

# PROPOSED REVISION TO THE PARBC CONSTITUTION

PRESENTED at OPEN DOOR BAPTIST CHURCH, GREENSBURG, PA

September 17, 2019

The left column is the present version of the PARBC Articles of Faith found on the PARBC web site. The right column has the proposed changes. Words highlighted in yellow show the proposed changes.

Respectfully yours,

*Dan Hicks*

Dan Hicks  
 Secretary, PARBC Council of Ten  
 Pastor, First Baptist Church of Ogden

PARBC Article of Faith on web site	Proposed Changes
<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLES OF FAITH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I --Of the Scriptures</p> <p>WE BELIEVE that the Holy Bible as originally written was verbally inspired and the product of Spirit-controlled men, and therefore has truth without any admixture of error for its matter. We believe the Bible to be the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions shall be tried. II Timothy 3:16-17 II Peter 1:19-21</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLES OF FAITH</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>I --OF THE SCRIPTURES</b></p> <p>WE BELIEVE that the Holy Bible, the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, as originally written was verbally and plenary inspired and the product of Holy Spirit-controlled men. It is therefore inerrant, infallible truth, without any admixture of error for all its content. We believe the Bible to be the ultimate authority and all-sufficient source for all doctrine and practice. It is the true core of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions must be evaluated. The Scriptures are preserved by the Spirit of God and are authoritative on all matters to which they speak.</p> <p>We believe that correct Biblical interpretation requires the use of the literal, historical, grammatical and contextual hermeneutic.</p> <p>2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21; 1 Timothy 3:15; Psalm 119:89; Matthew 5:18</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">II -- Of the True God</p> <p>WE BELIEVE there is one, and only one, living and true God, infinite, intelligent Spirit, and Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness and worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>II -- OF THE TRUE GOD</b></p> <p>WE BELIEVE there is only one, true and living God, infinite, intelligent Spirit, Creator and Supreme Ruler of the heavens and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness and worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love; that in the Tri-unity of the Godhead there are three</p>

