

New Hampshire Baptist Confession of 1833

Article I Inspiration of The Scriptures

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, or inbreathed; and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true basis of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions shall be tried.

II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:21; II Timothy 3:15; Acts 11:14; Proverbs 30:5-6; John 17:17; Romans 2:12; I Corinthians 4:3-4; Philippians 3:16; Ephesians 4:3-6; I John 4:1; Jude 3 & 5.

Article II The Name, Nature, And Being Of God

We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of the universe; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love; that in the unity of the Godhead, there are three separate and distinct persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

John 4:24; Psalm 83:18; Exodus 15:11; I Peter 1:15-16; Mark 12:30; Revelation 4:11; Matthew 28:19; John 15:26; 10:30; Acts 5:3-4; Ephesians 2:18; II Corinthians 13:14; Revelation 1:4-5.

Article III The Fall Of Man

We believe that man was created in a state or condition of holiness, under the law of his Maker; but by a voluntary transgression he fell from that happy and holy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but by choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.

Genesis 1:27; Acts 15:26; Genesis 3:6-24; Romans 5:12, 19; Psalm 51:5; Romans 8:7; Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:9-18; Ephesians 2:1-3; Romans 1:18; Galatians 3:10, 2; Ezekiel 18:19-20.

Article IV The Way Of Salvation

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly by grace; through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God; who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon Himself our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and by His death made a full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in heaven; and uniting in His wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, He is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all sufficient Savior.

Ephesians 2:5; 2:8-10; John 4:10; Acts 15:11; John 3:16; John 1:1-14; Hebrews 4:14; Philippians 2:6-7; II Corinthians 5:21; Isaiah 42:21; Galatians 4:4-5; Romans 3:21; Isaiah 53:3, 5; Matthew 20:28; Romans 3:21-26; 9:13-15; Hebrews 1:8; Hebrews 1:3; Colossians 3:1-4; Hebrews 7:25; Psalm 89:19, and Psalm 45.

Article V The Blessings Of The Gospel

We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to those who believe in Him is salvation; that this includes all the divine redemptive acts of God on behalf of the sinner, such as

justification, which is the divine act of God whereby He declares a believer just; redemption, the divine act of God whereby He purchased by the shed blood of Christ, and by His mighty power, the freedom of the believer from the power and dominion of sin; grace, the divine disposition of God wherein He saves men, not by any merit or work of their own, but wholly by the work and merit of Christ; propitiation, the divine act of God in offering Christ as the sinner's substitute; imputation, the divine act of God whereby He imputes or counts the righteousness and excellencies of Christ to the believer; forgiveness, the divine act of God by which He remits the sins of a believer; sanctification, the divine act of God whereby He imparts His holiness to the inner man, or new born one, and sets apart the entire man to the service of God; glorification, the divine act of God whereby that element or part of man which is mortal will be changed into a state and condition of immortality.

Matthew 1:21; Romans 1:16; Acts 4:12; 10:43; Romans 4:1-5, 13-25; 5:1; Galatians 3:11; Romans 3:24; I Corinthians 1:30; Hebrews 9:12; I Peter 1:18; Ephesians 2:5, 8-10; I John 1:2; Romans 3:25; 4:8, 9; Acts 5:31; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14; John 17:17, 19; Acts 20:32; I Corinthians 1:2, 6:11; Ephesians 5:26; I Thessalonians 5:23; I John 3:9; II Peter 1:4; I John 3:1-2; Philippians 3:20-21; I Corinthians 15:51-53; Romans 8:17.

Article VI Salvation Free

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial penitent, and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel; which rejection involved him in an aggravated condemnation.

Isaiah 55:1; Luke 14:17; Revelation 22:17; Romans 16:26; Mark 1:15; Romans 1:15-17; John 5:40; Matthew 23:37; Romans 9:32; Proverbs 1:24; John 3:19; Matthew 11:20; Luke 19:27; II Thessalonians 1:8.

Article VII Grace In Regeneration

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, or "born from above;" that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, faith, and newness of life.

John 3:3, 5, 7; I Corinthians 1:14; Revelation 21:27; II Corinthians 5:17; Ezekiel 36:26; Romans 2:28-29; 5:5; I John 4:7; John 3:8; 1:13; Philippians 2:13; James 1:16-18; I Peter 1:22, 25; I John 5:1; Colossians 3:9-11; Ephesians 5:9; Galatians 5:19-23; Matthew 3:8-10; I John 5:4, 18.

Article VIII Repentance And Faith

We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger, and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession, and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest, and King, and relying on Him alone as the only and all sufficient Savior.

Mark 1:15; Ephesians 2:8; I John 5:1; John 16:8; Acts 2:37-38; 16:30, 31; Luke 18:13; James 4:7-10; II Corinthians 7:11; Romans 10:9-11; Acts 22, 23; II Timothy 1:12.

Article IX God's Purpose In Grace

We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy, and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of His free mercy; and it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the gospel; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that to ascertain it in regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

II Timothy 1:8-9; Ephesians 1:3-14; Hosea 11:1; II Thessalonians 2:13-14; Acts 13:48; John 10:16; Exodus 33:18-19; Romans 11:28-29; James 1:17-18; I Corinthians 4:7; I Peter 2:9; Ephesians 1:16; II Timothy 2:10; I Corinthians 9:22; I Thessalonians 1:4-10; Romans 8:28-31; II Peter 1:10-11; Philippians 3:12.

