

BAYBROOK Q & A

1 PETER 3:13-17



¹⁶ ALL SCRIPTURE IS BREATHED OUT BY GOD
AND PROFITABLE FOR TEACHING, FOR
REPROOF, FOR CORRECTION, AND FOR
TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS, ¹⁷ THAT THE
MAN OF GOD MAY BE COMPLETE, EQUIPPED
FOR EVERY GOOD WORK.

¹³ NOW WHO IS THERE TO HARM YOU IF YOU ARE
ZEALOUS FOR WHAT IS GOOD? ¹⁴ BUT EVEN IF
YOU SHOULD SUFFER FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS '
SAKE, YOU WILL BE BLESSED. HAVE NO FEAR OF
THEM, NOR BE TROUBLED, ¹⁵ BUT IN YOUR
HEARTS HONOR CHRIST THE LORD AS HOLY,
ALWAYS BEING PREPARED TO MAKE A DEFENSE
TO ANYONE WHO ASKS YOU FOR A REASON FOR
THE HOPE THAT IS IN YOU; YET DO IT WITH
GENTLENESS AND RESPECT,



16 HAVING A GOOD CONSCIENCE, SO THAT, WHEN YOU ARE SLANDERED, THOSE WHO REVILE YOUR GOOD BEHAVIOR IN CHRIST MAY BE PUT TO SHAME. 17 FOR IT IS BETTER TO SUFFER FOR DOING GOOD, IF THAT SHOULD BE GOD'S WILL, THAN FOR DOING EVIL.



1

WHAT ARE THE BELIEFS OF BAPTISTS?





WHAT ARE THE BELIEFS OF BAPTISTS?



- > BAPTIST FAITH AND MESSAGE <
- > STATEMENT OF FAITH <
(WHAT WE BELIEVE)
- > 1689 CONFESSION <





BAYBROOK BAPTIST CHURCH

[HOME](#)

[ABOUT ▾](#)

[CONNECT ▾](#)

[MEDIA](#)

[GIVE](#)

[CONTACT](#)

[LITTLE WONDERS PRESCHOOL](#)

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Trinity

We believe in one God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

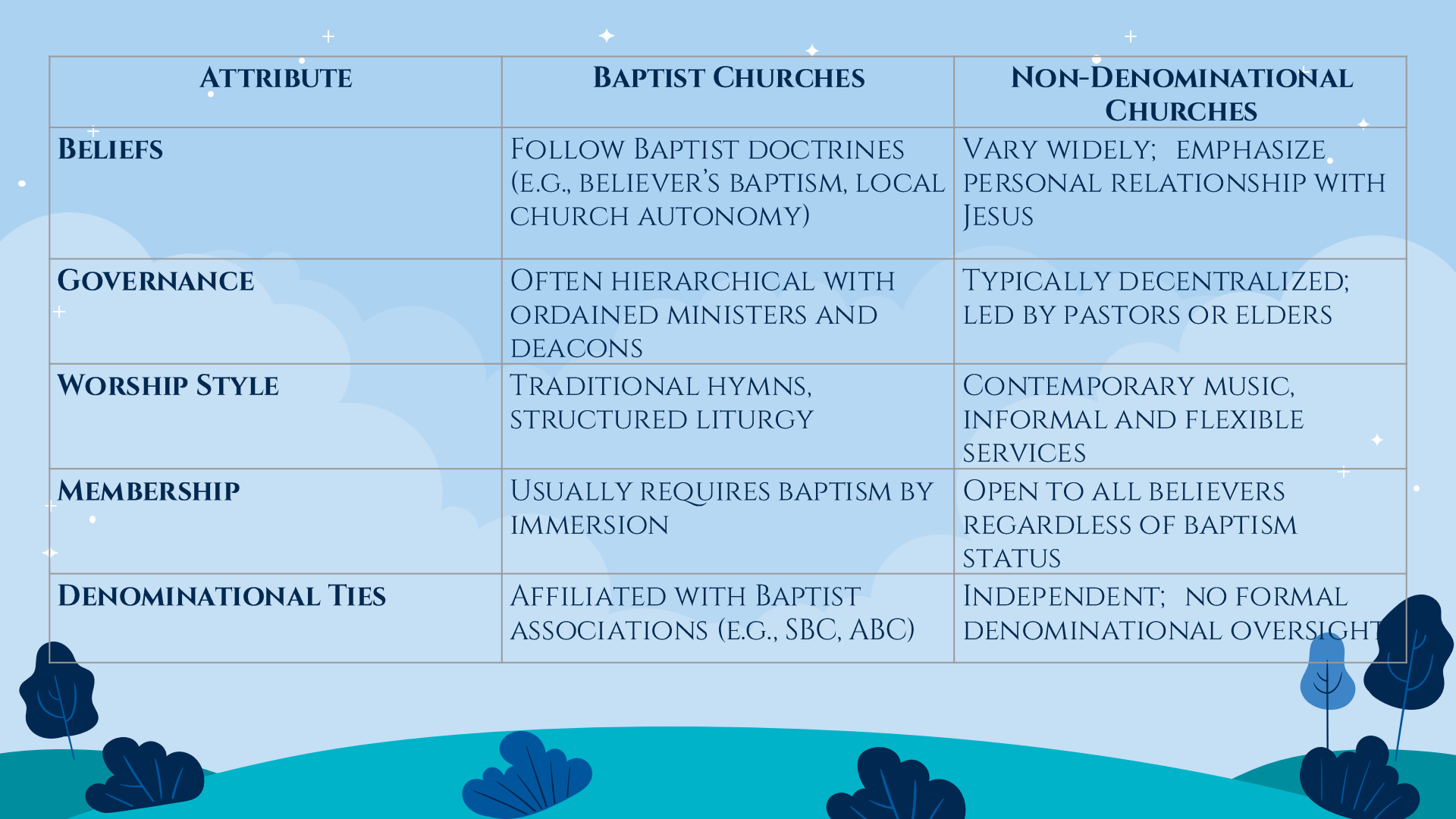
Genesis 1:2; Matthew 4; Matthew 5:16; Matthew 6:1; Matthew 8-9; Matthew 45; John 14:9;

