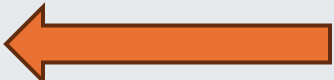


Brandon Baptist Church

Statement of Faith

Article 2 – OF GOD

Statement of Faith Topics

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2. Of the True God 	11. Of the Perseverance of Saints
3. Of the Fall of Man	12. Of the Harmony of the Law and the Gospel
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Of the True God

We believe that

- there is one, and only one, true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and Earth;^a
- inexpressibly glorious in holiness;^b
- worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love;^c
- revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost;^d
- equal in every divine perfection,^e
- and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

One and Only one true and living God, whose name is Jehovah

- ¹⁴ And God said to Moses, “***I AM WHO I AM.***” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, I AM has sent me to you.’ ” ¹⁵ Moreover God said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: ‘The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.’ Exodus 3:14-15
- ²³ And He said to them, “You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. ²⁴ Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.” John 8:23-24
- ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, ***I AM.***” John 8:58
- ⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End,” says the Lord, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” Revelation 1:8

What is in a Name?

- A name invokes a unique person (“name dropping”)
 - Acknowledgement
 - Credit / Blame, Honor / Hatred, Authority / Judgement, Presence / Absence, Addressing / Dismissing
- Use of a Name carries Power
- Mis-attribution to a Name is grievous
 - Excess Credit, Honor, Authority or Presence
 - Grievance against the one not-named: Idolatry or Insanity
 - Excess Blame, Hatred, Judgement, Absence
 - Grievance against the one named: Deadly Insult or Ignorance
 - Addressing or Dismissing without proper standing
 - Insubordination or Disfunction
- Modern phenomenon of “mis-gendering” as violence is a perversion of mis-using a name, replacing Personhood with Gender
- Why is taking the Lord’s name in vain evil?
 - It treats him as not existing

How should we use God's Name?

Old Testament Uses of God's Name

- (1) Abraham called on the *name* of the Lord ([Gen. 12:8; 13:4](#)).
- (2) The Lord proclaimed His own *name* before Moses ([Ex. 33:19; 34:5](#)).
- (3) Israel was warned against profaning the *name* of the Lord ([Lev. 13:21; 22:2, 32](#)).
- (4) The *name* of the Lord was not to be taken in vain ([Ex. 20:7; Deut. 5:11](#)).
- (5) The priests of Israel were to minister in the *name* of the Lord ([Deut. 18:5; 21:5](#)).
- (6) The *name* of God is called "wonderful" in [Judges 13:18](#).
- (7) To call on the *name* of the Lord was to worship Him as God ([Gen. 21:33; 26:25](#)).

New Testament Uses of Jesus' Name

- (1) Salvation is through His *name* ([John 1:12](#)).
- (2) Believers are to gather in His *name* ([Matt. 18:20](#)).
- (3) Prayer is to be made in His *name* ([John 14:13-14](#)).
- (4) The servant of the Lord who bears the *name* of Christ will be hated ([Matt. 10:22](#)).
- (5) The book of Acts makes frequent mention of worship, service, and suffering in the *name* of Jesus Christ ([Acts 4:18; 5:28, 41; 10:43; 19:17](#)).
- (6) It is at the *name* of Jesus that every knee will one day bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord ([Phil. 2:10-11](#)).

Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and Earth

- ¹⁸ That they may know that You, whose name alone is the LORD,
Are the Most High over all the earth. Psalms 83:18
- ⁴ For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God. Hebrews 3:4
- ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, Romans 1:20
- ¹⁰ But the LORD is the true God;
He is the living God and the everlasting King.
At His wrath the earth will tremble,
And the nations will not be able to endure His indignation. Jeremiah 10:10

Inexpressible Glorious in Holiness

- ¹¹ “Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods?
Who is like You, glorious in holiness,
Fearful in praises, doing wonders? Exodus 15:11
- ³ And one cried to another and said:
“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
The whole earth is full of His glory!” Isaiah 6:3
- ¹⁵ but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶ because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.” 1 Peter 1:15-16
- ⁸ The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying:
“Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God Almighty,
Who was and is and is to come!” Revelation 4:8

worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love

- ³⁰ And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment. Mark 12:30
- ¹¹ “You are worthy, O Lord,
To receive glory and honor and power;
For You created all things,
And by Your will they exist and were created.” Revelation 4:11
- ³⁷ He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. Matthew 10:37
- ¹² Be astonished, O heavens, at this,
And be horribly afraid;
Be very desolate,” says the LORD.
¹³ “For My people have committed two evils:
They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters,
And hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water. Jeremiah 2:12-13

revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost

- ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Matthew 28:19
- ⁷ For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. 1 John 5:7

Deeper Look: Baptism

- ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not think to say to yourselves, We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. ¹⁰ And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹ I indeed baptize you with **water** unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the **Holy Spirit** and **fire**. ¹² His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” Matthew 3:7-12

Deeper Look: Trinity in Baptism

- ⁴ Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4
- ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Ephesians 4:4-6

revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost

- ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Matthew 28:19
- ⁷ For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. 1 John 5:7

Deeper Look: Trinity's Witness

1 John 5:5-11

- ⁵ Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
- ⁶ This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood.
- And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. ⁷ For there are three that bear **witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit**; and these three are one.
- ⁸ And there are three that **bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood**; and these three agree as one.
- ...
- ¹¹ And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.

equal in every divine perfection

- ¹⁷ But Jesus answered them, “My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.” John 5:17
- ³⁰ I and My Father are one.” John 10:30
- And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. ⁷ For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.
- ²³ Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, John 14:23
- ³ But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? ⁴ While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.” Acts 5:3-4
- ¹⁰ According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. ¹¹ For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 3:10-11

and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption

- ¹⁸ For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Ephesians 2:18
- ¹⁴ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen. 2 Corinthians 13:14

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