

Robert A. Ginter Statement of Doctrine

I wholeheartedly, and without reservation, affirm the Baptist Faith and Message produced in the year 2000.

I believe the Bible to be the sufficient, inerrant, complete, written revelation of God. I believe the Scriptures are fully authoritative, because they are “God-breathed,” and do not rely on a church, council, or creed for that authority.

I believe in one true, living, unchangeable, and eternal God. Yet, there are three Persons who share this one being of God: the Father, the Son, and the Spirit. Each Person is fully God and shares in His divine attributes. The Father, Son, and Spirit eternally exist in a Trinitarian relationship.

God created everything that ever existed. The God of the Scriptures has all power, knowledge, wisdom, and is due all glory, honor, praise and worship from all of His creation. Every episode in history comes to pass by the divine decree of God. All things will, in the end, result in the glory of God.

God, in his own image, He made humanity male and female. A man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together let not man separate.

I believe humanity rebelled against his Creator, and fell into sin. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. As a result, humanity became spiritually dead...for the price of sin is death. After the fall, man has been totally unwilling and incapable of seeking after God. God the Father, having foreordained all things from eternity past, joined a certain people to Christ Jesus, so that He might save them from their sin and in so doing bring glory to Himself. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died in the place of this chosen people, providing full and complete forgiveness of sins by His death upon the cross of Calvary. No other work can provide pardon of sins, and no addition can be made to the completed and finished work of Christ.

I believe God regenerates sinners by His grace and mercy through the power of the Holy Spirit. Sinners are saved by grace through faith. This is not of man’s own doing; it is the gift of God--not a result of works, so that no one may boast. God grants to them the gifts of faith and repentance, which they then exercise by believing in Christ, and turning from their sins in love for God. As a result of this faith, man is made righteous by God’s grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. God’s gift of faith and the continuing work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the Christian, results in good works. These good works flow from true, saving faith. They are a necessary result of faith, but are not to be considered necessary to the gaining of justification.

I believe Jesus Christ established His Church, which is made up of all the elect of God. His Church, as an obedient bride, listens to His Word as found in the Bible. All who believe in Christ are placed in His body, the Church. Every genuine Christian has a responsibility to be active in the local church.

I believe that Christ is coming again to judge the living and the dead. Till His return, believers are to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that Jesus commanded them, while living lives that bring glory to God.