

THIS I BELIEVE

Message 1: "The Basis of Our Beliefs"

2 Timothy 3:14-17

Our Source of Authority:

There are three possible bases for Christian authority:

1. _____; someone from the _____ has the final authority
2. _____ or _____; _____ final authority
3. _____; _____ tells us.

Baptists and most evangelicals hold to the doctrine of _____, meaning _____

The Bible, God's Holy Word:

Written over a period of some _____ years

By about _____ inspired writers

Old Testament written in _____

New Testament mostly in _____ with some _____

Central Person of the Bible: _____

Central Theme of the Bible: _____

How can the Bible best be used? (2 Timothy 3:16)

A. Teaching

About things of _____

About the _____ that Jesus established

About the _____

B. Rebuking

God rebukes _____ and disciplines the _____, but always out of _____.

C. Correcting (Amos 7:7-8)

That plumb line refers to the Word of God which gives us the _____ so we can be corrected

D. Training in Righteousness

The Bible is a practical guide for anyone who wants to live an upright life. For example: Philippians 4:8 (the sort of things to think about); the Ten Commandments; the Psalms and Proverbs; Jesus' Sermon on the Mount; and the example set by Christ Himself.

Hold fast to the Word of God

- (index finger) H _____
- (middle finger) R _____
- (Ring finger) S _____
- (little finger) M _____
- (thumb) M _____

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Message 2: "The Trinity"

Psalm 147:1-5

God, the Father

Atheists: _____

Agnostics: _____

Materialists: _____

The Worldly Fool: _____

The Christian: _____

A. Attributes of God:

Complete *power* – _____ Jeremiah 32:17

Knows *everything* - _____ Psalms 145:5

Is *everywhere at once* - _____ Acts 17:24-28

Is all *wise* 1 Corinthians 1:25

B. The Nature of God

God is _____ 1 John 4:8, 16

God is _____ Deuteronomy 32:4

He is a God of _____ 2 Peter 3:9

God the Son, Jesus Christ (Message 3 will deal exclusively with **Jesus**)

Jesus has two natures: Fully _____ and fully _____

The Holy Spirit

A. His work in the unbeliever:

Draw attention to _____ John 16:13-14

Bring conviction of _____ John 16: 8-11

Produce the _____ John 3:5; Titus 3:5

B. His work in the believer

Live in us _____ Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19

Seal us to guarantee our _____ 2 Corinthians 1:21-22

Give us power for _____ and _____ Acts 1:8; 6:3

Produce Christian _____ in us Galatians 5:22-23

_____ us 1 Corinthians 2:10

_____ for us Romans 8:26-27

Help us recognize _____ about Christ

1 John 2:20-27

Empower God's _____ 1 Thessalonians 1:5

Equip us to _____ one another Romans 12:3-8

_____ us Romans 8:14

A "Trinity" verse: John 14:26 – (Jesus speaking) ***But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.***

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Message 3: "Why Jesus Came"

1 John 4:14

Things we know about Jesus Christ

He was _____ man and _____ God (John 1:14; Philippians 2:7)

We know about his ministry, miracles and teachings

Rejected by His own _____

Agonized over a _____

Died a _____ death

Came back to life, showing...

God's acceptance of His _____ for us

His power to give _____

We also will receive _____ bodies

Went _____ to heaven

Will return, _____, _____, and _____

Sole purpose in coming was the _____ of mankind

Concerning redemption: the **Bible** teaches that we are saved by

God's _____ *alone* (Colossians 1:14), **Not through...**

_____ Titus 3:5; Ephesians 2:8-9

_____ (next session)

_____ (also next session)

_____ Mark 7:8-13

Four elements in redemption

1. **Regeneration**; being made all over again; being _____

God's plan for our salvation:

- 1 John 4:16 – We rely on the love God has for us
- Romans 3:23 – All have sinned
- Romans 6:23 – The penalty for sin is death (hell for eternity; Matthew 23:33)
- John 3:16a – Jesus, paid the penalty for our sin
- John 3:16b – Our part is to believe that Jesus is the Son of God, that He died for our sin, and to invite Him into our lives to become our Master and Lord

Remember: You cannot be _____ to get into heaven; it's strictly God's gracious and merciful gift. (Titus 3:5)

2. **Justification**; becoming perfectly clean of _____

I become **Justified**; "Just-as-if-I'd" _____ (Galatians 2:16)

3. **Sanctification**; literally means "_____". The lifelong process of growth so we can carry out God's divine purposes. (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

4. **Glorification**; "Glory" literally means _____. Refers to our ultimate inheritance as children of the King; the experience of perfect joy in God's presence forever. (Romans 8:30)

Can I lose my salvation? _____ Yes _____ No

Supporting scriptures:

2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 John 2:4; John 6:37-40; John 10:27-28;

1 John 2:19; Romans 6:15; 1 Peter 1:3-4; John 3:36; Romans 8:37-39

So, why did Jesus come to the earth?

