

**COVENANT AND ARTICLES OF FAITH
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
JACKSON, LOUISIANA
1835**

We the members of the Regular Baptist denomination, having seen with deep regret the desolation of Zion in this portion of the vineyard of the Lord, and believing that a well organized church of Jesus Christ in this section of the country will tend greatly to promote the glory of God and the good of souls, and that the exigency of the present calls upon us, as the lovers and followers of Jesus Christ our Savior, to pursue that course which shall be best calculated to advance His kingdom here on earth; and having as we trust been brought by divine grace to receive the Lord Jesus Christ, and to give up ourselves to Him, so we do.

So we do now, relying on His gracious aid, solemnly covenant with each other and promise, that we will walk together in brotherly love as becomes the members of a Christian church; that we will exercise an affectionate care and watchfulness over each other, and faithfully admonish and entreat one another as occasion may require; that we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together; that we will endeavor to bring up such as may at any time be under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and by a pure and holy example to win our kindred and acquaintances to the Savior, to holiness, and to eternal life; that we will rejoice at each other's happiness, and endeavor with tenderness to bear each other's burdens and sorrow; that we will live circumspectly in the world, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, setting a worthy example and remembering that as we have been voluntarily buried by baptism, and have been raised up from the emblematical grave, so there is on us a special obligation, henceforth, to lead a new and holy life; that we will strive together for the supply of a faithful and evangelical ministry among us; that according to our ability and opportunity, we will, as faithful stewards of the Lord, do good unto all men, especially in helping to extend the gospel in its purity and power to the whole human family, and that through life we will earnestly seek to live to the glory of Him who hath called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Articles of Faith of the Mississippi Baptist Association (1806).

(These articles were subscribed to by First Baptist Church of Jackson upon joining the association in 1835, the year the church was founded.)

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one only true and living God; and that there are a trinity of persons in the Godhead– the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, the same in essence, equal in power and glory.
2. We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, are of Divine authority, and the only rule of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the fall of Adam; in the imputation of his sin to all his posterity; in the total depravity of human nature; and in man's inability to restore himself to the favor of God.
4. We believe in the everlasting love of God to his people; in the eternal, unconditional election of a definite number of the human family to grace and glory.
5. We believe that sinners are only justified in the sight of God, by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ, which is unto all and upon all them that believe.
6. We believe all those who were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world are, in time, effectually called, regenerated, converted, and sanctified; and are kept by the power of God, through faith, unto salvation.
7. We believe there is *one* mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, who, by

the satisfaction which he made to law and justice, "in becoming an offering sin," hath, by his most precious blood, redeemed the elect from under the curse of the law, that they might be holy and without blame before him in love.

8. We believe good works are the fruit of faith, and follow after justification, are evidences of a gracious state, and that it is the duty of all believers to perform them from a principle of love.
9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.