

Wychwood Baptist Church Statement of Faith

As a church, we believe:

1. In the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament in their original writings as fully inspired of God, and accepts them as the final authority for faith and life.
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. That Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, and is true God and true man.
4. That God created man in His own image; that man sinned and thereby incurred the penalty of death, physical and spiritual; and that all human beings inherit a sinful nature; which culminates (in the case of those who have reached moral responsibility) in actual transgression involving personal guilt.
5. That the Lord Jesus died for our sins, a substitutionary sacrifice, according to the Scriptures, and that all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood.
6. In the bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, His ascension into heaven, and His present life as our High Priest and Advocate.
7. In the personal, visible and bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ.
8. In the personality of the Holy Spirit, His regenerating and sanctifying work, and His abiding presence in the true believer.
9. That all who receive the Lord Jesus Christ by faith are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God.
10. That all Christians are called to a life of holiness, devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ and service for Him.
11. In the resurrection both of the just and the unjust, the eternal blessedness of the redeemed, and the eternal banishment of those who have rejected the offer of salvation.
12. That the one true Church is the whole company of those who have been redeemed by Jesus Christ and regenerated by the Holy Spirit; that the local Church on earth should take its character from this conception of the Church spiritual, and therefore that the new birth and personal confession of Christ are essentials of Church membership.
13. That the Lord Jesus Christ appointed two ordinances - Baptism and the Lord's Supper - to be observed as acts of obedience and as perpetual witness to the cardinal facts of the Christian faith; That BAPTISM is the full immersion of the believer in water as a confession of identification with Christ in burial and resurrection, and that the LORD'S SUPPER is the partaking of bread and grape juice as symbolical of the Saviour's broken body and shed blood, in remembrance of His sacrificial death, until He returns.
14. That God has ordained marriage between a man and a woman. Therefore we believe in a heterosexual relationship between a natural man and a natural woman within the confines of lawful matrimony. Adherence to this stated principle of sexual behaviour is an inherent requirement for membership with the Wychwood Baptist Church.