

## **Why I'm a Baptist**

The Bible Made Me A Baptist!

*By Pastor Del Wray*

Why I'm a Baptist: The Bible Made Me a Baptist!

Here are a few of the reasons why I'm a Baptist! In the midst of the dissolution of the basic institutions of civilization, being a Baptist increasingly gives me a feeling of spiritual and intellectual anchorage. Baptists are a people. They have a historical identity. They have and historical image. Their continuity is the longest of any Christian group on earth. Their doctrines, principles, and practices are rooted in the apostolic age. I am not a Pharisaical sectarian! I am not a reformer! I am not a Protestant and never have been! Our people have existed since the time of Christ! And I don't confuse Baptists with the Reformers. The Reformers wanted to reform the Roman Catholic Church; the Baptist was and are today against the Roman Catholic Church and never were a part of it! Because it was not a New Testament church! Protestantism originated in the Reformation. Protestantism is protesters. The Baptists were not reformers. They were not protestors. The word Baptist means anti-catholic! We have always been against Catholicism! I'm a Baptist by conviction not by choice. God made me a Baptist, the Bible again made me a Baptist, and Jesus was a Baptist. Nationally He was a Jew! Spiritually He was a Baptist! If not, why did the Jews put Him to death? Think on that awhile!

Below is how we differ:

1. Freedom of conscience is not a Reformation doctrine; it is a Baptist doctrine.
2. Religious liberty is not a Reformation doctrine; it is a Baptist doctrine.
3. Believer's baptism is not a Reformation doctrine; it is a Baptist doctrine.  
Baptism of the believer by immersion in water, symbolizing the believer's death, burial and resurrection with Christ, is not a Reformation doctrine; it is a Baptist doctrine.
4. The local, visible, autonomous assembly, with Christ as its only head and the Bible as its sole rule of faith and practice, is not a Reformation doctrine; it is a Baptist doctrine.
5. Worldwide missions are not a Reformation doctrine; it is a Baptist doctrine. The Reformers had no missionary vision and no missionary spirit. For almost two hundred years after the Reformers, the Reformation churches felt no burden to implement the Great Commission. What kind of a world would the Western world have been had Protestantism become its master?

Who but the Baptists kept Protestantism from becoming master? The general attitude today is that truth is determined by the passing of time; that there are no eternal, abiding truths. "You can't turn the clock back. Time invalidates all truth. Time invalidates one set of truth and fastens another set upon us." Baptist history repudiates this philosophy of fatalism. This kind of thinking is a lie. Baptists today are believing, teaching, preaching, and practicing the truths that were believed, taught, preached, and practiced two thousand years ago. Baptist doctrine and teaching is Bible doctrine! It gives me a feeling of stability to reflect that I, as a Baptist, am in the stream of this long continuity of faith and practice. The Baptist people are a great continuity. They are a

great essence. They are a great dignity. Baptists are those who make up the true church on earth today and there is only one true church and that is the Baptist church! So you better be a Baptist! Yes, I know everyone who claims to be a Baptist is not a Baptist. A true Baptist is in complete agreement with the Word of God and practices Christ teachings as they did in apostolic times and the first Century church. Yes again, I know the only people who will be in Heaven are those who have been washed in the blood of Jesus Christ! I'm sure there are others who have been truly saved who attend other churches and by their own choice have chosen to go to Heaven as second class citizen. Their own disobedience makes it so. So don't be stupid and go to Heaven as a first class citizen! The world has never needed true Baptist more than it needs them today.

**THE WORLD HAS NEVER NEEDED BAPTIST'S MORE THAN IT NEEDS THEM TODAY!**

*Pastor Del Wray*