

Baptist Essentials – Why Are We Baptists?

B.A.P.T.I.S.T.S.

“A” is for the _____ of the Church.

Types of Church Government

- 1) _____
a. This form of church government is ruled by a _____ leader.
- 2) _____
a. This form of church government is ruled by a _____ of leaders.
- 3) _____
a. This form of church government is ruled by the _____ but led by the _____.

Seven Ways the New Testament Teaches That the Church is Autonomous

- 1) The local church has the responsibility to exercise authority with the _____ of the _____. *Matt. 16:13-19*
- 2) The local church has the responsibility to solve the _____ of its own members. *Matt. 18:15-17, 1 Cor. 6:1-8*
- 3) The local church has the responsibility to _____ its own membership. *1 Cor. 5:1-5, 12-13; 2 Cor. 2:5-7*
- 4) The local church has the responsibility to appoint its own _____. *Acts 1:15-26, 6:1-7*
- 5) The local church has the responsibility to be doctrinally _____. *Gal. 1:8*
- 6) The local church has the responsibility to send out and support _____ and _____ of their own choosing. *Acts 13:1-3*
- 7) The local church has the responsibility to give an _____ to God. *Rev. 2-3*

Because the “what” and “who” of the Gospel are the most _____ of polity, it guards the church from _____ and _____ — those that do not truly know the Gospel “what” nor are truly part of the Gospel “who”.

Who Runs the Church?

While both pastor and congregation have authority, their authority is _____. But their authority also works _____. The church submits and obeys their pastors while the pastor exercises his _____ to help the congregation biblically use their _____.

The bottom line: The responsibility of _____ and _____ lies with the congregation; the last and final court of appeal in matters related to the local church is the _____.