

A DECLARATION,

Of the Faith, Practice, and Covenant of the Churches of Christ, comprising the Eastern New Brunswick Baptist Association.

- Article 1. We believe that there is but one only living and true God, who is a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable in his being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth, Deut. vi. 4; John iv. 24; Psalms xc. 2; Jer. x. 10; Isa. vi. 3; Exod. xxxiv. 6-7.
2. That there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, who are but one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory: 1 John v. 7; Acts v. 3-4.
3. That the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, in which he hath given us our only rule of faith and practice; Acts xx. 32; 2 Tim. iii. 16-17.
4. That God, who is infinite in knowledge, and perfectly views all things from the beginning to the end, hath foreordained that whatsoever comes to pass, either by his order or permission, shall work for the eternal glory of his great name: Acts xv. 18; Rom. ix. 17-23; Acts ii. 24; Psalms lxxvi. 10.
5. That in the beginning God created the heavens, and the earth, the sea and all that in them are; and he upholds and governs all things by the word of his power: Exod. xx. 11; Heb. i. 3; Dan. iv. 35.
6. That God made man in his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness, and made with him a covenant of life, the condition of which was perfect obedience: Gen. i. 26-27; and ii. 16-17; Gal. iii. 10.
7. That man being left to himself, soon fell from that happy and glorious estate in which he was made, by eating the forbidden fruit, by which he brought himself and all his posterity into a state of death: Gen. iii. 6; Rom. v. 13-19.
8. That man being thus dead, his help and recovery are wholly in and from God: Hos. xiii. 9; Eph. xi. 8; John vi. 44.
9. That God the Father has chosen a great multitude of the human family, whom no man can number, of all nations, and kindreds and people, and tongues, and given them to his Son in the covenant of his grace, that he might redeem them from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works, which is the only foundation of salvation for lost and helpless sinners; and thereby the Ministers of the Lord are encouraged to preach the Gospel to every rational creature, because the purposes of God, and the infinite value of Christ's atonement, secure the increase and establishment of the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and for ever: Rom. viii. 29, 30; Eph. i. 4, 5; John vi. 37-39; Rev. vii. 9; Tit. ii. 14; Mark xv. 16; 2 Tim. ii. 10; Matt. xii. 33; Rev. xi. 15.
10. That Jesus, the eternal Son of God, hath come, and taken on him our nature, and in that nature hath yielded a perfect obedience to the law which we have transgressed, and suffered death for our sins, and hath brought in a complete and everlasting righteousness, and hath risen and ascended to the right hand of God that ever liveth to make intercession for us: Heb. x. 5, 19; Dan. ix. 24; Heb. vii. 25.
11. That the Holy Ghost, and he only, can and doth make particular application of the benefits of the atonement made by Christ to every elect soul: John iii. 6-8; 1 Cor. i. 30.
12. That the Spirit of God applies the benefits of this atonement, by convicting us of our sinful, lost and miserable condition, and then discovering the glorious Saviour, as he is exhibited in the Gospel, in his suitableness and sufficiency, and enabling us to embrace him with our whole souls, by which he is made unto us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption: John xvi. 8; 1 Cor. i. 30.
13. That the life of religion consists in the knowledge of God, and conformity with him in the inward man, which necessarily produceth an external conformity to his commands and brings us to live in obedience to His holy will in