

# DECLARATION OF FAITH Of the Sandy Creek Baptist Association (1845)

Approved September 25, 1845 by the Sandy Creek Baptist Association  
at the Mineral Spring Meeting House in Chatham County, North Carolina,  
as recorded by George W. Purefoy, in *A History of the Sandy Creek Association: From Its  
Organization in A.D. 1758 to A.D. 1858* (New York: Sheldon and Co., 1859), 199-216

*This confession differs remarkably from the Sandy Creek Association's Principles of Faith adopted in just 28 years before in 1817, which was more Calvinistic in its theology. This more detailed Sandy Creek Associational confession is less Reformed in theology, following the wording of the 1833 New Hampshire Confession rather closely.*

WHEREAS, in the opinion of this association, Articles of Faith, with Scripture references, would be beneficial and useful to the members of our churches; and that they may be better prepared to defend the leading doctrines of the Bible:

Resolved, therefore, That we adopt the following sixteen articles, with the Scripture references, as the faith of this association; and that they be appended to our minutes, and recommended to the different churches for their adoption.

## I. OF THE SCRIPTURES.

We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction;<sup>1</sup> that it has God for its author, salvation for its end,<sup>2</sup> and truth without any mixture of error for its matter;<sup>3</sup> that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us;<sup>4</sup> and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of Christian union,<sup>5</sup> and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions, should be tried.<sup>6</sup>

*Places in the Bible where taught.*

<sup>1</sup> 2 Tim. iii. 16, 17: All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. Also 2 Pet. i. 31. 2 Sam. xxiii. 2. Acts i. 16 ; iii. 21. John x. 35. Luke xvi. 29- 31. Ps. cxix. cxi. Rom. iii. 1, 2.

<sup>2</sup> 2 Tim. iii. 15: Able to make thee wise unto salvation. Also 1 Pet. i. 10-12. Acts xi. 14. Rom. i. 16. Mark xvi. 16. John v. 34-39.

<sup>3</sup> Prov. xxx. 5, 6: Every word of God is pure. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar. Also John xvii. 17. Rev. xxii. 18, 19. Rom. iii. 4.

<sup>4</sup> Rom. ii. 12: As many as have sinned in the law, shall be judged by the law. John xii. 47, 48: If any man hear my words — the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. Also 1 Cor. iv. 3, 4. Luke x. 10-16 ; xii. 47, 48.

<sup>5</sup> Phil. iii. 16: Let us walk by the same rule; let us mind the same thing. Also Ephes. iv. 3-6. Phil. ii. 1, 2. 1 Cor. i. 10. 1 Pet. iv. 11.

<sup>6</sup> 1 John iv. 1: Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they be of God. Isaiah viii. 20: To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. 1 Thess. v. 21: Prove all things. 2 Cor. xiii. 5: Prove your own selves. Also Acts xvii. 11. 1 John iv. 6. Jude 3d v. Ephes. vi. 17. Ps. cxix. 59, 60. Phil. i. 9-11.

## II. OF THE TRUE GOD.

That there is one, and only one, true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth;\* inexpressibly glorious in holiness;\*\* worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love;\*\*\* revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost\*\*\*\*equal in every divine perfection,\*\*\*\*\* and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.\*\*\*\*\*

### *Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* Ps. Ixxxiii. 18: Thou whose name alone is Jehovah, art the most high over all the earth. Heb. iii. 4. Rom. i. 20. Jer. x. 10.

\*\* Ex. xv. 11: Who is like unto thee, glorious in holiness? Isai. vi. 3. 1 Pet. i. 15, 16. Rev. iv. 6-8.

\*\*\* Mark xii. 30: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God, with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. Rev. iv. 11: Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, and honor, and power; for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. Mat x. 37. Jer. ii. 12, 13.

\*\*\*\* Mat. xxviii. 19: Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. John xv. 26: When the Comforter is come, whom I will send you from the Father, even the Spirit of Truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me. 1 Cor. xii. 4-6. 1 John v. 7.

\*\*\*\*\* John x. 30: I and my Father are one. John v. 17; xiv. 23. Acts v. 3, 4. 1 Cor. iii. 10, 11.