James 1:17

2

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NON- DENOMINATIONAL AND BAPTISTS?





ATTRIBUTE	BAPTIST CHURCHES	NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHURCHES
BELIEFS	FOLLOW BAPTIST DOCTRINES (E.G., BELIEVER'S BAPTISM, LOCAL CHURCH AUTONOMY)	VARY WIDELY; EMPHASIZE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS
GOVERNANCE	OFTEN HIERARCHICAL WITH ORDAINED MINISTERS AND DEACONS	TYPICALLY DECENTRALIZED; LED BY PASTORS OR ELDERS
WORSHIP STYLE	TRADITIONAL HYMNS, STRUCTURED LITURGY	CONTEMPORARY MUSIC, INFORMAL AND FLEXIBLE SERVICES
MEMBERSHIP	USUALLY REQUIRES BAPTISM BY IMMERSION	OPEN TO ALL BELIEVERS REGARDLESS OF BAPTISM STATUS
DENOMINATIONAL TIES	AFFILIATED WITH BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS (E.G., SBC, ABC)	INDEPENDENT; NO FORMAL DENOMINATIONAL OVERSIGHT

EXAMPLES OF BAPTIST DENOMINATIONS

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION (SBC) – ONE OF THE LARGEST BAPTIST DENOMINATIONS IN THE U.S., KNOWN FOR CONSERVATIVE THEOLOGY AND STRONG MISSIONARY FOCUS.

AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA (ABCUSA) – MORE MODERATE, WITH EMPHASIS ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND DIVERSITY.

INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCHES – NOT AFFILIATED WITH A LARGER CONVENTION, OFTEN MORE CONSERVATIVE AND AUTONOMOUS.



CORE TRAITS OF BAPTIST CHURCHES

• **BELIEVER'S BAPTISM BY IMMERSION:** BAPTISTS INSIST THAT BAPTISM IS ONLY FOR THOSE WHO PERSONALLY PROFESS FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST. IT MUST BE DONE BY FULL IMMERSION, SYMBOLIZING DEATH TO SIN AND RESURRECTION TO NEW LIFE.

BIBLICAL AUTHORITY SCRIPTURE: IS THE SOLE AND FINAL AUTHORITY FOR FAITH AND PRACTICE. BAPTIST CHURCHES EMPHASIZE PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY AND PREACHING THAT IS DEEPLY ROOTED IN THE TEXT.

