



We are American Baptists

American Baptists worship the triune God of the Bible, who is eternally one God in three persons. This one, true God is most clearly revealed to us in the incarnate Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

American Baptists proclaim the Good News of the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, knowing that eternal life is granted in grace to all who trust Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. American Baptists believe that the Bible, composed of the Old and New Testaments, is the divinely inspired Word of God, the final written authority and trustworthy for faith and practice. It is to be interpreted responsibly under the guidance of the Holy Spirit within the community of faith.



American Baptists affirm that God is sovereign over all and that this sovereignty is expressed and realized through Jesus Christ. Therefore, we affirm the Lordship of Christ over the world and the church. We joyously confess that Jesus Christ is Savior and Lord.

We are called in loyalty to Jesus Christ to proclaim the power of the Holy Spirit, the Good News of God's reconciling grace, and to declare the saving power of the Gospel to every human being and to every human institution. We celebrate Christ's charge to "make disciples of all nations" and to bear witness to God's redeeming reign in human affairs.

God has given this particular community of believers called Baptists a distinctive history and experience. As we share in common with Christians everywhere, so Baptists everywhere celebrate a common heritage.



THEREFORE...With Baptist brothers and sisters around the world,
we believe:

That the Bible is the final authority and trustworthy for faith and practice. It is to be interpreted responsibly under the guidance of God's Holy Spirit within the community of faith;

That the Church is a gathered fellowship of regenerated believers, a sign of the coming universal reign of God;

That the freedom to respond to the Lordship of Christ in all circumstances is fundamental to the Christian gospel and to human dignity; and

That witness to Christ is the ongoing task of every Christian and of every church.

Within the larger Baptist family, American Baptists emphasize convictions which direct our special task and ministry.

We affirm that God through Jesus Christ calls us to be:

- A Redeemed People ■ An Interdependent People
- A Biblical People ■ A Caring People
- A Worshiping People ■ An Inclusive People
- A Mission People ■ A Contemporary People

We further believe

- that God has called us forth to such an hour as this;
- that we live with a realizable hope;
- that all things are held together in Christ;
- that all creation will find its ultimate fulfillment in God;
- that we shall see the One whose we are; and
- that Jesus shall reign forever and ever.

*This is an abridged excerpt of the American Baptist Churches USA Identity Statement.
Read the full Identity Statement here: www.abc-usa.org/identity-statement/.*