<p>equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption. Exodus 20:2-3   Corinthians 8:6 Revelation 4:11   John 5:7</p>	<p>persons: The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.</p> <p>Exodus 20:2-3; Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Corinthians 8:6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Revelation 4:11; 1 John 5:7</p>
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	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>III – OF GOD THE SON, JESUS CHRIST</b></p> <p>WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, Creator, the eternal Word manifested in the flesh: that He was conceived by the Holy Spirit; born of the Virgin Mary; lived a perfect sinless life; and is fully God and fully man. We believe in His vicarious, substitutionary, and redeeming death on the cross for the penalty of man’s sins. We believe in His bodily resurrection, His ascension, and His personal, imminent, pretribulation and premillennial return. He is seated at the right hand of the throne of God, interceding for and defending the saints.</p> <p>John 1:1-3, 14; Psalm 2:7, 12; Colossians 1:16-17; Luke 1:31-55; Philippians 2:5-8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Matthew 28:1-10; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; Hebrews 7:25; 1 John 2:1</p>
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<p>III -- Of the Holy Spirit WE BELIEVE that the Holy spirit is a divine person; equal with God the Father and God the Son and of the same nature; that He was active in the creation; that in His relation to the unbelieving world He restrains the Evil One until God’s purpose is fulfilled; that He convicts of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment that He bears witness to the truth of the Gospel in preaching and testimony; that He is the agent in the New Birth; that He seals, baptizes, endues, guides, teaches, witnesses, sanctifies, and helps the believer. John 14:16-17 Luke 1:35 John 3:5-6 Acts 11:16 Matthew 28:19 Genesis 1:1-3 Ephesians 1:13-14 Luke 24:49 Hebrews 9:14 John 16:8-11 Mark 1:8 Romans 8:14 John 14:26 Acts 5:30-32 John 1:33 Romans 8:16 Romans 8:26-27</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>IV -- OF THE HOLY SPIRIT</b></p> <p>WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Triune God, co-equal with God the Father and God the Son and of the same nature; that He was active in the creation; that in His relation to the unbelieving world He restrains the Evil One until God’s purpose is fulfilled; that He convicts of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment, that He bears witness to the truth of the Gospel in preaching and testimony; that He is the agent of the new birth; that He seals, baptizes, enables, guides, teaches, witnesses, sanctifies, and helps the believer.</p> <p>John 14:16-17; Luke 1:35; John 3:5-6; Acts 11:16; Matthew 28:19; Genesis 1:1-3; Titus 3:5; Ephesians 1:13-14; Luke 24:49; Hebrews 9:14; John 16:8-11; Mark 1:8; Romans 8:14; John 14:26; Acts 5:30-32; John 1:33; Romans 8:16, 26-27</p>
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<p>IV -- Of the Devil or Satan WE BELIEVE in the personality of Satan, that he is the unholy god of this age, and the author of all the powers of darkness, and is destined to the judgment of an eternal justice in the Lake of Fire. Matthew 4:1-3 II Corinthians 4:4 Revelation 20:10</p>	<p><b>V -- OF THE DEVIL, OR SATAN</b></p> <p>WE BELIEVE that Satan is the fallen angel, Lucifer, who is the devil, the originator of sin against God, that he is the unholy god of this age, the author of all the powers of darkness, the tempter of mankind, the accuser of the brethren, and the opposer of the work of God, and is destined to a just and eternal judgment by God in the Lake of Fire.</p> <p>Isaiah 14:12-16; Matthew 4:1-3; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 6:11-12; Revelation 12:9-10; Revelation 20:10</p>
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<p>V -- Of the Creation WE ACCEPT the Genesis account of creation and believe that man came by direct creation of God and not by evolution. Genesis 1 &amp; 2 Colossians 1:16-17 John 1:3</p>	<p><b>VI -- OF THE CREATION</b></p> <p>WE BELIEVE the Genesis account of creation that God created all things in six consecutive twenty-four-hour days, thereby rejecting any teaching of evolution between kinds. We further believe that Adam and Eve were God's final acts of creation on day six, and that both man and woman are the highest forms of creation. We believe that God created man and woman in the image of God, and these two distinct, complementary genders together equally represent and reflect this image to all creation. We believe in the equality of both man and woman, while recognizing the biological differences between them. We believe that human sexuality is biologically and genetically determined by God as Creator and is binary (either male or female). These distinctions between man and woman are fixed, and are not determined by culture, nor by an individual. We further believe that the rejection of one's biological gender is a rejection of the image of God within that person. Therefore, we recognize all individuals based upon their gender at conception alone.</p> <p>Genesis 1 – 2 (1:26-27); John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17; Psalm 8:3-9; 1 Peter 3:7; Psalm 139:13-16</p>
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<p>VI -- Of the Fall of Man WE BELIEVE that man was created in innocence under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from his sinless and happy state in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not only by</p>	<p><b>VII -- OF THE FALL OF MAN</b></p> <p>WE BELIEVE that man was created in innocence under the law of his Creator. By voluntary transgression against God, man fell from sinlessness to physical and spiritual death.</p>
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<p>constraint, but of choice; and therefore under just condemnation without defense or excuse. Genesis 3:1-6,24 Romans 5:19 Romans 3:10-19 Romans 1:18,32</p>	<p>Consequently, all mankind are now sinners, by nature, birth, and choice, and therefore, are under just condemnation without defense or excuse.</p> <p>Genesis 3:1-6,24; Romans 5:12; Romans 5:19; Romans 3:10-23; Romans 1:18, 32</p>