+ **LOCAL CHURCH AUTONOMY:** EACH BAPTIST CHURCH GOVERNS ITSELF INDEPENDENTLY. THERE IS NO HIGHER ECCLESIASTICAL AUTHORITY—NO BISHOPS OR DENOMINATIONAL MANDATES. DECISIONS ON WORSHIP, LEADERSHIP, AND DOCTRINE ARE MADE BY THE CONGREGATION.



CORE TRAITS OF BAPTIST CHURCHES

CONGREGATIONAL GOVERNANCE: MEMBERS VOTE ON MAJOR DECISIONS, INCLUDING HIRING PASTORS, APPROVING BUDGETS, AND DOCTRINAL STANCES. THIS DEMOCRATIC STRUCTURE REFLECTS THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS.

PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS: EVERY CHRISTIAN HAS DIRECT ACCESS TO GOD WITHOUT MEDIATION BY CLERGY. THIS PRINCIPLE ENCOURAGES ACTIVE LAY PARTICIPATION IN MINISTRY AND DECISION-MAKING.



CORE TRAITS OF BAPTIST CHURCHES

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE: BAPTISTS HAVE HISTORICALLY CHAMPIONED RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND THE SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE, BELIEVING THAT FAITH MUST BE FREELY CHOSEN WITHOUT GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE.

EVANGELISM AND MISSIONS: BAPTIST CHURCHES OFTEN PRIORITIZE OUTREACH, EVANGELISM, AND GLOBAL MISSIONS. ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION (SBC) SUPPORT THOUSANDS OF MISSIONARIES WORLDWIDE.



EXAMPLES OF NON-DENOMINATIONAL DENOMINATIONS

ARC (ASSOCIATION OF RELATED CHURCHES): FOCUSES ON CHURCH PLANTING WITH A CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP STYLE AND EVANGELICAL THEOLOGY.

CALVARY CHAPEL: STARTED IN THE 1960S; EMPHASIZES VERSE-BY-VERSE TEACHING AND CHARISMATIC OPENNESS.

HARVEST CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP: FOUNDED BY GREG LAURIE; KNOWN FOR EVANGELISM AND CRUSADE-STYLE OUTREACH.

ACTS 29 NETWORK: REFORMED THEOLOGY WITH A STRONG EMPHASIS ON CHURCH PLANTING AND PASTORAL TRAINING.



KEY TRAITS OF THESE NETWORKS

SHARED THEOLOGY: OFTEN EVANGELICAL, WITH VARYING DEGREES OF CHARISMATIC INFLUENCE.

CHURCH PLANTING FOCUS: MOST PRIORITIZE MULTIPLYING CHURCHES AND TRAINING LEADERS.

LOOSE GOVERNANCE: UNLIKE TRADITIONAL DENOMINATIONS, THESE NETWORKS OFFER SUPPORT WITHOUT RIGID OVERSIGHT.

CULTURAL RELEVANCE: MANY EMPHASIZE MODERN WORSHIP, MEDIA, AND OUTREACH STRATEGIES.



THEOLOGICAL EMPHASIS

BAPTIST CHURCHES:

- STRONG EMPHASIS ON BELIEVER'S BAPTISM BY IMMERSION.
- OFTEN HOLD TO ONCE-MADE-ALWAYS-MADE (ETERNAL SECURITY).
- MANY AFFIRM COMPLEMENTARIANISM (DISTINCT ROLES FOR MEN AND WOMEN IN CHURCH LEADERSHIP).
- TYPICALLY CONSERVATIVE IN DOCTRINE AND SOCIAL ETHICS.

THEOLOGICAL EMPHASIS

NONDENOMINATIONAL CHURCHES:

- ALSO PRACTICE BELIEVER'S BAPTISM, BUT MAY BE MORE FLEXIBLE IN THEOLOGY.
- OFTEN EMPHASIZE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS, SPIRITUAL GIFTS, AND PRACTICAL DISCIPLESHIP.
- MAY LEAN TOWARD EGALITARIANISM, ESPECIALLY IN NEWER OR URBAN CONTEXTS.
- TEND TO BE MORE OPEN TO CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP STYLES AND CREATIVE TEACHING FORMATS.



WORSHIP AND CULTURE

BAPTIST CHURCHES:

- WORSHIP STYLE VARIES, BUT MANY RETAIN TRADITIONAL ELEMENTS (HYMNS, CHOIRS, PULPIT PREACHING).
- SERMONS OFTEN FOLLOW EXPOSITORY PREACHING WITH STRONG DOCTRINAL CLARITY.