\*\*\*\*\* Ephes. ii. 18: For through Him [the Son] we both have an access by one Spirit unto the Father. 2 Cor. ii. 14: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Rev. i. 4, 5.

## III. OF THE FALL OF MAN.

That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his maker;<sup>1</sup> but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state it in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners,\*\* not by constraint but choice;\*\*\* being by nature utterly void of that holiness required

by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan, and of their own sinful passions, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin,\*\*\*\* without defense or excuse.\*\*\*\*\*

*Places in the Bible where taught.*

<sup>1</sup> Gen. i. 27: God created man in his own image: Gen. i. 31: And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. Ec. vii. 29. Acts xvii. 20. Gen. ii. 16.

\*\* Gen. iii. 6-24: And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise; she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat; and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat; therefore the Lord God drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life. Rom. v. 12.

\*\*\* Rom. v. 19: By one man's disobedience many were made sinners. John iii. 6, Ps. Ii. 5. Rom. v. 15-19; viii.7.

\*\*\* Isai. liii. 6: We have turned, every one to his own way: Gen. vi. 12. Rom. iii. 9-18.

\*\*\*\* Ephes. ii. 1-3: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lust of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath even as others. Rom. i. 18: For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness. Rom. i. 32. Gal. iii. 10. Mat. xxv. 41. Rev. xx. 15.

\*\*\*\*\* Ez. xviii. 19, 20: Yet say ye, Why ? doth not the son bear the iniquity of the father? — the soul that sinneth it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him. Rom. i. 20: So that they are without excuse. Rom. iii. 19: That every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Gal. iii. 22.

#### **IV. OF THE WAY OF SALVATION.**

That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace,\* through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God,\*\* who took upon him our nature yet without sin:\*\*\* honored the law by his personal obedience, \*\*\*\* and made atonement for our sins by his death;\*\*\*\*\* being risen from the dead he is now enthroned in heaven,\*\*\*\*\* and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, is every way qualified to be a suitable; a compassionate, and an all- sufficient Savior.\*\*\*\*\*

*Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* Ephes. ii. 5: By grace ye are saved. Mat. xviii. 11. 1 John iv. 10. 1 Cor. iii. 5-7. Acts xv. 11.

\*\* John iii. 16: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John i. 1-14. Heb. iv. 14 ; xii. 24.

\*\*\* Phil. ii. 6, 7 Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God ; but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men. Heb. ii. 9 ; ii. 14. 2 Cor. viii. 9.

\*\*\*\* Isaiah xlii. 21: The Lord is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honorable. Phil. ii. 8 Gal. iv. 4, 5. Rom. iii. 21.

\*\*\*\*\* Isaiah liii. 4: He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. Mat. xx. 28. Rom. iv. 25 ; iii. 21-26. 1 John iv. 10 ; ii. 2. 1 Cor. xv. 1-3. Heb. ix. 13-15.

\*\*\*\*\* Heb. i. 8: Unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever. Heb. i. 3 ; viii. 3. Col. iii. 1-4.

\*\*\*\*\* Heb. vii. 25: Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. Col. ii. 9: For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. Heb. ii. 18 : In that he himself hath suffered, being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted. Heb. vii. 26. Ps. lxxxix. 19. Ps. xlv.

## V. OF JUSTIFICATION.

That the great gospel blessing which Christ of his fulness,\* bestows on such as believe in him is justification,\*\* that justification consists in the pardon of sin\*\*\*and the promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness\*\*\*\* that it is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done,\*\*\*\*\* but solely through his own redemption and righteousness; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.\*\*\*\*\*

### *Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* John i. 16: Of his fullness have we all received. Ephes. iii. 8. i Acts xiii. 39: By him all that believe are justified from all things. Isaiah liii. 11. Rom. viii. 1.

\*\* Rom. v. 9: Being justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. Zech. xiii. 1. Mat. ix. 6. Acts x. 43.

\*\*\* Rom. v. 17: They which receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness, shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ. Titus iii. 5, 6. 1 Pet. iii. 7. 1 John ii. 25. Rom. v. 21.

\*\*\*\* Rom. iv. 4, 5: Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. Rom. v. 21 ; vi. 23. Phil. iii. 7-9.

\*\*\*\*\* Rom. v. 19: By the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. Rom. iii. 24-26. 1 John ii. 12.

