

Independent Baptist Church of Leutkirch
Statement of Faith (closer statements)

The True God

We believe (A) that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is JEHOVAH (hebr.: יהוה), the Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and Earth; (B) inexpressibly glorious in holiness, (C) worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love; (D) that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; (E) equal in every divine perfection, (F) and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the work of redemption.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

A. Ps 83:19; 147:5; Is 45:21-22; Jer 10:10; Joh 4:24; Rom 1:20; Hebr 3:4

B. Ex 15:11; Is 6:3; 1Pt 1:15-16; Rev 4:6-8

C. Mt 10:37; Mk 12:30; Eph 3:20-21; Rev 4:11

D. Mt 3:16-17; 28:19; Lk 1:35; Joh 15:26; 1Cor 12:4-6; 2Cor 13:13; 1Joh 5:7

E. Joh 5:17; 10:30; 14:23; 17:5,10; Acts 5:3-4; 20:28; 1Cor 2:10-11; Philippians 2:5-6

F. 2Cor 13:13; Eph 1:3-14; 2:18; Rev 1:4-6

Explanatory Note

We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten of the Holy Ghost in a miraculous manner; born of Mary, a virgin, as no other man was ever born or can ever be born of woman and that He is both perfect God and perfect man, the Son of God and God the Son.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

Gen 3:15; Is 7:14; Mt 1:18-25; Lk 1:35; Joh 1:14; Gal 4:4; 1Joh 5:20

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a divine person; equal with God the Father and God the Son and of the same nature; that He was active in the creation of the universe, without the use of pre-existent material, and apart from any process of evolution whatsoever; that in His relation to the unbelieving world He restrains the Evil One until God's purpose is fulfilled; that He convicts of sin, of judgement and righteousness; that He bears witness to the truth of the Gospel in preaching and testimony; that He is the agent in the new birth; that He seals, baptizes, empowers, guides, teaches, witnesses, sanctifies and helps the believer in accordance with the Scriptures.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

Gen 1:1-3; Mt 3:11, 28:19; Mk 1:8; Lk 1:35, 3:16; Joh 1:33, 3:5.6, 14:16-26, 15:27, 16:8-13; Acts 5:30-32, 11:16; Rom 8:14-27; Eph 1:13.14; 2Th 2:13; Hebr 9:14; 1Pt 1:2

The Scriptures

We believe (A) that the Holy Bible was written by divinely inspired men who "spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" [2Pet 1:21] and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; (B) has God for its author and salvation for its end; (C) is divinely preserved from any mixture of error for its matter; (D) reveals the

principles by which God will judge us; (E) shall remain to the end of the world the true center of Christian union; and (F) is the supreme standard by which all faith and practice should be tried.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

A. 2Sam 23:2; Lk 16:29-31; Joh 10:35; Acts 1:16, 3:21; Rom 3:1.2; 2Tim 3:15-17; 2Pt 1:21.

B. Mk 16:15,16; Joh 5:38,39; Acts 11:14; Rom 1:16; 1Pt 1:10-12.

C. Ps 12:6; Prov 30:5.6; Joh 17:17; Rom 3:4; Rev 22:18.19.

D. Lk 10:10-16, 12:47.48; Joh 12:47.48; Rom 2:12

E. Philippians 3:16

F. Ps 119:59.60; Acts 17:11; Eph 6:17-18; Col 1:9; 2Tim 3:16

The Fall Of Man

We believe (A) that man was created in holiness, in the image of God, under the law of his Maker; (B) but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; (C) in consequences of which all mankind are now sinners, (D) not by constraint, but choice; (E) being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil; and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, (F) without defense or excuse.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

A. Gen 1:27,31; 2:16,17; Eccl 7:29; Acts 17:24-29

B. Gen 3:6-24; Rom 5:12

C. Ps 14:1-3; 51:5; Joh 3:6; Rom 3:23; 5:12-19; 8:7-8

D. Gen 6:5,12; Is 53:6; Rom 3:10

E. Rom 1:18; 2:1-16; 6:23; Gal 3:10; Eph 2:1-3

F. Eze 18:19-20; Rom 1:19-32, 3:19-20; Gal 3:21-22

The Way Of Salvation

We believe (A) that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; (B) through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God; (C) who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon Him our nature, yet without sin; (D) honored the divine law by His personal obedience, (E) and by His death made a full atonement for our sins; (F) that having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in Heaven; and (G) who is in every way qualified to be a compassionate and all-sufficient Savior.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