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<p>VII -- Of the Virgin Birth WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ was begotten of the Holy Ghost in a miraculous manner; born of Mary, a virgin, as no other man was ever born or can be born of woman, and that He is both the Son of God, and God, the Son. Genesis 3:15 Isaiah 7:14 Matthew 1:18-25 Luke 1:35 John 1:14</p>	<p><b>VIII -- OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH</b></p> <p>WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ was begotten of the Father, and was conceived of the Holy Spirit, in a miraculous manner; born of Mary, a virgin, as no other man was ever born or can be born of woman, and that He is both God, the Son, and the Son of God, and perfect man without a sin nature.</p> <p>Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:31, 35; John 1:14; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Corinthians 15:45</p>
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<p>VIII -- Of the Atonement for Sin WE BELIEVE that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, Who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon Him our nature, yet without sin, honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and by His death made a full and vicarious atonement for our sins; that His atonement consisted not in setting us an example by His death as a martyr, but was a voluntary substitution of Himself in the sinner's place, the just dying for the unjust; Christ, the Lord, bearing our sins in His own body on the tree; that having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in Heaven and uniting in His wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, He is in every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and all-sufficient Savior. Ephesians 2:8 John 3:16 Hebrews 2:14 I John 4:10 Acts 15:11 Matthew 18:11 Isaiah 53:4-7 I Corinthians 15:3 Romans 3:24 Philippians 2:7 Romans 3:25 II Corinthians 5:21</p>	<p><b>IX – OF THE ATONEMENT FOR SIN</b></p> <p>WE BELIEVE that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, Who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon Himself our nature, yet without sin, honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and by His death made a full and vicarious atonement for our sins; that His atonement consisted not in setting us an example by His death as a martyr, but as a voluntary substitutionary sacrifice of Himself in the sinner's place, the just dying for the unjust; Christ, the Lord, bearing our sins in His own body on the tree; that His once for all death was sufficient payment for all sin, accepted by the Father as proven by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead; on the third day. He is now ascended, seated at the right hand of God the Father, in Heaven, as our sole Mediator, Great High Priest, Advocate, Intercessor, Who is the only perfectly compassionate, and all-sufficient Savior.</p> <p>Ephesians 2:8; John 3:16; Hebrews 2:14; 4:14-16; 1 John 4:10; Acts 15:11; Matthew 18:11; Isaiah 53:4-7; 1 Corinthians 15:3; Romans 3:24; 8:34; Philippians 2:7; Romans 3:25; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Timothy 2:5; 1 Peter 3:18; 1 John 2:1</p>
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<p>IX -- Of Grace in the New Creation</p> <p>WE BELIEVE that in order to be saved, sinners must be born again, that the new birth is a new creation in Christ Jesus; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that in the new birth the one dead in trespasses and in sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life, the free gift of God; that the new creation is brought about in a miraculous manner above our comprehension, solely by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith in newness of life. John 3:3 Acts 16:30-33 Ephesians 2:8 II Corinthians 5:17 II Peter 1:4 II Corinthians 5:19 I John 5:1 Romans 6:23 Colossians 2:13 John 3:6-8</p>	<p><b>X -- OF SALVATION</b></p> <p>WE BELIEVE that in order to be saved, sinners must be born again, that the new birth is a new creation in Christ Jesus; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that in the new birth the one who is dead in trespasses and sins recognizes their lost condition, is brought to repentance and faith in Christ as their personal Savior; thereby being made a partaker of the divine nature and receiving eternal life, as a gift of God; that the new creation is brought about in a miraculous manner above our comprehension, performed by the power of the Holy Spirit through divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; that its proper evidence appears in the fruit of the Spirit and sanctification, and obedience to God's Word.</p> <p>FURTHERMORE, we believe that faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is the only condition of salvation: (a) That Old Testament saints were saved by faith alone looking forward toward the fulfillment of God's promises; and (b) That New Testament saints are saved by faith alone in the finished work of Christ alone.</p> <p>John 3:3; Acts 16:30-33; Ephesians 2:8-10; 2 Peter 1:4; 2 Corinthians 5:17, 19; 1 John 5:1; Romans 6:23; Romans 10:17; Colossians 2:13; John 3:6-8</p> <p>Romans 3:20; 4:3, 6; Acts 16:31; Ephesians 2:8-10; Hebrews 11:13</p>
<p>X -- Of Justification WE BELIEVE that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is Justification: (a) That Justification includes the pardon of sin, and the gift of eternal life on principles of righteousness. (b) That Justification is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have</p> <p>(c) done; but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood, His righteousness is imputed to us. Acts 13:39 Zechariah 13:1 Romans 5:9 Isaiah 53:11 Romans 8:1 Romans 5:1</p>	<p><b>XI -- OF JUSTIFICATION</b></p> <p>WE BELIEVE that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is Justification: (a) That Justification includes the pardon of sin, and the gift of eternal life on the principle of righteousness (the just for the unjust); (b) That Justification is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done; (c) But solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood as a substitutionary sacrifice for our sin and on the basis of His resurrection; (d) His righteousness is imputed to us.</p> <p>Acts 13:39; 1 Peter 3:18; Zechariah 13:1; Isaiah 53:11; Romans 4:5, 25; 5:1; 5:9; 8:1</p>