

BAPTIST DISTINCTIVES

- B - ible is our only rule of faith and practice, our final authority for our actions and conduct.*
- A - utonomy of each local church, which has the sovereign right under its head, the Lord Jesus Christ, and under the leadership of the Holy Spirit to determine its affairs and actions.*
- P - riesthood of all believers, whereby each believer has direct access to God through the only Mediator, the Lord Jesus Christ (I Timothy 2:5).*
- T - wo ordinances:*
 - Believer's baptism by immersion as a testimony to one's faith in Christ and as a declaration of the new life in Christ.*
 - The Lord's table, the elements of which are memorial symbols of His death and our appropriation of it.*
- I - ndividual liberty of conscience in one's relationship to God, with the Word of God and Christ Himself as the sole judge of the individual.*
- S - eparation:*
 - unto God to live a holy life as taught in the Word*
 - from all evil contrary to the Word and the indwelling Holy Spirit*
 - from all religious systems that fail to uphold the historic, fundamental doctrines of the faith as taught in the Word.*
 - of Church and State, each having the sovereign right to direct its own affairs without coercion or dictatorship from the other.*
- T - est for church membership:*
 - Regeneration through a personal acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.*