

ALPINE BAPTIST CHURCH DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

1. The Scriptures

We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as originally written were inspired (God-breathed), both verbally and plenary (in every part). We believe God, Who is Truth, communicated through Spirit-controlled men so that the Scriptures are without error and therefore authoritative in all they teach and in all matters they touch. We believe the Bible is the supreme revelation of God's will for man and constitutes the only infallible guide for faith and life.

I Corinthians 2:13; II Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 4:12; II Peter 1:16-21

2. The Holy Trinity

We believe that there is one true and living God. In the unity of the Godhead there are three persons - the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit - equal in essence and attributes, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

Matthew 28:19, 3:16-17; John 6:27; Acts 5:3-4; Ephesians 4:6; Hebrews 1:8; I John 5:7

3. God the Father

We believe that God is spirit infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in all His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth. He is the Creator, Sustainer and Ruler of all the universe, Giver of all life in sovereign authority over all His created beings, the Keeper over the nation Israel and the Father of His chosen in Jesus Christ.

Psalms 139:7-10; Isaiah 46:9; Romans 11:33; Revelation 19:6

4. God the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ

We believe in the absolute deity of the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ; that He is God, existing from all eternity and co-equal with the Father and the Holy Spirit. He is the Creator of the universe and by Him all things hold together (***Colossians 1:15-19***). At His incarnation, He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary (***Luke 1:26-38***). He is the only Savior of mankind (***Acts 4:12***). He is the one Mediator between God and men (***I Timothy 2:5***). He lived a sinless life on earth and in His death made a full and vicarious atonement for our sins as a substitute for sinners (***II Corinthians 5:21, I Peter 2:24***). He rose bodily from the dead on the third day (***I Corinthians 15:3-4***), ascended into heaven where He now sits at the

right hand of the Father as our High Priest (**Hebrews 7:25**), will appear in the air to rapture His saints (**I Thessalonians 4:13-18**), and seven years later will come again with the saints to set up the throne of David and establish His millennial kingdom (**II Thessalonians 2:6-8**).

5. God the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a divine person, equal with God the Father and God the Son in nature and attributes; that He was active in the creation; that in His relationship to the unbelieving world He restrains the evil one until God's purpose is fulfilled; that He convicts of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; that He bears witness to the truth of the Gospel in preaching and in testimony; that He is the agent in the new birth; that He indwells, seals, empowers, guides, teaches, sanctifies, comforts, and helps the believer. He baptizes every believer into the body of Christ at the moment of salvation, so that there are none who are saved who are not indwelt by Him. However, the filling of the Spirit comes only to those who fully submit themselves to Him, and as many times as they do the same. The Holy Spirit is the giver of gifts to believers. We believe that the Bible disavows the authenticity of the sign gifts such as prophecy, speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, miracles and healing for today and repudiates the experience-oriented theology and ecumenically-oriented practice of the pentecostal, charismatic, and third wave movements.

Genesis 1:2; John 7:39, 14:16-17, 26, 16:13-14, Acts 1:5, Romans 8:9, 12:3-8; I Corinthians 12:11, 13, 13:8-10, 14:19, 27-28, 33-34, 40; Ephesians 1:13, 4:11-12, 5:18

6. Satan, the Devil

We believe that Satan is a person, that he is the unholy god of this age and the prince of all the powers of darkness; he is a deceiver of men and constantly seeks to frustrate the purposes of God. He was conquered by Christ on the cross and is destined to the judgment of an eternal and just torment in the lake of fire.

Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:11-19; Matthew 25:41; Luke 10:18; II Corinthians 4:4, 11:13-15; Ephesians 2:2, 6:12; Revelation 20:1-3, 7-10

7. Creation

We believe the Genesis account of creation and believe that man was directly created by God in His own likeness and image. We reject and combat both the theories of evolution and theistic evolution. We believe that the six days of creation were literal, twenty-four hour days.