WORSHIP AND CULTURE

NONDENOMINATIONAL CHURCHES:

- FREQUENTLY ADOPT MODERN WORSHIP FORMATS—BANDS, MULTIMEDIA, CASUAL DRESS.
- TEACHING MAY BE TOPICAL, STORY-DRIVEN, OR FOCUSED ON LIFE APPLICATION.

IDENTITY AND BRANDING

BAPTIST CHURCHES:

- CLEARLY IDENTIFY AS BAPTIST, OFTEN WITH DENOMINATIONAL AFFILIATION IN THE NAME.
- MAY HAVE LONGSTANDING TRADITIONS AND EXPECTATIONS AROUND MEMBERSHIP, POLITY, AND DOCTRINE.

IDENTITY AND BRANDING

NONDENOMINATIONAL CHURCHES:

- OFTEN BRAND THEMSELVES AROUND VISION OR MISSION (E.G., “GRACE FELLOWSHIP,” “THE BRIDGE”).
- APPEAL TO SEEKERS OR THOSE DISILLUSIONED WITH DENOMINATIONAL BOUNDARIES.

MISSIONAL FOCUS

BAPTIST CHURCHES:

OFTEN SUPPORT DENOMINATIONAL MISSION BOARDS AND SEMINARIES.

NONDENOMINATIONAL CHURCHES:

MAY PARTNER WITH PARACHURCH ORGANIZATIONS OR CREATE THEIR OWN OUTREACH MODELS.



The background is a light blue sky with white clouds, small white stars, and a white sun or moon. At the bottom, there are stylized green and blue hills with dark blue bushes and trees.

3

**IS THE RESURRECTION
ESSENTIAL TO OUR FAITH
AND IS BELIEF IN IT
REQUIRED FOR BAPTISM?**

EVIDENCE OF THE EMPTY TOMB

- TOMB WAS FOUND EMPTY IN ALL FOUR GOSPELS
- BODY WAS NEVER FOUND BY HIS FOLLOWERS OR ENEMIES
- TOMB GUARDED AND BURIAL CLOTHES FOUND FOLDED
- MULTIPLE WITNESSES
 - 1 COR. 15:3-8
 - ACTS 26:14-18
- DISCIPLES BECAME BOLD AFTER HIS RESURRECTION
- THEIR BELIEF IN THE RESURRECTION WAS THE FOUNDATION FOR CHRISTIANS. WITHOUT THE RESURRECTION THERE IS NO CHRISTIANITY

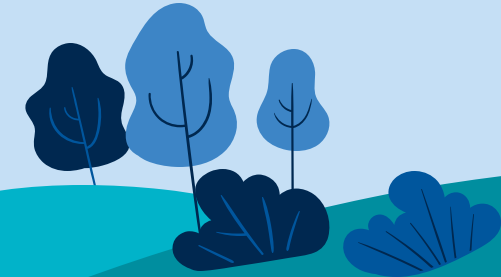


SCRIPTURE THAT SHOWS THE RESURRECTION IS ESSENTIAL TO OUR FAITH

- ACTS 2:24
- ACTS 13:29-35
- ACTS 17:22-31

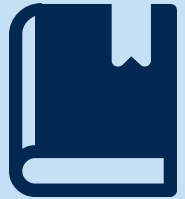
HOW DOES THE RESURRECTION IMPACT BAPTISM

- ROMANS 6:3-11
- ROMANS 10:9-10
- ACTS 8:36-37



SPIRITUAL BAPTISM IS WHEN WE ARE SAVED. THE DEATH AND BURIAL OF THE OLD SELF/LIFE AND THE RESURRECTION OF THE NEW LIFE IN JESUS. WE DIE TO OURSELF AND ARE RAISED A NEW PERSON IN JESUS.