John 3:17 – For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved..” (KJV)

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Message 4: "The Church"

Matthew 6:18b

What is the church?

1. "Church" literally means _____
2. _____ believers of _____ time (Ephesians 5:25) and...
3. The local group of _____ in Christ
4. They met on Sunday to _____
_____ (Acts 20:7 and 1 Corinthians 16:1-2 e.g.)
5. It was supported financially by _____ and _____
(Acts 2:44-47 e.g.)

How the church began

1. Established by the _____ at Pentecost
(_____ days after Christ's ascension)
2. The Holy Spirit came upon _____ and _____
3. The people from all nations heard their own language signifying that God was inviting all believers of all nations into His church.

The membership of the New Testament church

1. Made up of _____ only (Acts 2:41)
2. Has the right mix of _____ and _____
to do the mission God has for that church

The Leadership of the church

1. _____ is head of the great and local church

2. _____ (_____ or _____)
3. _____

The governance of the church

1. The New Testament church was _____. They are often seen making decisions as a body. (E.g. Acts 6:5)
2. Local congregations were _____
3. No one told them how to _____ church
4. There was no _____ they had to sign

The purpose of the church

1. _____ God and _____ together
2. Learn the _____ and _____ of the Lord
3. _____
4. _____ to the needs of each other
5. Have _____

The ordinances of the church

1. **Baptism** (by _____)
 - A. An outward expression of an inward experience
 - B. The first act of _____ for a believer
 - C. Identifies a believer with Christ's _____, _____, and _____
2. **The Lord's Supper**
 - A. A memorial to Christ's _____ and _____ (Luke 22:19)
 - B. Calls us to _____ - _____ (1Corinthians 11:28)
 - C. Must be taken seriously (1 Corinthians 11:29)

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Message 5: "The Christian Code of Conduct"

2 Peter 3:10-11

Conduct begins with thoughts (Proverbs 23:7)

Scriptural guidelines regarding godly thoughts:

Proverbs 17:22 _____

Ephesians 4:32 _____

Philippians 4:8 _____

Thoughts develop into attitudes

What does Jesus say our attitude should be?

1. Love the Lord (Matthew 22:36-40)

Some evidences of this attitude:

- Deep _____ to Him (Colossians 3:12-17)
- Regular _____ with Him (1Thessalonians 5:17)
- Patient _____ in Him (Proverbs 3:5)
- Humble _____ to Him (James 4:7-10)
- Desire to _____ Him (Luke 11:28)

2. Love Others (John 15:12)

How do we do that?

- Remove _____ from our lives (Philippians 2:3)
- Want _____ for others (Luke 6:27)
- Desire to _____ ... The greatest expression of love one person can have for another. (Romans 10:15)

- Christ _____ it (Matthew 28:18-20)
- The _____ of others demand it (Romans 10:8-13)

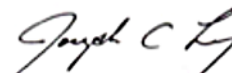
Godly Actions Follow (James 1:22)

1. Be _____ from the world (2 Corinthians 5:17)
2. Shine as _____ in the _____ (Matthew 5:14-16)
3. Behave as _____ of the King (2 Corinthians 5:20)
4. Live lives _____ to God (1 Thessalonians 4:1)
5. Be _____ to others (1 Corinthians 4:12-16; 1 Timothy 4:12)
6. Live victoriously over _____ and in time of _____ (Colossians 1:11-12)
7. Act _____ toward others (Colossians 3:12-14)
8. Let God use His _____ in and through us to make us all He wants us to be (Philippians 2:13-15)

Romans 13:12 – "The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light."

*Let others see Jesus in you;
Let others see Jesus in you.
Keep telling the Story, Be faithful and true;
Let others see Jesus in you.*

This concludes our survey of basic Baptist beliefs. Please continue to dig into God's wonderful Word to further solidify your understanding of our loving God, His place in your life, and His purpose for you.



Joseph C. Long