\*\*\*\*\* Rom. v. 1, 2: Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ ; by whom also we have access by faith into his grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Rom. v. 3: We glory in tribulations also. Rom. v. 11: We also joy in God. 1 Cor. i. 30. Mat. vi. 36. 1 Tim. iv. 8.

## **VI. OF THE FREENESS OF SALVATION.**

That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel;\* that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith,\*\* and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ;\*\*\* which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.\*\*\*\*

*Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* Rev. xxii. 17: Whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely. Isaiah lv. 1. Luke xiv. 17.

\*\* Rom. xvi. 26: The gospel, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith. Mark i. 15. Rom. i. 15, 17.

\*\*\* John v. 40: Ye will not come unto me, that ye might have life. Matt, xxiii. 37. Rom. ix. 32. Prov. i. 24. Acts xiii. 46.

\*\*\*\* John iii. 19: And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. Mat. xi. 20. Luke xix. 27. 2 Thess. i. 8.

## **VII. OF GRACE IN REGENERATION.**

That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated or born again;\* that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind;\*\* and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation,\*\*\* by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; \*\*\*\* and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit which we bring forth to the glory of God.\*\*\*\*\*

*Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* John iii. 3: Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. John iii. 7. Rev. xxi. 27.

\*\* Cor. v. 20 : If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Ez. xxxvi. 26. Deut. xxx. 6. Rom. ii. 28, 29 ; v. 5. -1 John iv. 7.

\*\*\* John iii. 8: The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the Spirit. John i 13. Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. James i. 16-18. 1 Cor. i. 30. Phil. ii. 13.

\*\*\*\* 1 Pet. xxii. 25: Ye have purified your hearts by obeying the truth through the Spirit. 1 John v. 1. Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God. Ephes. iv. 20-24- Col. iii. 9-11.

\*\*\*\*\* Ephes. v. 9: The fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, and righteousness, and truth. Rom. viii. 9. Gal. v. 16-23. Ephes. iii. 14-21.

### VIII. OF GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE.

That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners;\* that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end;\*\* that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable;\*\*\*\* that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy;\*\*\*\*\* that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree;\*\*\*\*\* that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe the Gospels is the foundation of Christian assurance;\*\*\*\*\* and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.\*\*\*\*\*

#### *Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* 2 Tim. i. 8, 6: Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner; but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel, according to the power of God; who hath saved us and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began. Ephes. i. 3-14. 1 Pet. i. 1, 2. Rom xi. 5, 6. John xv. 16. 1 John iv. 19. Hos. xii. 9.

\*\* 2 Thess. ii. 13, 14: But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you unto salvation, through sanctification of the spirit, and belief of the truth; whereunto he also called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Acts xiii. 48. John x. 16. Mat. xx. 16. Acts xv. 14.

\*\*\* Ex. xxxiii. 18, 19 : And Moses said, I beseech thee, show me thy glory. And He said, I will cause all my goodness to pass be fore thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee ; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. Mat. xx. 15: Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with my own ? Is thine eye evil, because I am good? Eph. i. 11. Rom. ix. 23, 24. Jer. xxxi. 3. Rom. xi. 28, 29. James i. 17, 18. 2 Tim. ii. 9. Rom. xi. 32-36.

\*\*\*\* 1 Cor. iv. 7: For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory as if thou hadst not received it? 1 Cor. i. 26-31. Rom. iii. 27; iv. 16. Col. iii. 12. 1 Cor. iii. 5-7; xv. 10. 1 Pet v. 10. Acts i. 24.

1 Thess. ii. 13. 1 Pet. ii. 9. Luke xviii. 7. John xv. 16. Ephes. i. 16. 1 Thess. ii. 12.

\*\*\*\* 2 Tim. 10: Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. 1 Cor. ix. 22. I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. Rom. viii. 28-30. John vi. 37-40. 2 Pet. i. 10.

\*\*\*\*\* 1 Thess. i. 4-10: Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God : for our Gospel came unto you, not in word only, but in power, etc .

\*\*\*\*\* Rom. viii. 28-39: Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called, and whom he called them he also justified, and whom he justified them he also glorified. What shall we then say to these things? if God be for us, who can be against us ? Isaiah, xiii. 16. Rom. xi. 29.