Article X Of Sanctification

We believe that Sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness (1); that it is a progressive work (2); that it is begun in regeneration (3); and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means-especially the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness, and prayer (4).

1 Thess. 4:3; 5:23; 2 Cor. 7:1; 13:9; Eph. 1:4; Prov. 4:18; 2 Cor. 3:18; Heb. 6:1; 2 Pet. 1:5-8; Phil. 3:12-16

John 2:29; Rom. 8:5; John 3:6; Phil. 1:9-11; Eph. 1:13-14; Phil. 2:12-13; Eph. 4:11-12; 1 Pet. 2:2; 2 Pet. 3:18; 2 Cor. 13:5; Luke 11:35; 9:23; Matt. 26:41; Eph. 6:18; 4:30

Article XI The Perseverance Of The Saints

We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

John 8:31; I John 2:27-28; 5:18; 2:19; John 13:18; Matthew 13:20-21; John 6:66-69; Romans 8:28; Jeremiah 32:40; Philippians 1:6; 2:12-13; Hebrews 13:5; I John 4:4.

Article XII Harmony Of The Law And The Gospel

We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of His moral government; that it is holy, just and good; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the church.

Romans 3:21; Matthew 5:17; Romans 3:20; 4:15; 7:12; Galatians 3:21; Psalm 119; Romans 8:7-8; John 5:44; 6:44; Joshua 24:19; Jeremiah 13:23; Romans 8:2,4; Romans 10:4; Hebrews 12:14; Matthew 16:17-18; I Corinthians 12:28.

Article XIII A New Testament Church

We believe that a church of Jesus Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His law; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in her by His Word; that her only Scriptural officers are bishops or pastors or elders, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

I Corinthians 1:1-13; Matthew 18:17; II John 9; Acts 2:41-42; I Corinthians 5:12-13; Matthew 18:15-20; 28:20; John 14:21; Ephesians 4:7; Philippians 1:27; 1:1; I Timothy 3.

Article XIV Baptism And The Lord's Supper

We believe that Scriptural baptism is the dipping into water of a believer in Christ, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, with its effect, in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is pre-requisite to the privileges of a church relation; and to the Lord's Supper in which the members of a church by the sacred use of the unleavened bread and the fruit of the vine, are to commemorate together the undying love of Christ; preceded always by a solemn self-examination.

Acts 8:36-39; Matthew 3:5, 6; 28:18-20; Romans 6:4; Acts 2:41-42; I Corinthians 11:26; 11:28; I Corinthians 5:1, 8; John 6:26-71.

Article XV The Lord's Day

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day; that it is to be kept sacred as a memorial of the resurrection of Christ from the dead; that Christians should refrain from all secular labor and worldly recreations, that we should devoutly use all the means of grace, both private and public, by which we may be drawn closer to God and provoked to holier living, and in preparation for our eternal abode in the presence of God.

Acts 20:7; Colossians 2:16-17; I Corinthians 16:1-2; Revelation 1:10; Psalm 118:24; Isaiah 58:13-14; Hebrews 10:24-25; Hebrews 4:3-11.

Article XVI Civil Government

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment and arrangement, for the best interests and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed; except in matters opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of men's consciences, and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

Romans 13:1-7; Deuteronomy 16:18; Jeremiah 30:21; Matthew 22:21; I Peter 2:13; Acts 5:29; Matthew 10:28; Daniel 3:15-18; Matthew 23:10; Romans 14:4; Revelation 19:6; Psalm 2.

Article XVII The Righteous And The Wicked Contrasted

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in His esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence

and unbelief are in His sight wicked, and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

Malachi 3:18; Proverbs 12:26 Acts 10:34-35; Romans 1:17; 7:16; I John 3:7; I John 2:29; Galatians 3:10; Proverbs 14:32; Luke 16:25; Matthew 13:14.

Article XVIII Of the World to Come

We believe that the end of the world is approaching; that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness. 1 Pet. 4:7; 1 Cor. 7:29-31; Heb. 1:10-12; Matt. 24:35; 1 John 2:17; Matt. 28:20; 13:39-40; 2 Pet. 3:3-13 Acts 1:11; Rev. 1:7; Heb. 9:28; Acts 3:21; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 5:1-11 Acts 24:15; 1 Cor. 15:12-59; Luke 14:14; Dan. 12:2; John 5:28-29; 6:40; 11:25-26; 2 Tim. 1:10; Acts 10:42 Matt. 13:49, 37-43; 24:30-31; 25:31-33 Matt. 25:35-41; Rev. 22:11; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Mark 9:43-48; 2 Pet. 2:9; Jude 7; Phil. 3:19; Rom. 6:32; 2 Cor. 5:10-11; John 4:36; 2 Cor. 4:18 Rom. 3:5-6; 2 Thess. 1:6-12; Heb. 6:1-2; 1 Cor. 4:5; Acts 17:31; Rom. 2:2-16; Rev. 20:11-12; 1 John 2:28; 4:17