

Questions Posed for Study

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

**Distinguishing Baptist Distinctives. – Part III
(Hebrews 13:5b)**

Intro: As we continue on with the remaining letters in the word "Baptist", we do so with the letters s, t, s, and the conclusion.

6. "S" – A saved membership. **I & II Corinthians** were written to the _____ of the Lord who had become known as the "church of Corinth" which was made up of only

_____.

- a. This is not to say that like churches even today, unsaved do attend our services. However, to become a member one must be _____ and baptized by emersion.
- b. One cannot join the family of God without _____ to a saving faith in Christ.
 - (1). **Acts 2:42 – 47** shows salvation came _____ church membership or inclusion.
 - (2). **I Corinthians 11:23 – 32** is an ordinance for the _____ only.
- c. Common biblical sense would cause us to see that if the _____ were allowed membership in our local churches,
 - (1). They would bring _____ ideology into the operation of the church.
 - (2). The unsaved are not indwelt by the Holy Spirit of God and are not subject to His leadership. **(John 16:7 – 14.)**
 - (3). It is to make a _____ between those who are God's through saving faith and those who are not – **Exodus 11:7; II Corinthians 6:14 – 18.**
- d. While there is no written _____ by verse in the Bible, like the words, 'rapture' and 'Trinity' which aren't written, but clearly taught. The clear teaching in the Bible, (more verses than I have given you), for 'an only Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb membership.'

7. "T" – Two officers of the church: Pastor & Deacons. Much like our previous topic in #6, the Roman Catholic church and some other denominations as well, have added _____ into the leadership and oversight of denomination such as bishops, popes, cardinals of which none are Scriptural.

- a. **Ephesians 4:11** lists those whom God has given to the church.

- b. This is the only time in the N.T. the word _____ is used, meaning a shepherd who has the responsibility of watching over the flock as an under-shepherd.
- c. The other folks mentioned have specific expectations accordingly,
- (1). An Apostle – one who is _____ forth with orders.
 - (2). A Prophet – One who is a _____, in the N. T. one who gives forth the Word of God, while in the O.T. they also foretold future events as inspired by God.
 - (3). An evangelist in the N. T. who _____ the salvation message and were not apostles.
 - (4). A teacher is someone who under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit of God is given the _____ to teach the things about God.
- d. The above four should have ties/memberships to a _____ church under a local pastor.
- e. In **I Peter 5:1 – 4**, “Chief Shepherd” is the position Christ holds over the local church and the under-shepherd or pastor. (Christ, then the under-shepherd & congregation)
- f. **I Timothy 3:1 – 7**, Elder and Bishop are used interchangeably as a pastor.
- g. The office of deacon which we primarily pick up from **Acts 6:1 – 8**. And the additional qualifications are given in **I Timothy 3:8 – 13**.
- (1). Men are not _____ into this office; they are appointed by the leadership.
 - (2). Folks may _____ a man who is recognized as having the qualification as their testimony would manifest itself publicly.
 - (3). The word ‘deacon means one who _____ the commands of another.
 - (a). One who holds this office in a church for the _____ of the collection of money or food for the purpose of widows & orphans.
 - (b). One who serves food and drink.
 - (4). A trustee is not a biblical office, rather one that is required by the state in a 501 C (3) organization.