

A DECLARATION

Of the Faith, Practice and Covenant of the Churches of Christ composing the Western New Brunswick Baptist Association.

PART I.—ARTICLES OF FAITH.

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 ; Ps. xc. 2 ; cxlvii. 5 ; James i. 17 ; 1 Tim. i. 17 ; Mark x. 27 ; Isaiah vi. 3 ; Deut. xxxii. 4 ; Ex. xv. 11. 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 : Matt. xxviii. 19 ; John xv. 26 : 1 Cor. xii. 4-6 ; 2 Cor. xiii. 14 ; Eph. ii. 18.

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 ; Luke xv. 29-31 ; 2 Tim. iii. 15-17 ; 1 Thes. ii. 13 ; 2 Peter i. 21. iii. 2 ; Rom. iii. 2 ; Isa. viii. 16, 19, 20.

4. That God, who is infinite in knowledge, and perfectly views all things from the beginning to the end, has forordained that whatsoever comes to pass, either by His order or permission, shall work for the eternal glory of his great name : Acts. xv. 18 ; ii. 23 : Ps. lxxvi. 10, xxxiii. 11 ; Rom. ix. 17-23, xi. 36.

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 : Gen. i. ; Ex. xx. 11 ; Dan. iv. 35 ; Heb. i. 3.

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 ; ii. 16-17 ; Ecc. vii. 29 ; 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. 12-19.

8. That man being thus dead, his help and recovery are wholly in and from God : John vi. 44 ; Eph. ii. 4, 5, 7-10 ; 1 John iv. 10.

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 Christ's kingdom, so that the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ ; and He shall reign for ever and ever : Rom. viii. 29-30 ; Eph. i. 4, 5, 11 ; John vi. 37-39 ; Rev. vii. 9 ; Titus ii. 14 ; Mark xvi. 15 ; 2 Tim. ii. 19 ; Isa. ix. 7 ; Rev. xi. 15.