

## Questions Posed for Study

**Question: Why isn't eternal security listed as a Baptist distinctive?**

**Distinguishing Baptist Distinctives.**

**(Hebrews 13:5b)**

**Intro:** When we begin to discuss things like \_\_\_\_\_, we find people lose their interest quickly in the subject at hand. Standards, doctrine and distinctives means we can't think or do what we want within a given system of faith practices or some other discipline. However, if we can see the need and importance for parameters or boundaries which God has established, then we can realize the potential, whether personal or group wise, in living a life that \_\_\_\_\_ God and accomplishes His purposes for our lives.

Unfortunately, so many professing Christians don't want to \_\_\_\_\_ their lives with any parameters or boundaries. They want to be able live their lives as they see best and this includes what they want to believe and practice in the Christian life, even though God has stated clearly in His Word, His expectations of the Redeemed. It is as if today's Christians feel they can live a hybrid-Christian life that exists some where between a worldly life style and conveniently put on a Christian persona when it is convenient to do so.

Being a Baptist doesn't in and of itself tell the whole story about the individual or the church, there are free-will Baptist, Southern Baptist, Northern Baptist, Baptistical or Baptist who practice charismatic sign-gifts, and liberal Baptist to name a few. Without getting too deeply into Baptist history, which we should at some time or other, but for now we will use the acrostic of BAPTIST to layout Baptist distinctives, which was created in 1960 by L Duane Brown, when he was pastoring Pine Valley Baptist Church in Pine Ville, N.Y.

**I. Baptist distinctive in an \_\_\_\_\_.**

1. "B" - we believe the Bible is the \_\_\_\_\_ authority in all matters of life and faith, which by the way, put early Baptist in conflict with the Roman Catholic Church which maintained that church tradition was equal, if not superior to the Bible.
  - a. Scripture alone is \_\_\_\_\_ – **II Timothy 3:16 & 17.**
  - b. Tradition is not \_\_\_\_\_ – **Ephesians 4:14 & Mark 7:8 – 13.**
2. "A" – The autonomy or independence of the local church is \_\_\_\_\_ to faithfulness to the Bible.

- a. This again was a challenge to the Pope and the Roman Catholic church who believes the Pope is the \_\_\_\_\_ or Christ on earth, or one who takes the place of another which in this case *they* state this though the Bible never does, concerning any human.
- b. God very wisely \_\_\_\_\_ us the Holy Spirit to be our instructor – **John 14:26 & 15:7 – 15.**
- c. Jesus Christ does not need a vicar:
- (1). God has given us His infallibly preserved \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (2). God has given us the Holy Spirit to \_\_\_\_\_ us into all truth.
  - (3). God has given the great commission to the Redeemed to go & \_\_\_\_\_.
3. “P” – The priesthood of the Believer, which also created problems for those who refused to \_\_\_\_\_ their sins to the local priest.
- a. “Priesthood” – **I Peter 2:5 & 9.**
- b. Under the New Covenant or New Testament, those who come to a saving faith in the person & work of Christ on the cross, have \_\_\_\_\_ to God without having to have an earthly priest. – **Hebrews 8:1 – 7.**
- c. As the Redeemed of the Lord we can come \_\_\_\_\_ – **Hebrews 4:14 – 16.**
- d. Jesus Christ is our \_\_\_\_\_ – **I Timothy 2:5.**
- e. There is absolutely no biblical reason to confess our sin/transgression to any man. Because man does not have the \_\_\_\_\_ to forgive or set the price of contrition against God, **I John 1:9.**
4. “T” – Two ordinances – These two ordinances we take from the \_\_\_\_\_ are:
- a. Believers \_\_\_\_\_ – **Acts 8:26 – 38.**
- (1). First came the statement – “I believe” [pisteuo] or “I am persuaded.”
  - (2). Secondly, the desire to be baptized by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (3). Our outward identification/testimony in which we identify with Christ’s death, burial & resurrection as our substitute.
- b. The Lord’s \_\_\_\_\_ – **I Corinthians 11:23 – 32 & Luke 22:17 – 20.**
- (1). This serves two purposes,
    - (a). A reminder of how much God \_\_\_\_\_ us – **Romans 5:8**
    - (b). A reminder of the \_\_\_\_\_ of our redemption – **I Pt 1:18 – 20 & I Cor. 6:19 & 20.**
  - (2). This is to be observed by only the \_\_\_\_\_ with two warnings,
    - (a). **I Cor. 11:27** has to do with the \_\_\_\_\_ primarily.
    - (b). **I Cor. 11:27 – 32** has to do with \_\_\_\_\_ Believers.
  - (3). Consider the price early Believer’s paid for rejecting the Catholic doctrine of ‘Transubstantiation’, Latimer & Ridley were burned at the stake for preaching against this false doctrine of transubstantiation.