

Scriptures and Doctrine :: Baptists

Baptists - posted by partofaplan, on: 2008/1/5 0:11

Hello there,

I just wanted to ask a couple questions about the Baptist denomination. I personally am affiliated with no denomination, because my church does not claim one. However, I do admire Baptists. I admire them because many of the Baptists I have known have been very much like Bereans and strong in their faith.

So, my questions are:

1. What are fundamental doctrinal differences between Baptists and other denominations?
2. What are the differences between Baptists, Southern Baptists and Anabaptists?

Thanks guys!

God bless!

Re: Baptists - posted by intrcssr83 (), on: 2008/1/5 6:52

Bump.

I wouldn't mind a bit of info too.

Re: Baptists, on: 2008/1/5 8:06

I will attempt to give my observations of this question. I think the answer will vary even among Baptist, even of the same faith group. Baptist is a way of identifying a people who believe in salvation by grace is not of works but unto works Eph 8 -10. They are not required to show any works to be saved but have works because they are saved. They believe salvation is supernatural work of God in a person's life. Some Baptist believe they can be saved, even when they don't become a new creation in Christ Jesus...see a drastic change in their heart and life...not the case here. It is impossible to stereotype any denomination. For instance, many Church of Christ members believe all Baptist are hell bound, because, even though the Baptist believe in water baptism is necessary, but believe it is not a saving factor...but not all Church of Christ believe that either. The only only thing that really matters is what God thinks. Do we line up with HIS Word. It does not matter what denomination one associate themselves with, if they miss Jesus, as a baseball player who would miss first base, they can make it all the way home and there still out. So my answer is, there are even fundamental differences between the people of the same denomination. I am so glad you did not specify any specific answers that were not suitable and that I read the first post. I hope this helps. Some theological historians can probably shed more light on this. I am not one of those. A very good question and a question that gets very sticky when discussed but HIS WORD tells us things will get sticky when we speak truth and not all will accept it.

Re: Baptists - posted by pastorfrin, on: 2008/1/5 9:09

Quote:

-----2. What are the differences between Baptists, Southern Baptists and Anabaptists?

Hi partofaplan,

This should help with Anabaptist.

<http://www.anabaptists.org/>

Re: Baptists - posted by psalm1, on: 2008/1/5 9:35

partofaplan, They are sound in some areas of basic salvation but are far from bereans.

All denominations have error and so do you and me.

You will have to decide where you stand concerning the gifts and once saved always saved.

Get a concordance and a good bible.

I assume

that you are part of some group that moves in the gifts.

Baptist doctrine stops just short of ascribing the gifts to the devil.

So keep that in mind while shopping for a church.

Judging from your last sentence you may know more about baptist than you are alluding to.

A lot of people here are passionate about their beliefs and this type of subject will step on toes no matter what is said.

We are winding down at a dramatic pace to the end and focus on Jesus will keep all of us "sweet".

If I were you I would Fast and pray and seek the absolute highest and best God offers.

David

Re: Baptists - posted by Swordbearer (), on: 2008/1/5 10:10

Greetings in the name of Christ

I guess you have opened up a rather large "can of worms" here on SI :) I can only imagine where this thread will end up :)

"Baptist" is a rather vague term these days in America, and the differences between the three groups you mentioned are great. Being neither a theologian or a scholar I will simply direct you to a rather brief work by a Southern Baptist preacher named JM Carrol. This was written during the early part of the last century. Bear in mind that the Southern Baptist denomination was quite a bit different then than it is today. This work, known as "The trail of Blood" is generally considered by most conservative Independent Baptists to be an excellent history of the Baptist church.

You can find this work at www.trailofblood.com

In Christ Aaron

Re:, on: 2008/1/5 11:04

First let me say that you assumed wrong. I am a member of a SB local church. Second, I don't have a problem with assurance of eternal security, what I do have a problem with is some people who only confess with their mouth and think they have believed. They are taken captive by the devil as he and they tell themselves they are ok. Bereans or not we are all sinners, just some saved by grace. All are but filthy rags. Worse thing can happen to us is to get puffed up. A concordance and a whole library full of Bibles is useless without the Holy Spirit revealing to a person what HIS WORD says. Getting sticky now, right. I do know more about Baptist than you thought, that's the only church I have ever been a member of. The truth is the truth, regardless whether you are speaking to a Methodist, Pentecostal or a Baptist.