A. Mt 18:11; Lk 19:10; Acts 15:11; Eph 2:8; 1Joh 4:10

B. Joh 1:1-14, 3:16; Philippians 2:5-8; Hebr 4:14, 9:11-12, 12:24

C. 2Cor 5:21; Philippians 2:6-7; Hebr 2:17-18

D. Is 42:21; Rom 3:21; Gal 4:4-5; Phil 2:8

E. Is 53:4-5; Mt 20:28; Mk 10:45; Rom 3:21-26; 4:23-25; 1Cor 15:1-3; Hebr 9:13-15; 1Joh 2:2; 4:10-11

F. Col 3:1-4; Hebr 1:3,8, 8:1

G. Ps 34; Col 2:9; Hebr 2:18, 7:25-26

The Freeness Of Salvation

We believe (A) that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; (B) that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent, and obedient faith; (C) and that nothing prevents the

salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel; and (D) that this rejection condemns him to eternal damnation.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

- A. Is 55:1; Rom 5:18; 10:13; Tit 2:11; Rev 22:17
- B. Mk 1:15; Acts 17:30-31; Rom 1:16-18
- C. Prov 1:24-29; Joh 5:40,49; Acts 13:46; Rom 9:30-32
- D. Mt 11:20-24; Joh 3:19,36; 2Th 1:8-10

Repentance & Faith

We believe (A) that Repentance and Faith are sacred duties and inseparable graces wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; (B) whereby, being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ; (C) we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy; (D) at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying upon Him alone as the only and all-sufficient Saviour.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

- A. Mk 1:15; Acts 11:18, 20:21; Eph 2:8; 1Joh 5:1
- B. Joh 16:8; Acts 2:37-38, 16:30-31
- C. Ps 51; Lk 15:18-21, 18:13; Rom 10:12-13; 2Cor 7:10-11; James 4:7-10
- D. Acts 3:19-22; Rom 10:9-11; Hebr 1:8, 4:14, 7:25; 2Tim 1:12

Regeneration (The New Birth)

We believe (A) that, in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated; (B) that regeneration takes place according to the will of God, when a person believes the Gospel of Christ; (C) that the terms regeneration and “born again” are synonymous; (D) that it is a work of the Holy Spirit whereby the person who was once “dead in sins”, is given new life in Christ, by being spiritually born into the family of God; (E) that the seed which the Holy Spirit uses to bring about the new birth is the Word of God; (F) that righteousness, not committing sin, loving one another, and overcoming the world are among the many fruits of regeneration.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

- A. Joh 3:3-7; Eph 2:1-7; 1Cor 2:14
- B. Joh 1:12,13, 3:3-7; James 1:18; Eph 1:13
- C. Joh 3:3-7; 1Pt 1:23; Tit 3:5
- D. Joh 3:5; Gal 4:6,7; Tit 3:5
- E. 1Pt 1:23; Rom 10:17
- F. 1Joh 2:29, 3:9, 4:7, 5:1,4,18

Justification

We believe (A) that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is Justification; (B) that Justification includes the pardon of sin; (C) and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; (D) that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; (E) by virtue of which faith His perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God, (F) that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God; and (G) secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

- A. Joh 1:16; Rom 5:1,9; Eph 3:8
- B. Is 53:11,12; Apg 13:39; Rom 8:1
- C. Zech 13:1; Joh 3:16; Rom 5:21; 1Jo 5:13
- D. Rom 5:17,21; Tit 3:5-7; 1Pt 1:2,18,19; 1Joh 2:25
- E. Rom 3:28, 4:4-5, 5:21, 6:23; Phil 3:7-9
- F. Rom 3:24-26, 4:23-25, 5:11,19-20; 1Joh 2:12.
- G. Mt 6:33; Rom 5:1-5; 1Cor 1:30-31; 1Tim 4:8