Genesis 1-2; Psalm 8, 19:1; John 1:3; Romans 1:18-20, 8:18-23; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:1-3

8. Man

We believe that man was created by a direct act of God and not from any previously existing form of life; that all men are descended from the historical Adam and Eve, first parents of the entire human race. By voluntary transgression man fell from his sinless state, in consequence of which all men are now sinners by nature and by choice, utterly devoid of the holiness required by God's law, positively inclined to evil, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal judgment and everlasting existence separated from God without defense or excuse.

Genesis 1:26-27, 3:1-19; Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:9-19, 23, 5:12-19

9. Salvation by Grace through Faith

We believe that Christ died for the sins of the whole world and that salvation of sinners is divinely initiated, wholly of grace, and accomplished only through the mediatorial work of the Son of God. It is wholly apart from works and is upon the sole condition of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe that saving faith is claiming by personal choice relying exclusively upon Christ's work on the cross to be sufficient payment for sin. We believe that salvation is instantaneous and not a process; 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; that the believer who has exercised personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is completely justified and in possession of eternal life which is eternally secure.

John 3:16, 10:27-30, Romans 10:9-13, 8:28-39; Ephesians 1:3-7, 2:8-10; Titus 3:5-6; I Peter 1:5; II Peter 1:3-4

10. Heaven and Hell

We believe that heaven is a literal place prepared for believers in Jesus Christ.
John 14:1-6; Revelation 21-22

We believe that hell (the Lake of Fire) is a literal place prepared for Satan, his angels, and those who die in unbelief.

Matthew 25:41; Luke 16:19-31; Revelation 20, 21:8

11. The Church

We believe that the church of Jesus Christ began at Pentecost and will be completed at the rapture. The local church is a congregation of baptized

believers, associated by a covenant in the faith and fellowship in the gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by His Word and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word.

Its Scriptural officers are pastors (sometimes called elders or bishops) and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in I Timothy 3 and Titus 1.

The "church which is His body" is the entire company of believers in Christ, whether Jew or Gentile, regardless of denominational affiliation and present position in heaven or on the earth.

Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:5, 2:1-4, 41-42, 10:44-45, 11:15-16; I Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 1:22-23; Philippians 1:1; Hebrews 12:23

12. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

We believe that there are two ordinances for the New Testament church, baptism and the Lord's Supper (Communion). These two ordinances must be observed under the authority of the local church.

We believe that baptism is the single immersion of the believer in water in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. Baptism plays no part in salvation but is an act of obedience to the command of Christ and a testimony to the world of the believer's faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It illustrates the believer's death to sin and his resurrection to a new life. (***Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:38, 41, 8:26-39, Romans 6:3-5***).

We believe that the Lord's Supper (Communion) is symbolic of our Lord's body and His shed blood as He suffered on the cross for us. It is to be observed as a memorial to Him and His death until He comes again, and should be preceded by self-examination and confession of sins (***Matthew 26:20-30; Corinthians 11:2, 20-34***).

13. Future Events

a. The Righteous and the Wicked

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as 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; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked, and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death in the everlasting happiness of the saved and the everlasting conscious suffering of the lost.

Genesis 18:23; Proverbs 14:21-22; Malachi 3:18; Matthew 25:34-41; John 8:21; Romans 6:17-18; I John 5:19

b. The Rapture of the Church

We believe in the "Blessed Hope", the personal, imminent, pretribulational and premillennial appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ to rapture His redeemed ones of the church.

I Corinthians 15:51-52; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; II Thessalonians 2:1-2; Titus 2:13; I John 3:2

c. The Judgment Seat of Christ

We believe that every saved person of the Church Age will appear before the "Judgment Seat" of Christ to be judged by the Lord in regard to his service and receive rewards according to his works.

Matthew 6:1-4; Romans 14:10; I Corinthians 3:11-15; II Corinthians 5:10

d. The Millennial Kingdom

We believe that Christ will return to earth after the tribulation with His saints to establish the Millennial Kingdom which literally will be on earth and will be ruled by Christ from the throne of David.

