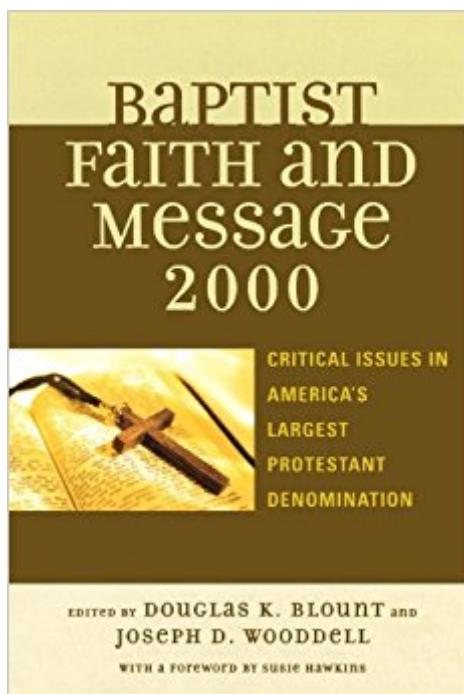


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The Baptist Faith And Message 2000: Critical Issues In America's Largest Protestant Denomination



Synopsis

Southern Baptists are the nation's largest protestant denomination, with over 43,000 churches and millions of members. Since its inception, controversy has surrounded the Baptist Faith and Message 2000, Southern Baptists' most recent confession of faith. The present volume consists of essays by Baptist scholars explaining and defending that document. Each of the 18 articles of the BF&M 2000 is addressed, with special attention to the most critical issues and changes from the denomination's 1963 confession. Also included is an appendix comprising the full text of all three Baptist Faith and Message statements from the 20th century (1925, 1963, and 2000), in side-by-side columns for easy reference and comparison. Contributors include Al Mohler, Paige Patterson, Tom Nettles, Dorothy Patterson, E. David Cook, and C. Ben Mitchell, with a foreword by Susie Hawkins. Brief yet comprehensive, detailed yet accessible to the non-specialist, this volume is a must read for Southern Baptist professors and students, staff and church members, and anyone interested in one of the most powerful religious forces in America.

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Customer Reviews

Southern Baptists have no creed, but we have the Baptist Faith and Message, a confession, a definitive statement of our core beliefs and practices. One needs only to listen to the voices of the present generation to understand how critical it is that God's people know what they believe, and why they believe it. It is incomprehensible that a growing number of professing Christians are joining the chorus of skeptics and unbelievers in questioning the exclusivity of Christ, and Christ alone, for

salvation. Philosopher Theologians Blount and Wooddell have given us a concise and easily understood guide through the basic biblical tenets of our faith. Read it now. Keep it handy. "Be ready with an answer of the hope that is in you!" [The Apostle Peter]. (Morris H. Chapman) This much-welcomed volume is a uniquely helpful resource for churches across Southern Baptist life. A fine cast of contributors have penned insightful expositions for each article of the Baptist Faith and Message 2000. The book achieves the careful balance of displaying the importance of the themes being addressed while keeping the essays accessible to a wide variety of readers. I gladly recommend this volume and pray that it will help individual believers, as well as entire congregations, grow in their understanding of foundational Baptist beliefs. (David S. Dockery) Throughout their history, Baptists have published many confessional statements to show that the faith they profess, while always deeply personal, is never merely private. Forth-telling the Gospel message and how it relates to every area of life is intrinsic to the evangelical identity all Bible-believing Baptists are happy to claim. The essays in this volume constitute a commentary on the most recent Southern Baptist confession of faith. The chapter by Tom Nettles alone is worth the price of the book, but the entire volume is an important resource for understanding America's largest Protestant denomination. (Dr. Timothy George) Written with careful research and clear relevance by outstanding Baptist scholars and theologians, this volume will strengthen your personal faith and reinforce our Baptist convictions. You will be grateful, as I am, for this important work and significant witness of our historic and living faith. (Dr. Jack Graham) The scholarly interpretations of many of the articles have been theologically tightened from the 1963 version....This effort has led to well-written discussions. (Baptist History And Heritage) These are days when we desperately need a clearly identifiable profile of what Baptists believe. Doug Blount and Joe Wooddell have done an excellent job and have served this denomination well by editing this collection of insights on the BF&M 2000. Every Baptist in every pew needs to read this doctrinal examination. (D. McCall ("Mac") Brunson)

Douglas K. Blount, PhD, is associate professor of philosophy of religion and assistant dean for ethics and philosophical studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is also managing editor of Southwestern Journal of Theology. Joseph D. Wooddell, PhD, is assistant professor of philosophy at Criswell College.

Good overview of the development of the present day Southern Baptist Faith and Message. Where it started, where it went astray, problems the liberal thought caused and the return to conservative ideas and practice. Although readable the book is informational. Anyone interested in conservative

thought and practice should read this book.

As a Christ follower in a Southern Baptist Church, I bought this book to find out why believers within the convention have approved changes to this doctrinal statement two times in its history. I know the Scripture hasn't changed, so why did our doctrinal statement need to change? The answer was easy to find in this collection of contributions from the members of the panel that drafted the 2000 Statement. Our doctrinal statements are still tied to careful reading and interpretation of Scripture; the two sets of changes since the original Baptist Faith and Message have been done to stress certain points of Biblical teaching in response to the shift of thinking in the general society away from godly principles and values. I recommend this book to readers interested in what and why Southern Baptists believe what they do. For my part, I'm reassured to know the two sets of changes were not a "watering down" of doctrine, but a clarification and strengthening of statement in the face of societal changes around us.

Exactly what I was looking for. Doctrine is not light reading, yet this book makes it enjoyable.

Helpful resource on teaching the BF&M 2000. Daniel Akin on GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE was outstanding.

Wonder expose' on why a Baptist is such!

Can a book on foundational truth get any better? I don't think so!

This book is exactly as it was described and was in great condition. I am very pleased with this copy.

Used for class and learned a lot. Really did not see the subject to be important but now I understand more of where the baptist faith originates its beliefs.

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