Grace Baptist Church

What We Believe

1. Scriptures (The Holy Bible)

We believe the Holy Bible is our source of truth, the means by which we can know about God, and is divine in both nature and substance. It is the foundation for all doctrine, life, and godliness.

Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV)

2. God (JEHOVAH, The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob)

God is the one and only true God; there is no other. He describes Himself as "I AM." God is the Creator, the Almighty, and infinite—holy, righteous, just, loving, and kind. He desires that all come to repentance so that we may know Him and behold His glory.

Scripture: Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 45:5 (ESV)

3. The Fall of Man (Original Sin)

Man was created in innocence, without sin. However, man chose to rebel against God's holiness and sought his own way. Through this act, sin entered the world and has been passed down through mankind, inherited by all.

Scripture: Romans 5:12 (ESV)

4. The Way of Salvation (Redemption)

There is only one way for our sin to be paid for—through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. The Bible says that without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sin. The innocent died for the guilty. Jesus Christ is the promise made to man for salvation. We must believe God's promise and diligently seek Him.

Scripture: Hebrews 9:22; John 14:6 (ESV)

5. Justification

We are guilty of sin—disobedience to God's Law—and we owe a debt for that sin. Jesus Christ came and lived a sinless life so that He could be the perfect Lamb, sacrificed in place of the sinner. That substitutionary act is justification.

Scripture: Romans 5:9 (ESV)

6. The Gift of Salvation

Salvation is free. You are not obligated to any organization, person, or penitent work. God made the way of salvation through Jesus Christ (God incarnate) and freely offers it to all who believe.

Scripture: Ephesians 2:8–9 (ESV)

7. Grace in Regeneration

God's kindness is meant to bring us to repentance. Without the grace shown to man, no one would ever be regenerated. Since no one naturally seeks God, He graciously allows mankind to hear the Word and come to a choice before condemnation is poured out.

Scripture: Romans 2:4; John 6:44 (ESV)

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What We Believe (cont.)

8. Repentance and Faith

Repentance is turning from our ungodly ways and desires, confessing our sin, and acknowledging our need for a Savior. Faith is placing our full trust in the gift of Jesus Christ's sacrifice. When one believes God's promise of redemption and trusts Him with their life, they rest in the assurance that God will do what He has said.

Scripture: Acts 20:21; Romans 10:9 (ESV)

9. God's Purpose of Grace

God's desire to be in communion with us is beyond simple words. While we were still ungodly, God made a way for us. God does not need us—He wants us. He is not dependent on us but desires fellowship with us. His grace is His to give, and He chose to give it to us so we could spend eternity with Him.

Scripture: Romans 5:8 (ESV)

10. Sanctification

We are dirty, sinful, and unworthy. Yet God not only made a way for us to be saved but also to become clean, forgiven, and made worthy to be in His presence—to worship Him who is holy and righteous.

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 4:3 (ESV)

11. Perseverance of the Saints

Believers possess more than a mere intellectual or emotional agreement with what God has done. Salvation involves the complete saving of body, soul, and spirit. All who truly believe God's promise in Christ Jesus are saved and will know they are saved.

Scripture: John 10:28; Philippians 1:6 (ESV)

12. Harmony of the Law and the Gospel

The Bible consists of two testaments—the Old and the New. These are complementary and fully agree with each other. We do not hold to any system or teaching that promotes multiple ways to God; there is only one way—through His promised Lamb, Christ Jesus.

Scripture: Luke 24:27 (ESV)

13. The Gospel Church

The Church is the called-out assembly of believers, bound together by obedience to the commands of God. The Church exists to demonstrate the manifold grace of God to the world, bringing light to the Gospel through the gifts God has given believers for His glory.

Scripture: Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 3:10 (ESV)

14. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

These are the ordinances given to the Church to remember and display outwardly what God has done and continues to do through His people—believers who are obedient to His will.

Scripture: Matthew 28:19; 1 Corinthians 11:26 (ESV)

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What We Believe (cont.)

15. Civil Government

All government is established and removed by the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, Jesus Christ. Those in authority are placed there for the advancement of God's plan and are to be obeyed as long as they do not contradict God's law or purpose.

Scripture: Romans 13:1 (ESV)

16. The Righteous and the Wicked

The righteous are those who obey God; the wicked live according to the passions of the flesh. There must and will always be a distinction between the two. When evil is called good and good is called evil, the righteous must remain steadfastly on the side of God.

Scripture: Isaiah 5:20; Psalm 1:6 (ESV)

17. The World to Come

Heaven is for those who have personally accepted God's promise of redemption through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and are saved. Hell is for all who reject God's promise of redemption. They will be eternally separated from God, in utter darkness and torment.

Scripture: John 14:2–3; Revelation 20:15 (ESV)