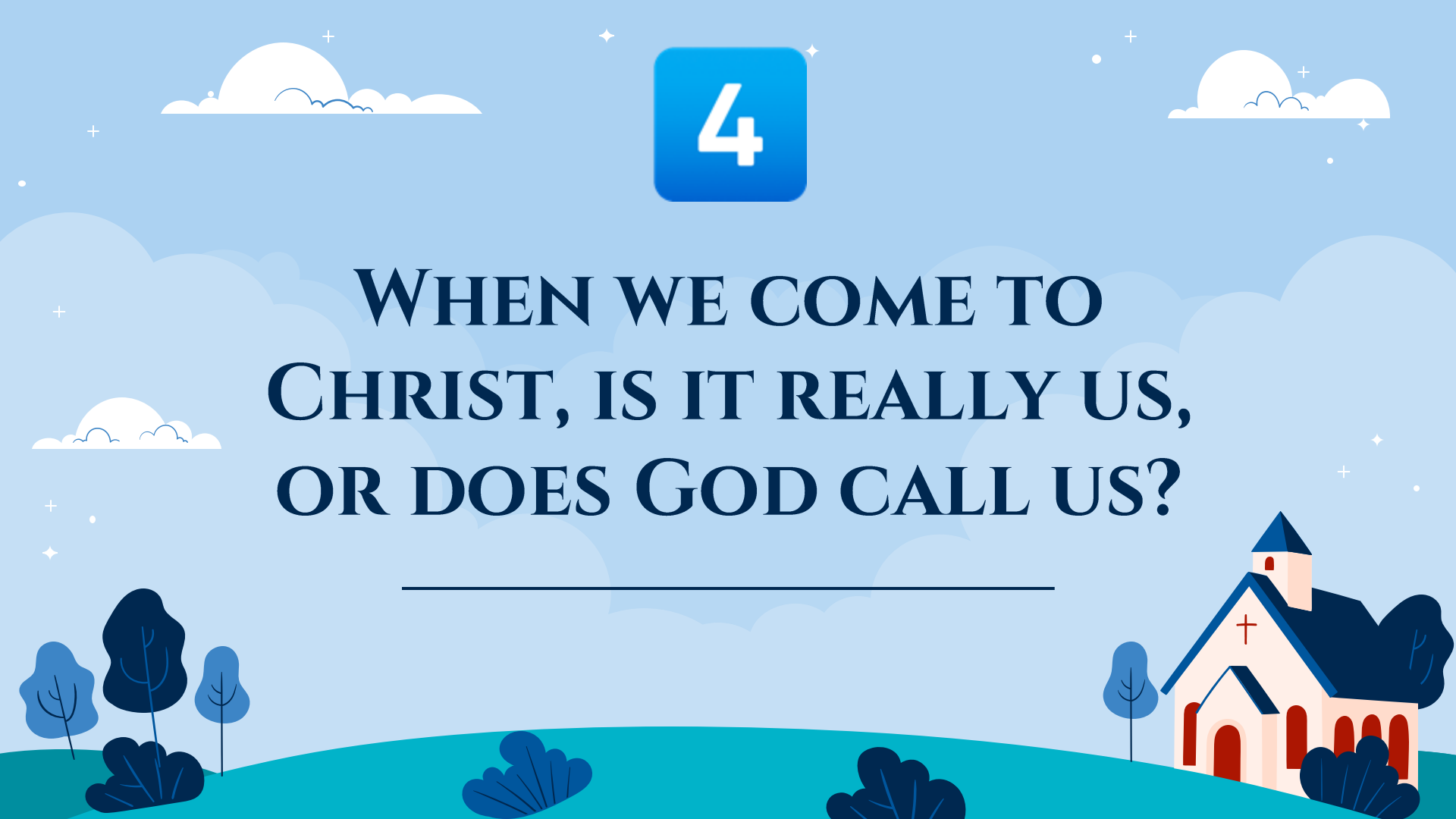
WATER BAPTISM SYMBOLIZES OUR ACTUAL SPIRITUAL BAPTISM, SYMBOLIZING THE DEATH AND BURIAL OF OUR OLD SELF AND RESURRECTION OF OUR NEW SEL IN JESUS. BAPTISM IS OUR PUBLIC TESTIMONY OF HOW GOD CHANGED US THROUGH OUR NEW LIFE IN JESUS





4

WHEN WE COME TO
CHRIST, IS IT REALLY US,
OR DOES GOD CALL US?



DOES GOD DRAW US TO SALVATION?

JOHN 6:44

NO ONE CAN COME TO ME UNLESS THE FATHER WHO SENT ME **DRAWS (DRAGS)** HIM. AND I WILL RAISE HIM UP ON THE LAST DAY.

ROMANS 5:10

FOR IF WHILE **WE WERE ENEMIES** WE WERE RECONCILED TO GOD BY THE DEATH OF HIS SON, MUCH MORE, NOW THAT WE ARE RECONCILED, SHALL WE BE SAVED BY HIS LIFE.

