9; 3:7; Romans 6:18-22  
1 Corinthians 11:32;



- 3) while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are, in his sight, wicked, and under the curse and,  
1 John 5:19, Galatians 3:10; John 3:36; Isaiah 57:21; Psalm 10:4  
Isaiah 55:6-7
  - 4) this distinction holds among men both in ,and after, death.  
Proverbs 14:32; Luke 16:25; John 8:21-24; Luke 12:4-5; 9:23-26  
Proverbs 10:24; John 12:25-26; Ecclesiastes 3:17; Matthew 7:13-14
19. Of the Last Things:  
We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ will:
- 1) return before His millennial reign to  
raise the dead in Christ, and will change their vile bodies like unto His glorious body along with the living saints, and together all of the saved will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air;  
Revelation 20:4-6; Philippians 3:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
  - 2) pour out His wrath upon the earth, and will return to the earth in power and great glory to set up His kingdom;  
Mark 8:38; 9:1; Acts 1:9-11; Matthew 24:29-30; Revelation 19:11-16  
1 Thessalonians 5:2-3; Revelation 6:12-17
  - 3) that after His millennial reign the lost will be raised and judged according to their works, and cast into the Lake of Fire forever;  
Revelation 20:5, 11-15; Mark 9:43-48
  - 4) that there will be new heavens and a new earth wherein dwells righteousness.  
Revelation 21:1; 2 Peter 3:10-13
20. Of the Resurrection:  
We believe that Christ rose bodily, “ The third day according to the Scriptures”; that He ascended “to the right hand of the throne of God”; that He alone is our “merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God”; “ that this same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven shall come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven” bodily, personally, and visibly.  
Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:39; John 20:27; 1 Corinthians 15:4; Mark 16:6  
Luke 24:2 & 4-6, Acts 1:9-11, Luke 24:51; Mark 16:19
21. Of Missions  
We believe that the command to give the gospel to the world is clear and unmistakable, and that this commission was given to the churches.  
Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:13-15
22. Of the Grace of Giving  
We believe that scriptural giving is:
- 1) one of the fundamentals of the faith;  
2 Corinthians 8:7

- 2) we are commanded to bring our gifts into the storehouse (common treasury of the church) upon the first day of the week;  
1 Corinthians 16:2; Hebrews 7:2-4; Matthew 23:23
- 3) we are commanded to bring the tithe into the common treasury of the church.  
Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:10
- 4) In the New Testament the storehouse was the common treasury of the church. Acts 4:34-37

### 23. Of Human Sexuality

We believe that:

- 1) God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any forms of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, transvestite, change of gender 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; 26:8-9, Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29  
1 Corinthians 5:1; 6:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4
- 2) The only legitimate marriage is the joining of one man and one woman:  
Genesis 2:24; Romans 7:2; 1 Corinthians 7:10; Ephesians 5:22-23

### 24. Of Lawsuits Between Believers

We believe that:

Christians are prohibited from bringing civil lawsuits against other Christians or the church to resolve personal disputes. We believe the church possesses all the resources necessary to resolve personal disputes between members. We do believe, however, that a Christian may seek compensation for injuries from another Christian's insurance company as long as the claim is pursued without malice or slander.  
1 Corinthians 6:1-8; Ephesians 4:31-32