

Series: Sound Doctrine

Title: Does it Matter What We Believe?

Text: (Heb 6:1-2)

As a born again, blood bought, child of God you need to count it a privilege and an honor to be a member of, and serve God in, one of his New Testament Bible believing, Baptist churches.

Being a member here must be something that will develop us as Christians, & will be evidenced by our growth In our active support both Spiritually and financially.

It must be a meaningful membership.

I make no apologies as to my convictions in regard to the basic Bible premise that God has established this local church, and that we all must be apart of this called out body of baptized believers.

The New Testament teaches the church began during the earthly ministry of Christ, when he called and ordained the 12 apostles

His churches has continued in perpetuity in every century from that time until the present our.

I am a Baptist by conviction because of my understanding of the word of God.

I believe it matters what a person believes.

I believe it makes a Big difference what a person believes.

I believe we are obligated to learn the truth, Believe the truth, and let that truth have an effect on our life.

I believe we are also obligated to share that truth with others.

(2 Cor 4:13) We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

If we believe error, we will speak and live error.

If what we say & do makes a difference, then it must make a difference what we believe.

Our beliefs must not only be founded **ON** the word of God, they must also be found **IN** the word of God.

(Luke 1:1-4)

(Titus 1:9) What is Sound Doctrine?

Sound~Right; correct; well founded; free from error; orthodox.

Doctrine~ are the principles & truths taught by Christ, the Prophets, & his Apostles.

Sound Doctrine = Correct Bible Teaching.

(Titus 1:9-11)

(Vs 10-11) Tells us why Sound Doctrine is Necessary.

(2 Tim 4:1-2) The Need for Sound Doctrine has always been, and always will be.

(James 2:14-17, 26) Inward Faith should bear outward fruit.

Vs 17 Faith is Dead if it is not accompanied by works.

I call it ... *NEAR FAITH*

Illus: *Ever heard of NEAR BEER?*

It looks like beer, tastes like beer, but is missing the alcohol.

Have you ever heard of *NEAR WINE?* = Its Grape Juice.

Likewise: *NEAR FAITH*, looks like faith, it sounds like faith, but it doesn't have an outward effect on that person's life.

(Heb 6:1-2)

(Phil 2:12-16) We are to *WORK OUT* our own salvation.

The purpose is, that we shine as *Lights in this World*.

(1 Sam 16:7) says that man looks on the outward appearance.

(2 Cor 6:3-10) The Word of God, and God Himself are on trial.

Thus we, as His Ambassadors, are on trial as well.

We are to live our lives *APPROVING OURSELVES* as True Ministers of God.

Our faith ought to have an effect on our daily living by affecting the decisions we make.

(Heb 6:1) We start with the Bible Principles, but that is not the end but the beginning.

We must take the Word of God and its principles and go forward and live our lives accordingly.

Over the next few weeks, I am going to be covering some of these Doctrines.

The Word of God, the New Testament, teaches that the Church is a local, visible, independent, organized assembly of baptized believers united together in their faith to win the lost, baptize those who believe, and teach believers to grow in their relationship with Christ. Before we get into the study further let us decide right now what we as Baptists believe. This is our foundation, our building blocks, our all.

- ◆ That there is one God eternally existent as God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ That the Bible, composed of the Old and New Testament, is the inerrant Word of God, verbally inspired, infallible, preserved, and our perfect rule of faith and life.
- ◆ That the Genesis account of creation is true. God is eternal, matter is not. God created the universe out of nothing, according to His own will. He bound each species to the ceaseless law of reproduction after its kind.
- ◆ That man was created in the image of God, but by the willful transgression of Adam became sinful and is justly under the condemnation and wrath of Almighty God.
- ◆ That salvation from this guilt and condemnation is through faith in the righteousness and atoning power of the Lord Jesus Christ through the blood that He shed on calvary, and that this salvation is the free gift of God's love and grace.
- ◆ That the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to reveal Christ to men, to convict of sin, to regenerate repentant sinners and, by His presence and power, to sanctify the lives of the redeemed.
- ◆ That the Lord Jesus Christ was virgin born. He lived a sinless life and worked many miracles while on earth. We believe in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His premillennial, personal return in power and glory.
- ◆ That He commanded the Church to preach the Gospel to all nations; that He instituted and gave the Church the authority to administer the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

- ◆ That baptism is the immersion in water of a born again believer, thereby declaring faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior, by the authority of the local Church. That the Lord's Supper is to be preceded by faithful self-examination, and is in remembrance of the Lord's death until He comes. It is partaken by those who hold membership in a specific local Church.

- ◆ That there will be a resurrection of the just and the unjust; the just, having been redeemed by the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, at the gathering away of the saints, to be with Him throughout eternity in glory; the unjust, having died unrepentant and unreconciled to God, at the Great White throne judgment, to eternal condemnation in hell, the lake of fire.

Jude verse 3

Jude vs 3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

As a Church we must always stand for something or we will end up falling for anything. We need convictions that will hold us, sustain us, convict us. This is a strong belief that must be held and practiced. Conviction are nothing if you are not convicted. Col 2:1 -10.

◆ WE NEED A SOUND GOSPEL.

- We cannot have another Christ. Gal 1:6, 7
- ~~We cannot have another Gospel.~~
- What is the Gospel? I Cor 15:3, 4
- We must never be ashamed of the Gospel. Rom 1:16
- We must never be a shame to the Gospel.
- We must spread God's good news, the Gospel, to all mankind.
 - † Sinners are saved by grace.
 - † Sinners receive salvation by faith.
 - † Sinners who believe are saved eternally.
 - † Sinners' salvation is based on God's Word.

◆ WE NEED A SCRIPTURAL BAPTISM.

- One baptism. Eph 4:5
- One must be a believer before he is baptized.
- One must be immersed in water.
- One must be immersed by the authority of a sound Church.
- One must be immersed for the proper reasons.
 - † To be identify with Christ. Rom 6:4
 - † To be obedient to Christ's command. Matt 28:19, 20
 - † To gain a good conscience toward God. I Pet 3:21

◆ WE MUST HAVE A SACRED TABLE, LORD'S SUPPER.

- Observed within the confines of the Church. It is a Church ordinance as is baptism. I Cor 11:17 - 34
- Observed only by those who are Christians.
- Observed only by those who are Christians who have been baptized according to the pattern of Scripture.
- Observed only by those baptized Christians who are members of the local Church administrating the Lord's Supper.
- Observed only by those baptized Christians who are in fellowship with the Lord and the local Church.

◆ WE MUST HAVE A SEPARATED MEMBERSHIP.

- The Church has every right to expect her members to live in a Godly fashion. Titus 2:11 - 14, II Cor 6:14 - 17
- The Church should love, forgive, and restore those who repent when they fall into sin. Luke 17:3, 4, Gal 6:1
- The Church must rebuke, discipline, and withdraw fellowship from those who refuse to repent of their sin, and thus hurt the testimony of the Church. Matt 18:15 - 17, I Tim 5:20, Titus 3:10, Rom 16:17, II Thess 3:6, I Cor 5:1-13