Sanctification

We believe (A) that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of His holiness; (B) that it is a progressive work; (C) that it is begun in regeneration; (D) 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 such as the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

- A. 2Cor 7:1, 13:9; Eph 1:4-6; 1Th 4:3, 5:23
- B. Prov 4:18; Philippians 3:12-16; Hebr 6:1; 2Pt 1:5-8
- C. Joh 3:6; Rom 8:5; Philippians 1:9-11; 1Joh 2:29
- D. Mt 26:41; Lk 9:23; 2Cor 13:5; Eph 4:11-30, 6:18; Philippians 2:12-13; 1Pt 2:2; 2Pt 3:18

Election & Predestination

We believe (A) that within the Sovereignty of God, God has designed man as a free agent, with the ability to choose or reject the Lordship of Jesus Christ; (B) that the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on the cross was intended to make atonement for the sins of all people in every generation; (C) that those who choose to repent and place their faith in Jesus Christ are placed by God into the “elect”, Jesus Christ; (D) that as they are now found to be “in Christ” and are one with Him, they are also called the “Elect” or “Chosen” of God; (E) that, as the “elect of God” and they who have been justified, they are Pre-destined (pre-determined), according to God’s fore-knowledge toward Sanctification and Glorification (with and in Him).

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

- A. Mt 23:37; Joh 1:12, 3:16-18; Gal 2:21
- B. Joh 3:16; 1Tim 2:3-4; 2Pt 3:9
- C. Rom 8:1; Gal 3:26-28; Eph 1:1-14
- D. Joh 15:16; Rom 8:1; Eph 1:4; 1Pt 1:1-2
- E. Joh 15:16-17; Rom 8:28-30; 1Pt 1:1-2

Eternal Salvation (Eternal Security)

We believe (A) that salvation is a “once for all” gift of God (B) that it is received when the sinner places his faith in Jesus Christ, who’s sacrificial death, burial and resurrection is the only efficacious atonement for sin; (C) that the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ assures forgiveness of sins and eternal life to all who believe,

and that this “eternal life” begins at the moment of salvation; (D) that the salvation of the sinner and perseverance of the saint are fully dependent upon the grace and ability of God, and not the individual; (E) that all those who are true believers will “continue” in the Lord Jesus Christ, and in obedience to his commands; (F) that fruits of true salvation in an individual believer are, without exception, an obedient life, a love of the brethren, answers to prayer, and the presence and discipline of the Holy Spirit.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

A. Joh 3:16; Hebr 8:12, 9:26-28, 10:17

B. Joh 1:12, 14:6; Acts 16:31; Röm 1:16, 10:9-10

C. Joh 3:16; Joh 10:28-29; Rom 10:9,10,13; 1Joh 5:11-13

D. Joh 1:12; Gal 2:21; 1Pt 1:5; Jud 24-25

E. Joh 8:31; 2Cor 5:17; 1Joh 3:1-10

F. Joh 8:31, 13:35, 14:15; Rom 8:9; 1Cor 6:9-11; 2Cor 5:17; Hebr 12:8; 1Joh 2:3-11, 3:16-17, 5:14-15

We further declare the teaching that one may “lose” his salvation, or that he must “keep” it, to be a false doctrine. The “keeping” of one’s salvation, if dependent upon the individual, removes Jesus Christ as the only Saviour, and places the sinner in His place. This is idolatry, and promotes fear, pride and self-worship.

The Law & The Gospel

We believe (A) the Scriptures teach that the Law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of His moral government; (B) that it is holy, just and good and (C) that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts arises entirely from their sinful nature; (D) that to deliver them from the inability to fulfill the Law and to restore them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the Holy Law, is one great end of the Gospel.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

A. Mt 5:17; Lk 16:17; Rom 3:20,31; 4:15

B. Ps 119; Rom 7:7-22; Gal 3:21

C. Rom 8:7-8

D. Rom 8:2-4, 10:4; 1Tim 1:5; Hebr 8:10

A Gospel Church

We believe (A) that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; (B) observing the teachings of Christ; (C) governed by His laws; and (D) exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His Word; (E) that its only Scriptural officers are Bishops or Pastors and Deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

