



FIRST BAPTIST
MERIDIANVILLE
REAL. FAMILY.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

THE
BAPTIST
FAITH &
MESSAGE
2000

Session 6

Baptist Faith and Message 2000 Introduction



Why do Southern Baptists Have a Confession?

- To Guide our Cooperative Efforts
 - The SBC Consists of:



3,532 Missionaries



Church Planting

Church Revitalization

Compassion Ministries –SEND RELIEF

Evangelism

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Gateway Seminary
Midwestern Baptist
New Orleans Baptist
Southeastern Baptist
The Southern Baptist
Southwestern Baptist

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- To Guide our Cooperative Efforts
 - The SBC Cooperative Ministries:
 - Guidestone
 - Lifeway



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- To Guide our Cooperative Efforts
 - The SBC Cooperative Ministries:
 - Guidestone
 - Lifeway
 - 41 State Conventions
 - Colleges
 - Missions
 - Evangelism / Church Planting
 - 1100 + Associations



Why do Southern Baptists Have a Confession?

- To Guide our Cooperative Efforts
- To State our Beliefs Clearly



Titus 1:9 (ESV): "He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it."

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- To Provide a Timely Response to Theological and Cultural Challenges

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The 1963 version added more detail about the final judgment, stating that "the impenitent will be consigned to hell, the place of everlasting punishment."

The 1963 version added more detail about Christ's atonement, stating that He "was born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, died a substitutionary death on the cross, rose bodily from the dead, and ascended to heaven."

- To Provide a Timely Response to Theological and Cultural Challenges

1998 Article 18.

"The family is the foundational institution of human society. It is composed of persons related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption. Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church and to provide for the man and the woman in marriage the framework for intimate companionship, the channel of sexual expression according to biblical standards, and the means for procreation of the human race."

- To Provide a Timely Response to Theological and Cultural Challenges

2000: "The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction."

2000: "Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation."

- To Provide a Timely Response to Theological and Cultural Challenges

2000: Removal of “The criterion by which the Bible is to be interpreted is Jesus Christ. “



- To Provide a Timely Response to Theological and Cultural Challenges

VI. THE CHURCH

1963- Its Scriptural officers are pastors and deacons.

2000- Its two scriptural offices are that of pastor/elder/overseer and deacon. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor/elder/overseer is limited to men as qualified by Scripture.

1 Timothy 3:14-15 (ESV):

"I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth."

1. Pillar: A pillar is a vertical structure that provides support and stability. In this context, it symbolizes the church's role in upholding and maintaining the truth of God's Word. Just as a physical pillar supports a building, the church supports and sustains the truth revealed in Scripture.

2. Buttress: A buttress is a structure built against a wall to provide reinforcement and prevent it from collapsing. It offers additional support and stability to the main structure. In the metaphor, the church is described as a buttress of the truth, indicating its function in strengthening and defending the truth against attacks or distortions.

Together, the imagery of a "pillar and buttress of the truth" portrays the church as both a foundational support and a protective reinforcement for the truth of God's Word. It highlights the crucial role of the church in preserving and proclaiming the truth in a world that may challenge or oppose it.

Why do Southern Baptists Have a Confession?

- To Guide our Cooperative Efforts
- To State our Beliefs Clearly
- To Provide a Timely Response to Theological and Cultural Challenges
- To Maintain Unity