

TEMPLE

EST. 1971

GUIDING PRINCIPLES & VALUES

The families and students of Temple Baptist Academy, along with administrators, faculty, and staff, agree to uphold the following Bible-based values that guide the choices we make and the manner in which we live:

1. We live in submission to the Word of God.

Recognizing that God's Word has all authority, we are committed to believe and obey the Scriptures. (II Timothy 3:16-17; I Thessalonians 2:13)

2. Our goal is Christ.

Believing that the Lord Jesus Christ is to have preeminence in all things, we worship Him alone. Pleasing Him is our highest motive. Our desire is to be true followers of Christ. (Philippians 3:7-11; Colossians 1:18)

3. We are separated to God.

Being separated to the Lord sets us apart from the spirit and culture of the world. We seek to honor the Lord by living a life that is consecrated unto Him. (I Peter 1:15-16; I Corinthians 6:19-20)

4. We serve the Lord as members of a local church.

Knowing that the Scriptures provide the doctrine and pattern for local churches to follow, we belong to a church that adheres to the New Testament pattern in faith and practice, and we advance the gospel through the ministry of our church. (Acts 2:41-42; Acts 5:42)

5. We are faithful witnesses unto Christ.

Believing that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation, we give the gospel message to the lost, seeking to win them to Christ and to help them become true disciples of the Lord Jesus. (Acts 1:8; Proverbs 11:30; Matthew 28:18-20)

6. We recognize the stewardship of life.

Understanding that our lives belong to the Lord, we strive to be faithful stewards of all that He has given us. This includes using our time, talents, and possessions for the glory of God. (I Corinthians 4:2; Romans 14:11-12; Luke 12:15; Malachi 3:8-11)

7. We deal with others in honesty and sincerity.

Realizing the importance of our testimony, we exercise integrity in our relationships and dealings with others. We seek to have Christ's heart of love and compassion for all people. (Colossians 3:1-17; Titus 2:1-15; Romans 13:12-14)

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PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

Our Philosophy Grows Out of Our Theology.

The philosophy of education held by Temple Baptist Academy grows out of our theology. Believing in the one true and living God as revealed in the Scriptures, and believing that redemption for fallen man has been provided through the death, burial, and resurrection of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, we therefore hold a philosophy of education which recognizes God as the Author of all truth, and which centers on the Person of Jesus Christ. We reject any philosophy that does not recognize the existence and nature of God as taught in the Bible, and that does not recognize that the chief end of man is to know God through His Son and to glorify Him.

The Goal Is to Develop the Mind of Christ.

We believe the goal of Christian education is to develop the mind of Jesus Christ. Knowing that Christ Himself is the Creator, and that all things were created by Him and for Him, we hold that all truth finds its origin in the Person of Jesus Christ. In Him are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Colossians 2:3).

God's Word Is the Cornerstone.

We believe that God's Word, the Bible, must be central in all learning. As the divinely inspired, written revelation of God, the Bible is the cornerstone of Christian education. All knowledge and truth discovered in the processes of learning find bedrock in God's Word. The Bible is the unchanging, absolute truth by which we interpret and understand all truth.

Christ-centered Education Provides the Foundation for Life.

We believe that a Christ-centered education provides the foundation for all of life. Christian education is not confined to a classroom, but is committed to the development of the whole person—spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, socially, and physically. Therefore, all requirements and opportunities placed before students are viewed as a part of their education. Training both inside and outside the classroom helps them to grow in favor with God and in favor with man, and thus be prepared for life.

The Supernatural Work of God is Necessary.

We believe that the supernatural work of the Spirit of God is necessary to Christian education. It is only by the Spirit of God that we are born into the family of God, and this regeneration is required if one is to develop the mind of Christ. It is also the work of the Spirit of God to illumine the minds of those who have been regenerated. The Spirit of God teaches us all truth and guides us into the understanding of truth. He also grants wisdom to apply truth to life, because truth is given to us not simply to be known, but to be lived (Joshua 1:8). Without the work of the Spirit of God, Christian education cannot take place; we will be ever learning, and never able to come unto the knowledge of the truth. Teachers and students alike must be ever aware of their need for the Lord and must pray for His enabling.

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STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Scriptures

We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Bible, “as it is in truth, the Word of God...” (I Thessalonians 2:13). We believe in verbal, plenary inspiration in the original writings, and God’s preservation of His pure words to every generation (II Timothy 3:16, Psalms 12:6-8). We believe that the Scriptures are inerrant, infallible, and God-breathed.

The Masoretic Text of the Old Testament and the Received Text of the New Testament (Textus Receptus) are those texts of the original languages we use; the Authorized King James Version of the Bible is the English version we use in the English-speaking world. The Bible is our sole and final authority for faith and practice.

The Godhead

We believe in one Triune God, eternally existing in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, co-equal in power and glory, and having the same attributes and perfections (Deuteronomy 6:4; II Corinthians 13:14). We believe that God created the entire universe in six literal, twenty-four-hour days (Genesis 1:1-27).

The Person and Work of Christ

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful men (John 1:1-2, 14; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 9:6; 7:14; Philippians 2:5-8; Galatians 4:4-5).

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His finished work on the cross as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice; and that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead (Romans 3:24-25; I Peter 2:24; Ephesians 1:7; I Peter 1:3-5).

