David Bains

Comparative Baptist Faith and Message Statements

1963 Baptist Faith and 2000 Baptist Faith and 1925 Baptist Faith and **Message Statement Message Statement Message Statement** VI. The Church VI. The Church XII. The Gospel Church A New Testament church of the A New Testament church of the A church of Christ is a Lord Jesus Christ is a local body Lord Jesus Christ is an congregation of baptized of baptized believers who are autonomous local congregation believers, associated by associated by covenant in the fai of baptized believers, associated covenant in the faith and and fellowship of the gospel, by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the two ordinances of fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ, committed to His observing the two ordinances of Christ, governed by his laws, teachings, exercising the gifts, and exercising the gifts, rights, Christ, governed by His laws, rights, and privileges invested in exercising the gifts, rights, and and privileges invested in them by His Word, and seeking privileges invested in them by them by his word, and seeking extend the gospel to the ends of His Word, and seeking to extend to extend the gospel to the the earth. the gospel to the ends of the ends of the earth. Its Scriptural This church is an autonomous earth. Each congregation operate officers are bishops, or elders, under the Lordship of Christ and deacons. body, operating through democratic processes under the through democratic processes. In Lordship of Jesus Christ. In such such a congregation each member congregation, members are is responsible and accountable to equally responsible. Its Scriptura Christ as Lord. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. officers are pastors and deacons. The New Testament speaks also While both men and women are the church as the body of Christ gifted for service in the church. which includes all of the redeem the office of pastor is limited to of all the ages. men as qualified by Scripture. The New Testament speaks also of the church as the Body of Christ which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages, believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation. Matt. 16:15-19: 18:15-20: Matthew 16:15-19: 18:15-20: Matt. 16:18: Matt. 18:15-18: Acts 2:41-42,47; 5:11-14; 6:3-Acts 2:41-42,47; 5:11-14; 6:3-Rom. 1:7; 1 Cor. 1:2; Acts 6; 13:1-3; 14:23,27; 15:1-30; 6; 13:1-3; 14:23,27; 15:1-30; 2:41-42; 5:13-14; 2 Cor. 16:5; 20:28; Rom. 1:7; 1 Cor. 16:5; 20:28; Romans 1:7; 1 9:13; Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 4:14; 1:2; 3:16; 5:4-5; 7:17; 9:13-Corinthians 1:2; 3:16; 5:4-5; Acts 14:23; Acts 6:3,5-6; Heb. 14; 12; Ephes. 1:22-23; 2:19-7:17; 9:13-14; 12; Ephesians 13:17; 1 Cor. 9:6,14. 22; 3:8-11,21; 5:22-32; Phil. 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 3:8-11,21; 1:1; Col. 1:18; 1 Tim. 3:1-15; 5:22-32; Philippians 1:1; 4:14; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Rev. 2-3; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 21:2-3. 2:9-14; 3:1-15; 4:14; Hebrews 11:39-40; 1 Peter 5:1-4;

Comparative Baptist Faith and Message Statements

1963 Baptist Faith and 2000 Baptist Faith and 1925 Baptist Faith and **Message Statement Message Statement Message Statement** VII. Baptism and the VII. Baptism and the XIII. Baptism and the Lord's Supper Lord's Supper Lord's Supper Christian baptism is the Christian baptism is the Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in immersion of a believer in immersion of a believer in water in the name of the water in the name of the water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Father, the Son, and the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of Holy Spirit. It is an act of Holy Spirit. The act is a obedience symbolizing the obedience symbolizing the symbol of our faith in a believer's faith in a believer's faith in a crucified, buried and risen crucified, buried, and risen crucified, buried, and risen Saviour. It is prerequisite to the privileges of a church Saviour, the believer's death Saviour, the believer's death relation and to the Lord's to sin, the burial of the old to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to life, and the resurrection to Supper, in which the walk in newness of life in walk in newness of life in members of the church, by Christ Jesus. It is a Christ Jesus. It is a the use of bread and wine, testimony to his faith in the testimony to his faith in the commemorate the dying final resurrection of the final resurrection of the love of Christ. dead. Being a church dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church to the privileges of church membership and to the membership and to the Lord's Supper. Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is a The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the whereby members of the church, through partaking church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second anticipate His second coming. coming. Matt. 3:13-17; 26:26-30; Matthew 3:13-17; 26:26-Matt. 28:19-20; 1 Cor. 4:1; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; 30; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; Rom. 6:3-5; Col. 2:12; 14:22-26: Luke 3:21-22: 14:22-26: Luke 3:21-22: Mark 1:4: Matt. 3:16: John 3:23; 1 Cor. 11:23-26; 1 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts 22:19-20; John 3:23; Acts Cor. 10:16-17,21; Matt. 2:41-42; 8:35-39; 16:30-2:41-42; 8:35-39; 16:30-33; Acts 20;7; Rom. 6:3-5; 33; 20:7; Romans 6:3-5; 1 26:26-27; Acts 8:38-39; 1 Cor. 10:16,21; 11:23-29; *Corinthians* 10:16,21; Mark 1:9-11. 11:23-29; Colossians 2:12. Col. 2:12.

Comparative Baptist Faith and Message Statements

1963 Baptist Faith and	2000 Baptist Faith and	1925 Baptist Faith and
Message Statement	Message Statement	Message Statement
VIII. The Lord's Day	VIII. The Lord's Day	XIV. The Lord's Day
The first day of the week is	The first day of the week is	The first day of the week is
the Lord's Day. It is a	the Lord's Day. It is a	the Lord's day. It is a
Christian institution for	Christian institution for	Christian institution for
regular observance. It	regular observance. It	regular observance. It
commemorates the	commemorates the	commemorates the
resurrection of Christ from	resurrection of Christ from	resurrection of Christ from
the dead and should be	the dead and should include	the dead and should be
employed in exercises of	exercises of worship and	employed in exercises of
worship and spiritual	spiritual devotion, both	worship and spiritual
devotion, both public and	public and private.	devotion, both public and
private, and by refraining	Activities on the Lord's Day	private, and by refraining
from worldly amusements,	should be commensurate	from worldly amusements,
and resting from secular	with the Christian's	and resting from secular
employments, work of	conscience under the	employments, works of
necessity and mercy only	Lordship of Jesus Christ.	necessity and mercy only
being excepted.		excepted.
Ex. 20:8-11; Matt. 12:1-12;	Exodus 20:8-11; Matthew	Ex. 20:3-6; Matt. 4:10;
28:1ff.; Mark 2:27-28;	12:1-12; 28:1ff.; Mark	Matt. 28:19; 1 Tim. 4:13;
16:1-7; Luke 24:1-3,33-36;	2:27-28; 16:1-7; Luke 24:1-	Col. 3:16; John 4:21; Ex.
John 4:21-24; 20:1,19-28;	3,33-36; John 4:21-24;	20:8; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Acts
Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1-2;	20:1,19-28; Acts 20:7;	20:7; Rev. 1:1; Matt. 12:1-
Col. 2:16; 3:16; Rev. 1:10.	Romans 14:5-10; I	13.
	Corinthians 16:1-2;	
	Colossians 2:16; 3:16;	
	Revelation 1:10.	

[The full text of all three versions of the Baptist Faith and Message Statement can be found at http://sbc.net/default.asp?url=2000.html (Jan. 25, 2001)]