\*\*\*\*\* 2 Pet. i. 10: Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure; for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall; for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Phil. iii. 12. Heb. vi. 11.

## **IX. OF THE PERSEVERANCE OF SAINTS.**

That such only are real believers as endure unto the end;\* that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors;\*\* that a special Providence watches over their welfare,\*\*\* and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.\*\*\*\*

### *Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* John viii. 31: Then said Jesus, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed. 1 John ii. 27, 28; iii. 9; v. 18.

\*\* 1 John ii. 19: They went out from us, but they were not of us ; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us; but they went out that it might be made manifest that they were not all of us. John xiii. 18. Matt. xiii. 20, 21. John vi. 66-69.

\*\*\* Rom. viii. 28: And we know that all things work together for good unto them that love God, to them that are the called according to his purpose. Mat. vi. 30-33. Jer. xxxii. 40. Ps. xci. 11, 12; cxxi. 3.

\*\*\*\* Phil. i. 6: He who hath begun a good work in you, will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. Phil. ii. 12, 13. Jude 24, 25. Heb. i. 14. 2 Kings vi. 16. Heb. xiii. 6. 1 John iv. 4.

## **X. HARMONY OF THE LAW AND GOSPEL.**

That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government,\* that it is holy, just, and good,\*\* and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfil its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin;\*\*\* to deliver them from which, and to restore

them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.\*\*\*\*

*Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* Rom. iii. 21: Do we make void the law through faith ? God forbid. Yea, we establish the law. Mat. v. 17. Luke xvi. 17. Rom. iii. 20 ; iv. 15.

\*\* Rom vii. 12 : The law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good, Rom. vii. 7, 14, 22. Gal. iii. 21. Ps. cxix. t Rom. viii. 7, 8: The carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. Josh. xxiv. 19. Jer. xiii. 23. John vi. 44; v. 44.

\*\*\* Rom. viii. 2-4: For the law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh; that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit. Rom. x. 4. 1 Tim. i. 5. Heb. viii. 10. Jude 20, 21. Heb. xii. 14.

**XI. OF A GOSPEL CHURCH.**

That a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers,\* associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel;\*\* observing the ordinances of Christ;\*\*\* governed by his laws\*\*\*\* and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by his word;\*\*\*\*\* that its only proper officers are bishops or pastors, and deacons,\*\*\*\*\* whose qualifications, claims, and duties, are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

*Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* 1 Cor. i. 1-13: Paul, (unto the church of God which is at Corinth,) Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptized in the name of Paul? Mat. xviii. 17. Acts v. 11; viii. 1; xi. 26. 1 Cor. iv. 17; xiv. 23. 3 John 9. 1 Tim. iii. 6.

\*\* Acts ii. 41, 42: Then they that gladly received his word were baptized; and the same day there were added to them about three thousand souls: 2 Cor. viii. 5: They first gave their own selves to the Lord, and then unto us by the will of God. Acts ii. 47. 1 Cor. v. 12, 13.

\*\*\* 1 Cor. xi. 2: Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances as I delivered them unto you. 2 These, iii. 6. Rom. xvi. 17-20. 1 Cor. xi. 23. Mat. xviii. 15- 20. 1 Cor. 5 and 6. 2 Cor. 2 and 7. 1 Cor. iv. 17. i

\*\*\*\* Mat. xxviii. 20: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. John xiv. 15; xv. 12. 1 John iv. 21; John xiv. 21. 1 Thess. iv. 2. 2 John vi. Gal. vi. 2. All the Epistles.

\*\*\*\*\* Ephes. iv. 7: Unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. 1 Cor. xv. 12: Seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church. Phil. i. 27: That I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind, striving together for the faith of the Gospel. 1 Cor. 12. 1 Cor. 14.

\*\*\*\*\* Phil. i 1: With the bishops and deacons. Acts xiv. 23. Acts xv. 22. I Tim. 3. Titus 1.

