



THECHURCHOUTSIDE

THINKING ABOUT GOD OUTSIDE THE BOX

What We Believe

We are Baptist, a unique and Christian perspective of the Bible that is rooted in a literal or normal interpretation of Scripture. We come from a rich heritage of

Baptist believers and are grateful for how this heritage led us to a clear understanding of Scripture and ultimately a profound understanding of the God of the Bible and a personal relationship with Him.

About God...We believe God created the heavens and earth. He has no beginning or end and operates completely outside of our existence. Because God created everything and remains separate from our sin, He is ultimately our authority. The Bible describes God as perfection, goodness, love, truth, unchanging, and unequalled in His power and wisdom. In the Bible, He has revealed Himself in three distinct persons: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Although God has revealed Himself as three persons, He has also revealed Himself as perfectly unified in these three persons. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are distinct persons yet one God. The Bible also teaches that Jesus was born of a virgin, that he remained sinless, and therefore became the perfect sacrifice before God for the sin of the world. Jesus died on the cross to pay for our sin. The Holy Spirit is the spiritual presence of God in this age. He works to convict us of sin, create in us a new heart, comfort us as God's children, and contribute spiritual gifts to the church. The Church Outside exists to worship God every day in every situation for the rest of our time here on earth.

About the Bible...We believe God revealed Himself to a select nation that was set aside to know and worship Him. He did this to preserve the integrity of His revelation for all of mankind. As Christians we believe the 66 books of the Bible containing the Old Testament and New Testament to be the complete and inspired revelation of God. In the Bible, God reveals His character, nature, and heart toward mankind. He also has gone to great lengths to preserve the integrity of this revelation over the millennia through various resources from different times and places. Although the Bible was written over a period of 1500 years from the perspective of 40 authors, it has survived intense scrutiny and remains true to the original texts and unified in its message and purpose. Many of the historical, archaeological, and scientific facts in the Bible have been authenticated. We consider the Bible to be without error and that it contains "The Original Recipe" for all matters of faith, family, and the church.



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About Humanity... We believe that God created man and woman and said that His creation was good. He also placed them in a garden filled with His perfect provision. As one of our greatest gifts, God created mankind with a will of our own to choose between doing good or bad, between obedience and rebellion to His provision. The original man and woman chose to go outside of God's provision and sin entered the human equation. We have been choosing this rebellion ever since then. Sin not only separated humanity from the perfect Creator, but death entered the human equation because of this sin. Now we know that every person born will eventually die. But God, even when we were spiritually dead in our sin, loved us enough to provide a way to be "born again" into new life and restore us. He sent His one and only son to die on a cross for our sin so that those who would recognize this and turn away from their sin could be saved from death and restored to eternal life and the promise of a home in heaven. All we have to do is trade our failed attempts at perfection (religion) for His perfection offered through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Church Outside exists to share the Good News of Jesus as clearly as possible as often as possible with as many who will listen.

About Salvation... We believe that God has offered eternal life to anyone who repents of their sin and believes in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ as the substitutionary payment for their rebellion against Him. The Bible teaches that salvation is a gift from God and has been offered to all who would believe. When we were born, we were born spiritually dead in our sin. Jesus died, was buried, and came back to life to become the first of many who would overcome this spiritual death. As believers, we recognize that we have sinned and that this sin separated us from God. When we place our faith in God alone we are born again into new life. This new life starts now in this life and continues into the afterlife. Because God is the creator and sustainer of life, this gift of God cannot be taken away or lost by any physical or spiritual force. It is ours forever and is guaranteed by God through the presence of the Holy Spirit the moment we believe. The only requirement from God to be saved is to simply recognize His offer of forgiveness through the death of Jesus Christ on the cross, repent of our sin, and receive this gift in faith. The Church Outside exists to offer this free gift of eternal life to as many would believe.



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About The Church...We believe the church was founded by Jesus Christ during His ministry on earth. Jesus was not only the founder but the continuing motivation and foundation of all that the disciples did. A person becomes part of the local church by placing their faith in the work of Jesus, declaring this faith publicly, and being baptized as a symbol of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. The Bible says those that believe are adopted into the family of God and become the sons and daughters of God. In the early church, Jesus recognized His followers as disciples and charged certain of these disciples to lead the continuation of His ministry. They were to "go into all of the earth and teach all nations the things I have taught you." In the book of Acts we see the promise of Jesus continued as the church was anointed by the Holy Spirit toward this purpose. Under the direction of The Holy Spirit, the early church grew rapidly as the first disciples taught others what they had learned from Jesus. As they obeyed this charge to go and teach, the early church was defined by prayer, by a generous and caring spirit, by spending time together sharing meals, and by the worship of God as they examined the Scriptures daily. The Church Outside exists to follow the leadership and example of Jesus in this command as the disciples did in the power of the presence of the Holy Spirit.

About The Spiritual World...We believe there is a world and life beyond our physical experience. We have been given an eternal soul that will exist with God in heaven, or apart from Him forever. The Bible references this time before our universe existed and the spiritual beings that were created before before us. Among these spiritual beings were those who chose to follow Lucifer in rebellion to God, and those who remained loyal to God as His servants. The Holy Spirit is God's presence in this world today. The Bible also teaches that this spiritual life beyond ours continues simultaneously with ours and that there is a great battle that exists between good and evil, light and darkness, or most accurately God and Satan. The Bible teaches there is only one way to overcome this darkness, to resist Satan, and live forever in Heaven. Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life and that no person can come to God the Father except through Him. The Holy Spirit of God empowers us to overcome sin, death, and any spiritual opposition that arises. The Church Outside exists to help those who have yet to believe to understand the battle that exists for their soul and prepare believers to live in holiness.



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About The Future... We believe that God will eventually end life on this earth as we know it. At the end of this age Jesus Christ will judge all of mankind to reward believers for their faith and service to Him and judge those who did not believe. Although we do not know the exact timing of this event, we were given "warning signs" for the beginning of this time by Jesus. We are seeing a rapid increase in those signs. Jesus will come deliver His church from this impending judgement in what the Bible teaches as the rapture of the Church. Jesus warned that we should prepare ourselves for this time by first believing and receiving His substitution for our sin on the cross and also by living in purity by His grace and strength through The Holy Spirit. The Church Outside exists to bring as many as possible into this family of faith before it is too late and to present its members as holy and pure before God.

Want to know more...?

We would love to connect with you about how to search for and find the God of the Bible. The Bible says that even though we cannot see Him, He has never been far away from us! Please feel free to contact Pastor Jon to schedule a detailed study of this statement of faith. Almost every sentence of this statement can be found directly in Scripture.

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