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ was raised bodily and that He ascended to Heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God, where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate (Acts 1:9-10; Hebrews 9:24, 7:25; Romans 8:34; I John 2:1-2).

The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the Person who reproves the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; and that He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration, indwelling all believers and sealing them unto the day of redemption (John 16:8-11; II Corinthians 3:6; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 1:13-14). We believe that the sign gifts of the Holy Spirit, such as speaking in tongues and the gift of healing, were temporary. We believe that speaking in tongues was never the common or necessary sign of the baptism or filling of the Holy Spirit and that ultimate deliverance of the body from sickness or death awaits the consummation of our salvation in the resurrection, though God frequently chooses to answer the prayer of believers for physical healing. (II Corinthians 12:12; I Corinthians 13:8; Hebrews 2:3-4; Mark 16:17-20; I Corinthians 1:22, 14:21-22).

Satan

We believe in the reality of the person of Satan and that he and the fallen angels wage a spiritual warfare against the plan and purposes of God (John 13:2; Acts 5:3; Ephesians 6:11-12). We believe that Satan is a created angelic being who rebelled and who tempted man to join him in rebellion against God (Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:11-19; Genesis 3:1-5). We believe his power is supernatural, yet limited; and that he cannot act without the permission of God (Job 1:6-12; I John 4:4). Satan's eternal end is everlasting torment in the Lake of Fire (Revelation 20:10).

Man

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but that in Adam's sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God; and therefore man is totally depraved, and, of himself, utterly unable to remedy his lost condition (Genesis 1:26-27; Romans 3:22-23; Ephesians 2:1-3, 12).

The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image and is mindful of him, and in that Christ died for man; therefore every individual possesses dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love. (Psalm 8:4-9; Colossians 3:9-11).

We believe that the only marriage recognized by Scripture is the joining of one man and one woman. (Genesis 2:24; Romans 7:2; 1 Corinthians 7:10; Ephesians 5:22-23) We believe that God expressly forbids intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between one man and one woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are perversions of God's intended purposes and therefore, sin. We believe that God forbids any attempt to alter one's God-given gender identity by any means, including surgery or appearance. (Genesis 2:24; Genesis 19:5, 13; Genesis 26:8-9; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; 1 Corinthians 5:1, 6:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4)

The Way of Salvation

We believe that the clear message of salvation is "repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 20:21). We believe that salvation is "by grace" plus nothing minus nothing. We believe that Jesus Christ died for every man, and that each individual chooses to accept or reject the grace of God (Hebrews 2:9; I John 2:2). We believe that men are justified by faith alone and are accounted righteous before God only through the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 2:8-10; John 1:12; I Peter 1:18-19)

We believe that all the redeemed, once saved are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever. We believe that eternal life is the present possession of every believer (John 6:37-40, 10:27-30; Romans 8:1, 38-39; I Corinthians 1:4-8; I Peter 1:4-5; Jude 1, 2).

The Church

We believe that the New Testament church is a local assembly of baptized believers who have voluntarily joined themselves together to carry out the Great Commission. The Lord is doing His work in this world through local churches. The establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures (Acts 14:27; 20:17, 28-32; I Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-11).

We believe in the autonomy of the local church free of any external authority or control. Christ is the only head of the church (Acts 13:1-4, 15:19-31, 20:28; Romans 16:1, 4; I Corinthians 3:9,16; 5:4-7,13; I Peter 5:1-4).

We recognize the ordinances of baptism by immersion in water and the Lord's Supper as a Scriptural means of testimony for local churches in this age (Matthew. 28:19-20; Acts 2:41-42, 18:18; I Corinthians 11:23-26).

Biblical Separation

We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord; and, that separation from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices and associations is commanded of God (II Timothy 3:1-5; Romans 12:1, 2, 14:13; I John 2:15-17; II John 9-11; II Corinthians 6:14-7:1).

The Return of Christ

We believe the "Blessed Hope" of our Lord's return is literal, personal, visible, imminent, premillennial, and pretribulational. Believers will be caught up to be with the Lord prior to the seven years of tribulation, and at the end of the tribulation Christ will return with His saints to establish His thousand-year reign on the earth (I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Titus 2:13; I Thessalonians 1:10; Revelation 3:10; Zechariah 14:4-11; Revelation 19:11-16, 20:1-6; Psalm 89:3-4).

Our Eternal State

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life, and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment (Matthew 25:46; John 5:28, 29, 11:25-26; Revelation 20:5-6, 12-13).

We believe that the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection, when spirit, soul, and body are reunited to be glorified forever with the Lord (Luke 23:43; Revelation 20:4-6; II Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23, 3:21; I Thessalonians 4:16-17).

We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain, after death, in conscious misery until the second resurrection, when with soul and body reunited they shall appear at the Great White Throne Judgment, and shall be cast into the Lake of Fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting, conscious punishment (Luke 16:19-26; Matthew 25:41-46; II Thessalonians 1:7-9; Jude 6-7; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 20:11-15).

The Statement of Faith does not exhaust the extent of our faith. The Bible itself is the sole and final source of all we believe. We do believe, however, that the preceding Statement of Faith accurately represents the teachings of the Scripture.

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