

The Church Covenant of Beulah Baptist Church, Aylett, Virginia **Written by Rev. Andrew Broaddus, pastor of Beulah from 1828-1848**

We, whose names are hereunto subjoined (baptized upon profession of faith), being persuaded that it will conduce to the glory of God, and our spiritual prosperity, and therefore, that it is both our duty and privilege, to be formed into a Gospel Church,

Have resolved, in the fear of God, and in the name of Jesus Christ, thus to unite ourselves together in one body, under one head, jointly to live and act as a church, according to the spirit and precepts of the Gospel of Christ.

We own and acknowledge the Holy Scriptures as the only standard by which all principles and practices in religion are to be tried, according to this standard we maintain:

- That Baptism belongs to those who give satisfactory evidence of true faith in Jesus Christ; and is rightly performed only by immersion in water;
- That it is not the means by which we actually receive pardon, justification, and acceptance with God, but is a declaration of our interest, as believers in these great and saving blessings; and at the same time, a pledge of our consecration to God, and that it is the proper manner of openly putting on Christ,
- That the Lord's Supper is intended for the social commemoration of the death of Christ, and the saving benefits thence resulting; and appears properly to belong to baptized believers in church fellowship.

Moreover, we consider it proper to add, as touching certain great leading truths held forth in the Holy Scriptures:

- That we acknowledge and avow the doctrine of the depravity and just condemnation of man,
- The divine and human nature of Jesus Christ, the Son of God,
- Atonement for sin by His blood shedding, and death,
- Justification before God by faith in Jesus Christ, on account of His blood and righteousness;
- Our dependence on the influence of the Holy Spirit, in leading us to repentance, and in the sanctification of our nature;
- And the necessity of holiness of heart, righteousness of live, and (in a word) of obedience to all the known will of God.
- And lastly, that there will be a general resurrection, and a general judgment, in which the final state of mankind will be decided according to the deeds done in the body.

We own and acknowledge Jesus Christ as the only supreme Head and Law-Giver of His church; and desire, therefore, to surrender ourselves in soul and body to Him to His keeping, His government,

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and His service; to be guided by the dictates of His holy will, made known in His word, both in our faith and practice.

And we do hereby covenant and agree that we will endeavor to be subject one to another in the Lord:

- To bear each other's burdens,
- To promote, as we may be enabled, each other's well-being,
- And to unite our efforts in the common cause of our Lord and Savior.

While thus we would devote ourselves, jointly and severally, to the authority and control of the Great King in Zion, we implore His condescending regard, in the acceptance of our persons and our services; and his efficacious grace, to aid us in the toils and duties of life's pilgrimage, till we may exchange the church militant for the Church Triumphant; to the praise of the glory of God in Christ Jesus; Amen!!!