We further believe (F) that it is every Christian’s obligation to encourage one another in the assembling of the local church; that it was the custom of the first Christians to meet on the Lord’s Day, the first day of the week, for fellowship and prayer; that it is good practice to follow their example today; that, while there is no Biblical law for the Church to hold to the Jewish Sabbath, it is well-advised to have a day of Rest when the Lord provides one the choice to do so.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

- A. Mt 18:17; Acts 2:41-47, 5:11, 8:1; 1Cor 1:1-10, 4:17, 5:12-13, 14:23-25; 2Cor 8:5; 3Joh 9
- B. Rom 16:17-20; 1Cor 4:17, 11:2,23-34; 2Cor 2:17; Kol 2:12; 2Th 3:6
- C. Mt 28:18-20; Joh 14:15,21, 15:12-14; Acts 2:36; Gal 6:2; Eph 1:22; 1Th 4:2; 1Joh 4:21; 2Joh 6
- D. 1Cor 14:12; Eph 4:7; Phil 1:27
- E. Acts 14:23, 15:22, 20:17,28; Philippians 1:1; 1Tim 3:1-13; Tit 1:5-9
- F. Joh 20:19; Acts 20:7; 1Cor 16:1-2; Col 2:16-17; Hebr 4:3,11, 10:24-25; Rev 1:10

Civil Government

We believe (A) that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society; (B) and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed; (C) except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ; (D) whose will is known through the word-for-word, contextual interpretation of the Holy Bible, (E) and that Jesus Christ is the only Lord of conscience, and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

- A. Ex 18:21-23; Deut 16:18; Jer 30:21; Rom 13:1-7
- B. Mt 22:21; 1Tim 2:1-8; Tit 3:1; 1Pt 2:13-17
- C. Dan 3:14-18, 6:7-10; Mt 10:28; Acts 5:18-29
- D. Acts 4:19; 1Th 2:13; 2Tim 3:16-17; 2Pet 1:21
- E. Ps 2, 72:11; Mt 23:10; Rom 14:4,9-13; Rev 19:16

The Ordinances — Baptism & The Lord's Supper

We believe that Christian baptism is (A) the immersion in water of a believer; (B) into the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost; (C) to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Saviour with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; (D) that it is prerequisite to the membership of a local Church.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

- A. Mt 3:5.6, 28:19; Mk 16:16; Joh 3:22.23, 4:1.2; Acts 2:38.41, 8:12.36-39, 16:32-34, 18:8
- B. Mt 28:19; Acts 10:47.48; Gal 3:27.28
- C. Acts 22:16; Rom 6:4; Col 2:12; 1Pt 3:20.21
- D. Mt 28:19.20; Acts 2:41.42

We believe that the Lord's Supper (A) in which the saints, by the use of bread and the cup, commemorate together the dying love of Christ (B) preceded always by solemn self-examination; (C) is nothing more than a symbol of the body and blood of Christ and that during this commemoration, the elements do not change.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

- A. Mt 26:26-29; Mk 14:22-25; Lk 22:14-20; 1Cor 11:26.
- B. Joh 6:26-71; 1Cor 5:8-11, 10:3-32, 11:14-32.
- C. Joh 6:26-71; 1Cor 5:8-11

The Righteous & The Wicked

We believe (A) that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; (B) that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of

God are truly righteous in His esteem; (C) while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief remain, in His sight wicked and under the curse; and (D) this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