## **XII. OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD S SUPPER.**

That Christian baptism is .the immersion of a believer in water,\* in the name of the Father, Son, and Spirit;\*\* to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior, with its purifying power;\*\*\* that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation, and to the Lord's Supper,\*\*\*\* in which the members of the church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ;\*\*\*\*\* preceded always by solemn self-examination.\*\*\*\*\*

### *Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* Acts viii. 36-39: And the eunuch said, See, here is water, what doth hinder me to be baptized ? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest. And they went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. Mat. iii. 5, 6. John iii. 22, 23. John iv. 1, 2. Mat. xxviii. 19. Mark xvi. 16. Acts ii. 38; viii. 12; xvi. 32-34; xviii. 8.

\*\* Mat. xxviii. 19: Baptizing them" in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Acts x. 47, 48. Gal. iii. 27, 28.

\*\*\* Rom. vi. 1-14: Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Col. ii. 12. 1 Pet. iii. 20, 21. Acts xxii. 16.

\*\*\*\* Acts ii. 41, 42: Then they that gladly received his word were baptized, and there were added to them, the same day, about three thousand souls: And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread and in prayers. Mat. xxviii. 19, 20. Acts and Epistles.

\*\*\*\*\* 1 Cor. xi 26: As often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup ye do show the Lord's death till he come. Mat. xxvi. 26-29 Mark xiv. 22-25. Luke xxii. 14-21.

\*\*\*\*\* 1 Cor. xi. 28: But let it man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. 1 Cor. v. 7, 8 ; x. 3-32 ; xi. 17-32. John vi. 26-71.

## **XIII. OF THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.**

That the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath,\* and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes,\*\* by abstaining from all secular labor and recreations;\*\*\* by the devout

observance of all the means of grace, both private\*\*\*\* and public\*\*\*\*\* and by preparation for that rest\*\*\*\*\* which remaineth for the people of God.

*Places in the Bible where taught.*

\*Acts xx. 7: On the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached to them. Gen. ii. 3. Col. ii. 16, 17. Mark ii. 27. John xx. 19. 1 Cor. xvi. 1, 2.

\*\* Ex. xx. 8: Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy. Rev. i. 10: I was in the spirit on the Lord's Day. Ps. cxviii 24: This is the day which the Lord hath made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.

\*\*\* Isai. lviii. 13, 14: If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord honorable; and shall honor him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasures, nor speaking thine own words; then shalt thou delight in the Lord, and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob. Isai. Ivi. 2-8.

\*\*\*\* Ps. cxviii. 15: The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacle of the righteous.

\*\*\*\*\* Heb. x. 24, 25: Not forsaking the assembling of yourselves together, as the manner of some is. Acts xi. 26: A whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. Acts xiii. 44: The next Sabbath Day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God. Lev. xix. 30. Ez. xlvi. 3. Luke iv. 16. Acts xvii, 2, 3. Ps. xxvi. 8; Ixxxvii. 2.

\*\*\*\*\* Heb. iv. 3-11 : Let us labor, therefore, to enter into that rest.

#### **XIV. OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT.**

That civil government is of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society;\* and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed,\*\* except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ,\*\*\* who is the only lord of the conscience, and the prince of the kings of the earth.\*\*\*\*\*

*Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* Rom. xiii. 1-7: The powers that be are ordained of God. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Dent. xvi, 18. 2 Sam. xxiii. 3. Ex. xviii. 23. Jer. xxx. 21.

\*\* Mat. xxii. 21: Render therefore unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's. Titus iii. 1. 1 Peter ii. 13. 1 Tim. ii. 1-8.

\*\*\*Acts v. 29: We ought to obey God rather than man. Mat. x. 28. Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul. Dan. iii. 15-18; vi. 7-10. Acts iv. 18-20.

\*\*\*\*Mat. xxiii. 10: Ye have one master, even Christ. Rom. xiv. 4: Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? Rev. xix. 16: And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written King, of kings and Lord of lords. Psalm ii; lxxii. 11. Rom. xiv. 9-13.

## **XV. OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED.**

That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked;\* that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem,\*\* while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked, and under the curse;\*\*\* and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.\*\*\*\*

*Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* Mal. iii. 18: Ye shall discern between the righteous and the wicked ; between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not. Isai. v. 20. Gen. xviii. 23. Jer. xv. 19. Acts x. 34, 85. Rom. vi. 16.