Isaiah 9:6-7; Luke 1:32; Acts 2:29-30; II Thessalonians 1:6-12; Revelation 20:1-6, 11-14

e. The Eternal State

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment in the Lake of Fire. The souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection, when spirit, soul and new body are reunited to be forever glorified with the Lord. The souls of the unbelievers after death remain in conscious misery until the second resurrection, when with spirit, soul and body reunited they shall appear before the Great White Throne Judgment and will be cast into the Lake of Fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscious punishment.

Matthew 25:46; Luke 16:19-26; John 5:28-29; II Corinthians 5:8, 10; Philippians 1:23, Revelation 20:1-6

14. Ecclesiastical Separation

We believe that the believer should be separated from apostasy as exemplified in ecclesiastical organizations which include radicals, liberals and those who sanction theological compromise. This doctrine is based upon God's eternal principle of division between truth and error and His specific command to be separate from unbelievers and disobedient brethren. This truth is to be practiced with an attitude of devotion to God, humility, compassion, and yet with conviction, to create the proper condition and atmosphere for the main objective - the salvation of the lost through the gospel. We believe ecumenical evangelism which involves apostates violates the principles taught in God's Word.

Matthew 10:34-49, 18:15; Romans 16:17; I Corinthians 5:7-13; II Corinthians 6:14-7:1, 11:4; Galatians 1:8-9; I Timothy 6:3-6; II Timothy 2:16-18; Titus 3:10-11; II John 9-11

15. Personal Separation

We believe that every believer should be separated unto God from the world, and through dependence upon the Holy Spirit, should walk in Christian love and holiness, exhibiting virtues of honesty, integrity, forgiveness and loving-kindness. We further believe that any achievement in these virtues will be evidenced by sincere humility and genuine zeal for the advancement of the cause of Christ. We also believe the Scriptures admonish every believer not to love the world or the things in the world, but rather to flee evil desires, avoid every kind of evil and refrain from questionable practices which destroy one's testimony, offend one's brother and fail to glorify God.

Proverbs 15:33; Romans 14:19-21; I Corinthians 6:18-21, 8:9-13, 10:23, 33; Galatians 5:22-25; Ephesians 4:32, 5:1-2, 7-10, 15-20; Philippians 4:8; I Thessalonians 4:7; I Peter 5:5-6

16. Civil Government

We believe in the separation of church and state. We believe that civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good order of human society by protecting the righteous and judging the wicked; those in authority are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who alone is Lord of the conscience, and the coming King of kings and Lord of lords.

Daniel 3:13-18; Matthew 22:21; Acts 5:29; Romans 3:1-17, 13:1-7; I Timothy 2:1-3; I Peter 2:13-18; Revelation 19:16

17. The Lord's Day

We believe that the first day of the week is to be set aside unto the Lord for worship, fellowship with others of like faith, instruction in the Word of God and

rest from the cares of the world as a testimony both public and private. It is a day of rejoicing in the resurrection of our Lord by giving of our time and resources to fulfil the Great Commission.

Acts 20:7; I Corinthians 16:1-2; Hebrews 10:24-25

18. Israel

We believe in the sovereign selection of Israel as God's eternal covenant people, that she is now dispersed because of her disobedience and rejection of Christ, that she will be regathered in the Holy Land and, after the completion of the Church, she will be saved as a nation at the second coming of Christ.

Genesis 13:14-17; Romans 11:1-32; Ezekiel 37; Zechariah 12:10, 13:1-9.

19. Marriage and the Home

We believe that the home was the first institution God provided for man, and that marriage is a sacred relationship and honorable for all. Marriage is a covenant relationship that involves total commitment and sharing between a husband and wife that is to be severed only by death, and that "what God has joined together, let not man separate" (***Matthew 19:6***). We believe that a Christian marriage is an illustration of the union of Christ and His Church.

Genesis 2:18-25; Proverbs 2:17; Malachi 2:14; Romans 7:2; I Corinthians 7:2, 39; Ephesians 5:23, 25, 32; Hebrews 13:4