JOHN 16:8

AND WHEN HE COMES, **HE WILL CONVICT** THE WORLD CONCERNING SIN AND RIGHTEOUSNESS AND JUDGMENT:



DOES GOD DRAW US TO SALVATION?

EPHESIANS 1:5

HE PREDESTINED US FOR ADOPTION TO HIMSELF AS SONS
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, ACCORDING TO THE PURPOSE
OF HIS WILL



DO WE HAVE ANY PART OF OUR SALVATION?

JOHN 3:16 ¹⁶“FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD,^[A] THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON, THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

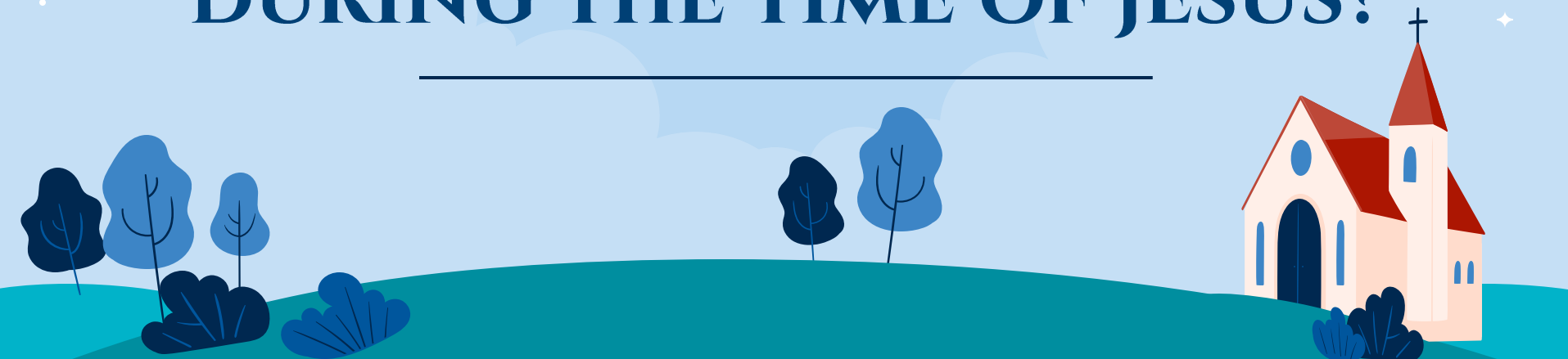
ROMANS 10:9 BECAUSE, IF YOU CONFESS WITH YOUR MOUTH THAT JESUS IS LORD AND BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART THAT GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD, YOU WILL BE SAVED.

1 TIMOTHY 2:3-4 FOR THIS IS GOOD AND ACCEPTABLE IN THE SIGHT OF GOD OUR SAVIOR, ⁴ WHO DESIRES ALL MEN TO BE SAVED AND TO COME TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH.



5

IS DEMON POSSESSION STILL AS
COMMON TODAY AS IT WAS
DURING THE TIME OF JESUS?



DEMON POSSESSION & OPPRESSION

MATTHEW 15:21-28

MARK 5:1-20

MARK 9:14-29

LUKE 4:31-37

LUKE 11:14-26

JOHN 10:19-21

ACTS 5:16

ACTS 8:4-8

EPHESIANS 6:10-20



6

WHAT DOES SCRIPTURE SAY ABOUT GIVING TO THE CHURCH FINANCIALLY?



MATTHEW 6:21

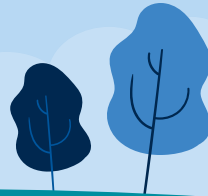
FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE ALSO.

NEW TESTAMENT GUIDELINES FOR SPIRITUAL GIVING...

REGULARLY - 1 COR. 16:2

CHEERFULLY - 2 COR. 9:6-7

SACRIFICIALLY - 2 COR. 8:1-9



FINANCIAL GIVING IS WORSHIP!

ROMANS 12:1

I APPEAL TO YOU THEREFORE, BROTHERS, BY THE MERCIES OF GOD, TO PRESENT YOUR BODIES AS A LIVING SACRIFICE, HOLY AND ACCEPTABLE TO GOD, WHICH IS YOUR SPIRITUAL WORSHIP.





Got Questions

*The Bible has answers.
We'll help you find them!*

BAYBROOK Q & A

1 PETER 3:13-17

