

Crosspointe Baptist Church

ARTICLES OF FAITH

A member of Crosspointe Baptist Church is one who believes in a supernatural Bible, which tells of a supernatural Christ, Who had a supernatural birth, Who spoke supernatural words, Who performed supernatural miracles, Who lived a supernatural life, Who died a supernatural death, Who rose in supernatural splendor, Who intercedes as a supernatural priest and Who will one day return in supernatural glory to establish a supernatural kingdom on the earth.

I. About the Scriptures.

We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men supernaturally inspired; that it has truth without any admixture of error for its matter; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the age, the only complete and final revelation of the will of God to man; the true center of Christian unity and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions should be tried.

1. By “The Holy Bible” we mean that collection of sixty-six books, from Genesis to Revelation, which as originally written does not only contain and convey the Word of God, but IS the very Word of God.
2. By “inspiration” we mean that the books of the Bible were written by holy men of old, as they were moved by the Holy Spirit, in such a definite way that their writings were supernaturally and verbally inspired and free from error, as no other writings have ever been or ever will be inspired.

II Timothy 3:16,17; II Peter 1:19-21; Acts 1:16; Acts 28:25; Psalm 119:160; Psalm 119:105; Psalm 119:130; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17; Luke 24:44,45; Psalm 119:89; Proverbs 30:5,6; Romans 3:4; I Peter 1:23; Revelation 22:19; John 12:48; Isaiah 8:20; Ephesians 6:17; Romans 15:4; Luke 16:31; Psalm 19:7-11; John 5:45-47; John 5:39.

II. About the True God.

We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, the maker and supreme ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three 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.

Exodus 20:2,3; Genesis 17:1; I Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 4:6; John 4:24; Psalm 147:5; Psalm 83:18; Psalm 90:2; Jeremiah 10:10; Exodus 15:11; Revelation 4:11; I Timothy 1:17; Romans 11:33; Mark

12:30; Matthew 28:19; John 15:26; I Corinthians 12:4-6; John 10:30; John 17:5; I Corinthians 2:10,11; Philippians 2:5,6; Ephesians 2:18; II Corinthians 13:14.

III. About the Lord Jesus Christ.

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful men.

He died on the cross for all mankind as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice, and that the sufficiency of this atoning sacrifice to accomplish the redemption and justification of all who trust in Him is assured by the literal, physical resurrection from the dead.

He ascended to heaven, and is now exalted at the right hand of God, where, as our high priest, He fulfills the ministry of representative, intercessor, and advocate.

John 1:1,2,14; Luke 1:35; Romans 3:24,25; Romans 4:25; Ephesians 1:7; I Timothy 4:10; Hebrews 2:9; I Peter 1:3-5; I Peter 2:24; II Peter 2:1; Acts 1:9, 10; Hebrews 9:24; Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:34; I John 2:1,2.

IV. About the Holy Spirit.

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; 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 judgment and of 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, endues, guides, teaches, witnesses, sanctifies, and helps the believer.

John 14:16,17; Matthew 28:19; Hebrews 9:14; John 14:26; Luke 1:35; Genesis 1:1-3; II Thessalonians 2:7; John 16:8-11; John 15:26,27; Acts 5:30-32; John 3:5,6; Ephesians 1:13,14; Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33; Acts 11:16; Luke 24:49; John 16:13; Romans 8:14,16; II Thessalonians 2:13; I Peter 1:2; Romans 8:26,27.

V. About Satan.

We believe that Satan was once holy, and enjoyed heavenly honors; but through pride and ambition to be as the Almighty, fell and drew after him a host of angels; that he is now the malignant prince of the power of the air, and the unholy god of this world. We hold him to be man's great tempter, the enemy of God and His Christ, the accuser of the saints, the author of all false religions, the chief power back of the present apostasy; the lord of the antichrist, and the author of all the powers of darkness—destined however to final defeat at the hands of God's own Son, and to the judgment of an eternal justice in the Lake of fire, a place prepared for him and his angels.

Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:14-17; Revelation 12:9; Jude 6; II Peter 2:4; Ephesians 2:2; John 14:30; I Thessalonians 3:5; Matthew 4:1-3; I Peter 5:8; I John 3:8; Matthew 13:39; Luke 22:3,4; Revelation 12:10; II Corinthians 11:13-15; Mark 13:21,22; I John 4:3; II John 7; I John 2:22; Revelation 13:13,14; II Thessalonians 2:8-11; Revelation 19:11,16, 20; Revelation 12:7-9; Revelation 20:1-3,10; Matthew 25:41.

VI. About Creation.

We believe in the Genesis account of creation, and that it is to be accepted literally, as six actual twenty-four hour days, and not allegorically or figuratively; that man was created directly in God's own image and after His own likeness; that man's creation was not a matter of evolution or evolutionary change of species, or development through interminable periods of time from lower to higher forms; that all animal and vegetable life was made directly, and God's established law was that they should bring forth only "after their kind."

Genesis 1:1; Exodus 20:11; Acts 4:24; Colossians 1:16,17; Hebrews 11:3; John 1:3; Revelation 10:6; Romans 1:20; Acts 17:23-26; Jeremiah 10:12; Nehemiah 9:6; Genesis 1:26,27; Genesis 2:21-23; Genesis 1:11; Genesis 1:24.

VII. About the Fall of Man.

We believe that man was created in innocence under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression, fell from his sinless and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but of choice; and therefore under just condemnation without defense or excuse.

Genesis 3:1-6, 24; Romans 5:12; Romans 5:19; Romans 3:10-19; Ephesians 2:1,3; Romans 1:18; Ezekiel 18:19,20; Romans 1:32; Romans 1:20; Romans 1:28; Galatians 3:22.

VIII. About Salvation.

We believe that the salvation of sinners is divinely initiated and wholly of grace through the mediatorial offices of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Who, by the appointment of the Father, voluntarily took upon Himself our nature, yet without sin, and honored the divine law by His personal obedience, thus qualifying Himself to be our Savior; that by the shedding of His blood in His death He fully satisfied the just demands of a holy and righteous God regarding sin; that His sacrifice consisted not in setting us an example by His death as a martyr, but was a voluntary substitution of Himself in the sinner's place, the Just dying for the unjust, Christ the Lord bearing our sins in His own body on the cross; that having risen from the dead He is now enthroned in Heaven, and uniting in His wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, He is every way qualified to be suitable, a compassionate and an all-sufficient Savior.

We believe that faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is the only condition of salvation. Repentance is a change of mind and purpose toward God prompted by the Holy Spirit and is an integral part of saving faith.

Jonah 2:9; Ephesians 2:8; Acts 15:11; Romans 3:24, 25; John 3:16; Matthew 18:11; Philippians 2:7,8; Hebrews 2:14-17; Isaiah 53:4-7; I John 4:10; I Corinthians 15:3; II Corinthians 5:21; I Peter 2:24.

IX. About Grace and the New Birth.

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be born again; that the new birth is a new creation in Christ Jesus; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that in the new birth the one dead in trespasses and in sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life, the free gift of God; that the new creation is brought about by our sovereign God in a manner above our comprehension, solely by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, faith, and newness of life.

John 3:3; II Corinthians 5:17; I John 5:1; Acts 16:20-33; II Peter 1:4; Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:1,5; Colossians 2:13; John 3:8.

X. About Justification.

We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin, and the gift of eternal life on principles of righteousness; 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, His righteousness is then imputed unto us.

Acts 13:39; Isaiah 53:11; Zechariah 13:1; Romans 8:1; Romans 5:9; Romans 5:1; Titus 3:5-7; Romans 1:17; Habakkuk 2:4; Galatians 3:11; Romans 4:1-8; Hebrews 10:38.

XI. About Sanctification.

We believe that sanctification is the divine setting apart of the believer unto God accomplished in a threefold manner; first, an eternal act of God, based upon redemption in Christ, establishing the believer in a position of holiness at the moment he trusts the Savior; second, a continuing process in the saint as the Holy Spirit applies the Word of God to the life; third, the final accomplishment of this process at the Lord's return.

Hebrews 10:10-14; Hebrews 3:1; John 17:17; II Corinthians 3:18; I Corinthians 1:30; Ephesians 5:25-27; I Thessalonians 4:3,4; I Thessalonians 5:23,24; I John 3:2; Jude 24,25; Revelation 22:11.