moe_mac

Re: Baptists - posted by kendall, on: 2008/1/5 11:43

partofaplan,

In answer to your question, there are several "Baptist Distinctives." First, all baptists believe in water baptism by submersion, after salvation, as an outward testimony of salvation. Second, all baptists believe in congregational church government in some form or another. Third, all baptists believe in the Second Coming of Christ, although there is no set belief (i.e. post, pre, mid, etc.) A fourth baptist distinctive is eternal security. Fifth, all baptists believe in the autonomy of the local church. Bear in mind these are Baptist distinctives, that is, where baptists differ from other Christian denominations. They also believe in salvation by grace through faith, the Trinity, inspiration of Scripture, etc., but that is not what sets them apart as Baptists for these are traditional Christian beliefs.

In regards to Southern Baptists and independent baptists there are many differences, but really only one main difference. All baptist churches are independent (including Southern Baptists,) but Southern Baptist churches are churches that have ascribed to the Baptist Faith and Message and give to the Cooperative Program (a missions organization of sorts.)

There is much more that could be said in terms of history, other beliefs, etc., but I hope this answers your question.

In Christ,
Kendall

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2008/1/5 13:25

moe mac,

Quote:

moe_mac wrote:

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"taken captive of the devil"?

"think they have believed"?

Since according to you only baptists are escaping the devil's deception you unwittingly appear to have opened yourself up to delusion.

There is not enough difference in eternal security and to make some big doctrinal divide.

The bro specifically asked "what are the differences"

You gave him a baptist answer

Then you jumped me?

What are you showing him?

David

Re: - posted by partofaplan, on: 2008/1/5 13:37

wow. I had no idea I would spark a debate. I agree that no denomination is above another and we all need to seek God on what His words says. I wholeheartedly agree that we all need to be bereans and that not all Baptists are Bereans.

I guess I just was wanting to hear from the "horse's mouth", so to speak, what Baptist doctrine is.

Re: - posted by kendall, on: 2008/1/5 13:55

Could you be more specific concerning Baptist doctrine? There are libraries full of baptist doctrine, so narrowing it down a bit would help :-). Is there any one area that you specifically want an answer to?

Kendall

Re: - posted by tjservant (), on: 2008/1/5 14:08

Quote:

-----A fourth baptist distinctive is eternal security.

The General Baptist(GB) denomination does not believe in eternal security.

Re: - posted by partofaplan, on: 2008/1/5 14:19

Quote:

-----Could you be more specific concerning Baptist doctrine? There are libraries full of baptist doctrine, so narrowing it down a bit would help . Is there any one area that you specifically want an answer to?

Calvinism and Eternal security mostly.

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2008/1/5 14:24

This is kinda funny.

A brother is in his backyard at night with a flashlight combing through the grass on his knees.
His neighbor says "hey Bob what are you looking for?"
Bob replies "I think I lost my salvation!"

David

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2008/1/5 14:57

Being born in Oklahoma, does that make me what?

I have been a Baptist, but now I am a Christ One.

My birth, my baptism, my theology, is this what makes me who I am? I think Not. Someone ask me the other day if I was a prophet. I told them that Christ is the only true Prophet, and He by the Holy Spirit makes all that are Christ Ones, prophets. I also told him that I would rather be a son of God than a prophet outside of Christ.

"He made", some pastors, teachers, prophets, etc. and with the Christ in me we all can be made, all or any of these gifts, as the Holy Spirit distributes them as He pleases. The Christ in us is the GIFT GIVER, the Holy Spirit only uses in us what The Christ in us speaks to Him for us.

I am a Christian, a son of God by the only Begotten Son of God.

By Birth in Christ, Now in the Family of God, a new creation, a Christ person.

John 15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

We have much to learn in the Family. Let us proclaim that oneness in Christ.

John 16:12-13 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

We must be Christ Ones, son of God. This is the Holy Spirits work: "He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come."

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The only Baptists we are: 1Cr 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Gentiles, whether bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. Christ!

Rom 8:9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

A Christ One: Phillip

Re: - posted by psalm1, on: 2008/1/5 15:04

I've been giving this some deep thought and have decided what I am is a Bapa- antist

Anybody got a rearview mirror they're not using?

David

Re:, on: 2008/1/5 16:26

Quote:

partofaplan wrote:

Quote:

-----Could you be more specific concerning Baptist doctrine? There are libraries full of baptist doctrine, so narrowing it down a bit would help. Is there any one area that you specifically want an answer to?

