



Seeing What We  
believe

Isa. 41:20



Isa. 41:20 **That they may see, and know**, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of **the LORD hath done this**, and **the Holy One of Israel hath created it.**

God's desire for us:

See	= The Clarity
Know	= The Confidence
Consider	= The Contemplation
Understand	= The Comprehension
Together	= The Communion
The LORD	= The Creator
The Holy One	= The Comforter

# MOUNTAIN SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH BYLAWS

## ARTICLE 1 NAME AND PURPOSE

## ARTICLE 2 STATEMENT OF FAITH AND COVENANT

### **SECTION 2.01—STATEMENT OF FAITH**

- (A) The Holy Scriptures.**
- (B) Dispensationalism.**
- (C) The Godhead.**
- (D) The Person and Work of Christ.**
- (E) The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.**
- (F) The Depravity of Man.**
- (G) Salvation.**
- (H) The Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers.**



## **(I) The Church**

We believe that the local church, which is the body and the espoused bride of Christ, is solely made up of born-again believers. We do not believe in the “universal” church. (1 Cor. 12:12-14; 2 Cor. 11:2; Eph. 1:22-23; 5:25-27)

(2) We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament as originating under the authority of a “mother church.” (Acts 14:27; 20:17, 28-32; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-11)

(3) We believe in the autonomy of the local church, free of any external authority or controls, and any affiliations, societies, organizations, associations, or agencies this church affiliates with to further the objectives stated in the Purpose Statement are not authoritative in matters of church practice or belief. (Acts 11:22; 13:1-4; 15:19-31; 20:28; Rom. 16:1, 4; 1 Cor. 3:9, 16; 5:4-7, 13; 1 Pet. 5:1-4)



Why go over the constitution and by-laws?

1 Tim. 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but **be thou an example of the believers**, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

13 **Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.**

2 Tim. 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: **for I know whom I have believed**, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.



## KNOW WHAT YOU BELIEVE

Tonight, we continue looking at the Constitution and By-laws of our church, particularly, our “Statement of Faith” regarding our doctrinal position of...

(4) We recognize water baptism by immersion, under proper authority of a church, and the Lord’s Supper, also under autonomous authority of the church, as the Scriptural ordinances of obedience for a church in this age. We do not recognize nor accept baptisms deemed unscriptural. The practice of “closed communion,” understood as participation by active, faithful members of the church, is the only method of participation celebrating the Lord’s Supper of our congregation. (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 19:3-5, 2:41-42; 8:36-38; Ex. 12:24, 43-49; Luke 22:8, 13, 15-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-32)



## BAPTISM

❖ The validation for Scriptural baptism is connected to authority:

Mt. 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power is given unto me** in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you *always*, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.



❖ The authority for the Great Commission was from Jesus to the first church:

Mt. 21:24 And Jesus answered and said unto them, I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you **by what authority** I do these things.

25 The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him?

26 But if we shall say, Of men; we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet.

27 And they answered Jesus, and said, We cannot tell. And he said unto them, Neither tell I you **by what authority** I do these things.



❖ Paul questioned some believers in Ephesus regarding the authority of their baptism, and then, rebaptized them (or baptized them...Scripturally.)

Acts 19:3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

5 When they heard *this*, **they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.**

Acts 2:41 Then they that **gladly received his word were baptized**: and the same day there were **added unto them** about three thousand souls.

42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.



Acts 8:36 And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?

37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, **I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.**

38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.



## THE LORD'S SUPPER

Ex. 12:24 And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever. ...

43 And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This *is* the ordinance of the passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof:

44 But every man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof.

45 A foreigner and an hired servant shall not eat thereof.

46 In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof.

47 All the congregation of Israel shall keep it.

48 And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof.

49 One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you.



Luke 22:8 And he sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the passover, that we may eat. ...

13 And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover. ....

15 And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer: ...

17 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide *it* among yourselves:

18 For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.

19 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake *it*, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

20 Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup *is* the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.



1 Cor. 11:23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the *same* night in which he was betrayed took bread:

24 And when he had given thanks, he brake *it*, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

25 After the same manner also *he took* the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink *it*, in remembrance of me.

26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink *this* cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup.



29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

30 For this cause many *are* weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.

32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

**(J) Separation.** We believe that believers should maintain a godly testimony and live in such a way that that their lives do not bring reproach upon their Savior. God commands His people to separate from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices, and associations, and to refrain from all immodest and immoderate appearances, piercings, and bodily markings. We stand against any and all worldly philosophies that seek to destroy or undermine the truth of **Biblical Christianity.** (Lev. 19:28; Rom. 12:1-2; 14:13; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 John 9-11)



Lev. 19:28 Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I *am* the LORD.

Rom. 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, **which is your reasonable service.**

2 And **be not conformed to this world:** but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Rom. 14:13 Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in *his* brother's way.



1 Cor. 6:19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

20 For **ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.**

2 Cor. 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.



**17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord,** and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you,

**18** And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

**2 Cor. 7:1** Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, **let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**

**2 Tim. 3:1** This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

**2** For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

**3** Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

**4** Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

**5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.**



**1 Jn. 2:15 Love not the world, neither the things *that are* in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (Jas. 4:4)**

16 For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

2 Jn. 1:9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

10 If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into *your* house, neither bid him God speed:

11 For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.



## Conclusion

2 Tim. 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: **for I know whom I have believed**, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

1 Jn. 4:16 And **we have known and believed** the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

1 Jn. 5:13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that **ye may know that ye have eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.