XII. About the Church.

We believe that a local church is an organized congregation of immersed believers, associated by covenant of faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word; that its officers are pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims, and duties are clearly defined in the Scriptures. We believe the true mission of the church is the faithful witnessing of Christ to all men as we have opportunity, the leading of such to salvation, the baptizing of those who are saved, and the instructing of those in the Truths of God's Word. We hold that the local church has the absolute right of self-government free from the interference of any hierarchy of individuals or organizations; and that the one and only Superintendent is Christ through the Holy Spirit; that it is Scriptural for true churches to cooperate with each other in contending for the faith and for the furtherance of the gospel; that each local church is the sole judge of the measure and method of its cooperation; that on all matters of membership, of polity, of government, of discipline, of benevolence, the will of the local church is final. We believe in a unity of all New Testament believers in the Body of Christ.

I Corinthians 11:2; Acts 20:17-28; I Timothy 3:1-13; Acts 2:41,42; I Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 1:22,23; Ephesians 3:1-6; Ephesians 4:11; Ephesians 5:23; Colossians 1:18; Acts 15:13-18.

XIII. About Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer; in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, with the authority of the local church, 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 the church, by the sacred use of bread and the fruit of the vine are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination.

Acts 8:36-39; Matthew 3:6; John 3:23; Romans 6:4,5; Matthew 3:16; Matthew 28:19; Romans 6:3-5; Colossians 2:12; Acts 2:41,42; Matthew 28:19,20; I Corinthians 11:23-28.

XIV. About Eternal Security and the Assurance of Believers.

We believe that all the truly redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever. We also believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word; which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion to the flesh.

John 6:37-40; John 10:27-30; Romans 8:1,38,39; I Corinthians 1:4-8; I Peter 1:5;
Romans 13:13,14; Galatians 5:13; Titus 2:11-15.

XV. About the Righteous and the Wicked.

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, in the everlasting felicity of the saved and the everlasting conscious suffering of the lost.

Malachi 3:18; Genesis 18:23; Romans 6:17,18; Proverbs 11:31; I Peter 1:18; Romans 1:17;
I Corinthians 15:22; Acts 10:34,35; John 2:29; Romans 6:16; I John 5:19; Galatians 3:10; Romans 7:6;
Romans 6:23; Proverbs 14:32; Luke 16:25; Matthew 25:34,41; John 8:21;
Luke 9:26; John 12:25; Matthew 7:13,14.

XVI. About Civil Government.

We believe that civil government is a Divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society; that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ; who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the coming Prince of the kings of the earth.

Romans 13:7; II Samuel 23:3; Exodus 18:21,22; Acts 23:5; Matthew 22:21; Titus 3:1;
I Peter 2:13,14; I Peter 2:17; Acts 4:19,20; Daniel 3:17,18; Matthew 10:28; Matthew 23:10; Philippians
2:10,11; Psalm 72:11.

XVII. About the Resurrection, the Return of Christ, and Related Events.

We believe that Christ rose bodily, “the third day according to the Scriptures”; that He ascended to the right hand of the throne of God; that He alone is our merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God; that this same Jesus which was taken up to heaven shall so come in like manner as He was seen going—bodily, personally, and visibly; that the dead in Christ shall rise first; that the living saints shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet sound; following this personal, imminent, pretribulational, and premillennial ‘rapture’ of the Lord Jesus Christ for His redeemed ones, there will be a seven year tribulation period that will afflict the earth in order to fulfill God’s purposes, prior to returning to the earth, with His saints, to establish His millennial (thousand year) kingdom.

Matthew 28:6,7; Luke 24:39; John 20:27; I Corinthians 15:4; Mark 16:6; Luke 24:2, 4-6;

Acts 1:9; Acts 1:11; Luke 24:51; Mark 16:19; Revelation 3:21; Hebrews 8:1; Hebrews 12:2; Hebrews 8:6; I Timothy 2:5; I John 2:4; Hebrews 5:9, 10; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; I Thessalonians 4:16; Matthew 24:27; Matthew 25:13; James 5:8; Matthew 24:42; Hebrews 9:28; I Thessalonians 4:16; I Corinthians 15:42-44; I Corinthians 15:51-53; I Thessalonians 4:17; Philippians 3:20, 21; Luke 1:32; Isaiah 9:6,7; Acts 9:29, 30; I Corinthians 15:25; Isaiah 1:32; Isaiah 11:4, 5; Psalm 72:8; Revelation 20:1-4,6.