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Re: - posted by davyman, on: 2008/1/5 17:01

Quote:

tjservant wrote:

Quote:

-----A fourth baptist distinctive is eternal security.

The General Baptist(GB) denomination does not believe in eternal security.

Well, Like all Baptist conferences, the Baptist General Conference does believe in perseverance . . . and it doesn't. Bethlehem Baptist Church and John Piper are "General Baptist." Pastor John describes himself as a "seven-point" Calvinist. On the other end of the spectrum, and only five miles away physically, is Woodland Hills Church and Greg Boyd who preaches "open theism" and denies perseverance, his church is in the same BGC.

SDG,

Dave

Re:, on: 2008/1/5 17:12

Quote:

psalm1 wrote:

"taken captive of the devil"?

"think they have believed"?

Since according to you only baptists are escaping the devils deception you unwittingly appear to have opened yourself up to delusion.

There is not enough difference in eternal security and to make some big doctrinal divide.

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David

If someone agrees with you, it's fellowship, if they disagree with, they are jumping you.

Baptist answer no, I gave a BIBLICAL ANSWER and the answer I gave, you evidently couldn't interpret. If you see where I said only Baptist were taken captive by the devil, show me. This went right where you wanted it to go, as you responded to my first post. You do not have to agree with me. Where did all these people get that. we are to agree with each other and ignore what we understand in God's Word. If we did what a messed up theology we'd have. Maybe whatever fault I thought you had instead of responding here I should make a new post like you wouldn't know it was to you. If I did I'd make sure I wasn't as guilty as you of what was post was aimed at.

Re: - posted by tjservant (), on: 2008/1/5 17:25

Quote:

-----Well, Like all Baptist conferences, the Baptist General Conference does believe in perseverance . . . and it doesn't. Bethlehem Baptist Church and John Piper are "General Baptist." Pastor John describes himself as a "seven-point" Calvinist. On the other end of the spectrum, and only five miles away physically, is Woodland Hills Church and Greg Boyd who preaches "open theism" and denies perseverance, his church is in the same BGC.

The "General Baptist" denomination and the Baptist General Conference are not the same thing...at all. The General Baptist denomination is Arminian.

Re: - posted by davyman, on: 2008/1/5 17:27

Quote:

tjservant wrote:

Quote:

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Thanks Brother, I stand corrected. :-)

SDG,

Dave

Re: - posted by kendall, on: 2008/1/5 23:23

I too, stand corrected. I guess that everything they teach you in school is not true :-). Concerning Calvinism, most baptist historians consider baptists (mainly Southern Baptists) to come from Calvinistic roots. In fact almost all founders, to my knowledge, of the Southern Baptist Convention were Calvinists. Regardless of its roots, there is much diversity in baptist life today. I have no knowledge of the Arminian branch of Baptists that our brother TJ pointed out, but as to the rest of baptists that I am aware of about the only part of TULIP that they all agree on is Perseverance of the Saints. In fact a Southern Baptist wrote a book entitled "Why I am not a Calvinist." It has a picture of a wilted tulip on the front with four petals on the ground and one hanging on by a thread:-). However, in the Southern Baptist Convention I seem to recall that about 25% of the ministers are five point Calvinists.

Re: - posted by intrcssr83 (), on: 2008/1/6 3:17

Bit of a historical question (though its implications may open a can of worms): What was behind the "resurgence" movement in the SBC seminaries during the late 70s? As far as I understand (please correct me if I'm wrong), it was a fight against liberal influences upon the SBC, right?

Also, I heard on the rumor-mill that Southern Theological Seminary President Albert Mohler (who I know as being Reformed, Cessationist and Complementarian) was recently nominated as a candidate to lead the SBC. True/False?

Re: - posted by davyman, on: 2008/1/6 8:28

Yes, Al Moehler has been nominated. I'm not sure he is a cessationist, he often speaks at the same conferences as CJ Mahaney, founder of Sovereign Grace Ministries which is Charismatic and reformed.

SDG,

Dave

Re: - posted by kendall, on: 2008/1/6 8:41

The "Conservative Resurgence" was a fight against liberalism in the seminaries. The main thrust was against neo-orthodoxy, although there were many other liberal influences in the SB seminaries. For the most part, the Conservative Resurgence was successful in restoring sound doctrine in the seminaries. As a side note, when I say sound doctrine I am referring to the inspiration of Scripture, the virgin birth, deity of Christ, et al.