A. Gen 18:23; Prov 12:26; Isa 5:20; Mal 3:18; Acts 10:34.35; Rom 6:16

B. Prov 11:31; Rom 1:17, 6:18.22, 7:6; 1Cor 11:32; 1Pt 4:17.18; 1Joh 2:29, 3:7

C. Ps 10:4; Isa 55:6.7, 57:21; Joh 3:36; Gal 3:10; 1Joh 5:19

D. Prov 10:24, 14:32; Eccl 3:17; Mt 7:13.14, 10:28; Lk 9:23-26, 12:4-5, 16:25-26; Joh 8:21-24, 12:25.26

Angels, Fallen & Unfallen

We believe that (A) God created an innumerable company of sinless, spiritual beings known as angels; that one, "Lucifer, son of the morning" – one of the highest in rank – sinned through pride, thereby becoming Satan; that a great company of the angels followed him in his moral fall, some of whom became demons and are active as his agents and associates in the prosecution of his unholy purposes, while others who fell are "reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day". (B) Satan is the originator of sin and that, under the permission of God he, through subtlety, led our first parents into transgression, thereby accomplishing their moral fall and subjecting them and their posterity to his own power; that he is the enemy of God and the people of God opposing and exalting himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped; and that he who in the beginning said, "I will be like the most High," in his warfare appears as an angel of light even counterfeiting the works of God by fostering religious movements and systems of doctrine, which systems in every case are characterized by a denial of the efficacy of the blood of Christ and of salvation by grace alone.

We believe that (C) Satan was judged at the cross, though not then executed and that he, a usurper, now rules as the "god of this world" [2Cor 4:4] and as "the prince of this world." [Joh 12:31]; that at the second coming of Christ, Satan will be bound and cast into the abyss for a thousand years and after the thousand years he will be loosed for a little season and then "cast into the lake of fire and brimstone" where he "shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." [Rev 20:10]

We believe that (D) a great company of angels kept their holy estate and are before the throne of God and sent forth as ministering spirits to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation. [Heb 1:14] We believe that (E) man was made lower than the angels; and that, in His incarnation, Christ took for a little time this lower place that He might lift the believer to His own sphere above the angels; (F) the Holy Angels have always denied any worship man has offered.

A. Isa 14:12-17; Eze 28:11-19; 1Tim 3:6; 2Pt 2:4; Jud 6

B. Gen 3:1-19; Isa 14,14; Rom 5:12-14; 1Cor 4:3-4, 11:13-15; Eph 6:10-12; 2Th 2:4; 1Tim 4:1-3

C. Joh 8:44, 12,31; 2Cor 4,4; Col 2:15; Rev 20:1-3.10

D. Lk 15:10; Eph 1:21; Hebr 1:14; Rev 7:11.12

E. Hebr 2:6-10; 1Joh 3:2

F. Rev 19:10, 22:9; Hebr 1:6

The Resurrection & Return Of Christ & Related Events

We believe in and accept the sacred Scriptures upon these subjects at their face and full value. We believe (A) that our Lord Jesus Christ rose bodily from the tomb on the third day; (B) and He ascended, i.e. was

taken up, into Heaven; (C) that He is now sitting at the right hand of God the Father as our only sufficient mediator and advocate. (D) We believe in the personal, imminent, premillennial (i.e. before the 1000 year reign of Christ on earth) and pretribulational coming of Christ in the clouds for the rapture of the Church; (E) the resurrection and physical glorification of the saints; (F) that there will be a great tribulation; (G) after which He will return with His saints to this earth where He will sit on the throne of David and shall subdue all enemies and reign in righteousness for a thousand years. (H) After this shall be the judgment of the Great White Throne when the unsaved dead shall be raised and judged, that this will result for them in eternal punishment in the lake of fire, which is the second death; and (I) that the saved shall then enjoy eternal glory with God.

Places in the Bible Where Taught:

- A. Mt 28:6.7; Mk 16:6; Lk 24:30; Joh 20:27; 1Cor 15:4
- B. Mk 16:19; Lk 24:51; Acts 1:9-11; Hebr 8:1, 12:2
- C. Rom 8:34; 1Tim 2:5; Hebr 1:3, 2:17, 5:9.10, 7:25, 8:6; 1Joh 2:1
- D. 1Cor 15:51-53; 2Cor 5:10; Phil 3:20.21; 1Th 4:13-18; 1 Th 5:1-11; Rev 3:10
- E. 1Cor 15:20-58
- F. Mt 24:21.22; Rev 7:14
- G. Isa 9:6.7; Lk 1:32; Acts 2:29.30; 1Cor 15:25; Rev 20:1-4.6
- H. Joh 5:28.29; Rom 6:23; Rev 20:11-15; Rev 21 and 22
- I. Joh 14:1-3; 1Cor 13:8-10; 2Cor 4:17; Hebr 4:9, 12:23; Rev 19:1; Rev 21 and 22