XVIII. About the Eternal State.

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment.

We also believe that the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection, when spirit, soul, and body are reunited to be glorified forever with the Lord.

We further believe that the souls of unbelievers remain, after death, in conscious misery until the second resurrection, when with soul and body reunited they shall be cast into the Lake of Fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscious punishment.

Matthew 25:46; John 5:28,29; John 11:25,26; Revelation 20:5,6,12,13; Luke 23:43; Revelation 20:4-6; II Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23; Philippians 3:21; I Thessalonians 4:16,17; Luke 16:19-26; Matthew 25:41-46; II Thessalonians 1:7-9; Jude 6,7; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 20:11-15.

XIX. About Missions.

We believe that God has given the church a Great Commission to proclaim the Gospel to all nations so that there might be a multitude from every nation, tribe, ethnic group, and language group who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. As ambassadors of Christ we must use all available means to go to the foreign nations and not wait for them to come to us.

In this spirit we are to sacrificially give that others may also go forth and proclaim Jesus Christ and to start churches with those who accept Him as Lord and Savior.

Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:46-48; John 20:21; Acts 1:8; II Corinthians 5:20; Philippians 4:15-20.

XX. About Ministry and Spiritual Gifts.

We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowment of all His gifts; and, that the spiritual gifts that are still in effect (the gifts of edification) are sufficient for the perfecting of the saints today; and, that speaking in tongues and the working of sign miracles gradually ceased as the New Testament Scriptures were completed and their authority became established.

We also believe that God does hear and answer the prayer of faith, in accord with His own will, for the sick and afflicted.

I Corinthians 12:4-11; II Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 4:7-12; John 15:7; I John 5:14,15.

XXI. About Giving.

We believe that we have been redeemed with the price of Jesus Christ's blood, everything we are and possess belongs to Him, and His Kingdom should become the true treasure we pursue.

We also believe the tithe (ten percent of one's income) as the Biblical standard of giving, for the support of the local body and that spiritual growth in the believer will translate into the giving of offerings above the commanded tithe as the needs of the church are evident. But moreover, in response to Christ's abundant giving, we should increasingly seek to submit our personal resources to His Lordship, displaying a spirit of generosity and cheerfulness, knowing that as we give our lives will be "enriched in everything for all liberality."

Proverbs 3:9,10; Malachi 3:8-10; Matthew 6:19-21,33; Matthew 13:44; Matthew 23:23; Luke 6:38; Luke 21:1-4; II Corinthians 8:1-9:15; Ephesians 1:7; Philippians 3:7,8; Hebrews 9:11-14; I Peter 1:17-19; I Corinthians 9:11.

XXII. About Marriage and Intimacy.

We believe that the only legitimate marriage is the joining of one man and one woman.

We believe that men and women are spiritually equal in position before God but that God has ordained distinct and separated spiritual functions for men and women in the home and the church. The husband is to be the leader of the home and men are to be the spiritual leaders of the church. Accordingly, only men are eligible for license and ordination by the church.

We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of physical intimacy.

Genesis 2:24; Romans 7:2; I Corinthians 7:10; Ephesians 5:22,23; Galatians 3:28; Colossians 3:18; I Timothy 2:8-15; I Timothy 3:4,5,12; Genesis 19:5,13; Genesis 26:8,9; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; I Corinthians 5:1; I Corinthians 6:9; I Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4.

XXIII. About the Origin of Life.

We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of unborn human life. Abortion is murder.

We reject any teaching that abortions of pregnancies due to rape, incest, birth defects, gender selection, birth or population control, or the mental well-being of the mother are acceptable.

Job 3:16; Psalm 51:5; Psalm 139:14-16; Isaiah 44:24; Isaiah 49:1; Jeremiah 1:5; Jeremiah 20:15-18; Luke 1:44.