\*\*\* Rom. i. 17: The just shall live by faith. Rom. vi. 18: We are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held, that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter. 1 John ii 29: If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him. 1 John iii. 7. Rom. vi. 18-22. 1 Cor. xi. 32. Prov. xi. 31. 1 Peter iv. 17, 18.

\*\*\* 1 John v. 19: And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness. Gal. iii. 10 : As many as are of the works of the law are under the curse. John iii. 36. Isaiah lvii. 21. Ps. x. 4. Isaiah lv. 6, 7.

\*\*\*\* Prov. xiv. 32: The wicked is driven away in his wickedness, but the righteous hath hope in his death. See, also, the example of the rich man and Lazarus. . Luke xvi. 25: Thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and thou art tormented. John viii. 21-24. Prov. x. 24. Luke xii. 4, 5; ix. 23-26. John xii. 26, 26. Eccl. iii. 17. Mat. vii. 13, 14.

## **XVI. OF THE WORLD TO COME.**

That the end of this world is approaching;\* that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven,\* and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution;\* that a solemn separation will then take place\*\*\*\* that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy;\*\*\*\*\*and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.\*\*\*\*\*

*Places in the Bible where taught.*

\* 1 Peter iv. 7: But the end of all things is at hand; be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer. 1 Cor. vii. 29-31. Heb. i. 10- 12. Mat. xxiv. 35. 1 John ii. 17. Mat. xxviii. 20; xiii. 39; xiii. 49. 2 Peter iii. 3-13.

\*\* Acts i. 11: This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. Rev. i. 7. Heb. ix. 28. Acts iii. 21. 1 Thess. iv. 13-18, v. 1-11.

\*\*\* Acts xxiv. 15: There shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust. 1 Cor. xv. 12-59. Luke xiv. 14. Dan. xii. 2. John v. 28, 29; vi. 40; xi. 25, 26. 2 Tim. i. 10. Acts x. 42.

\*\*\*\* Mat. xiii. 49: The angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked, from among the just. Mat. xiii. 37-43; xxiv. 30, 31; xxv. 27-33

\*\*\*\*\* Mat. xxv. 35-46: And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal. Rev. xxii. 11: He that is unjust, let him be unjust still; and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still; and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still; and he that is holy, let him be holy still. 1 Cor. vi. 9, 10. Mark ix. 43-48. 2 Peter ii. 9, 10. Jude 7. Phil. iii. 19. Rom. vi. 22. 2 Cor. v. 10, 11. John iv. 36. 2 Cor. iv. 18.

\*\*\*\*\* Rom. iii. 5, 6 : Is God unrighteous who taketh vengeance ? (I speak as a man). God forbid; for how then shall God judge the world? 2 Thess. i. 6-10. Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them who trouble you; and to you who are troubled, rest with us — when he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe. Heb. vi. 1, 2. 1 Cor. iv. 5. Acts xvii. 31. Rom. ii. 2-16. Rev. xx. 11, 12. 1 John ii. 8; iv. 17.

*Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God ?* 2 Peter iii. 11-12.

The following churches were represented:

Churches. Counties. 6. Mount Olive\* Chatham. 7. Love's Creek... Chatham. 8. May's Chapel . . . . 9 . Mount Zion 10 . Mount Carmel . . . 11. Mount Gilead 12. Mineral Spring.. 13 . Pleasant Grove . . Chatham . Orange . . , Orange. . , Chatham . . Chatham . Chatham . , Chatham . . Chatham . . Chatham . Randolph . Orange . . Chatham . 8 67 10 66 2 172 3 43 2 127 65 1 80 43 Names of Delegates. ( Elder Levi Andrews . < William Gean (William Robertson. ( Daniel Hackney . . . . < John Lambert ( D. Murchison (J. W. Stedman . 1 William Burns ( Sherwood White . . . ( David Patterson . < David Johnson ( Samuel Barker ( Eloer W. H. Merritt , 1 John Hutchins ( William G. Weaver. (William Griffin .? A. G. Hinton ( H. J. Stone f. Samuel Dowd . < James Cmtchfield . . ( William Culberson . ( Augustus W. Bynum . 1 Kelleo Mitchell . . . < Allen Ellis ( John Dark 14 . Beave's Chapel . . . 1 Eli Webster ; 1 105 (John R. Marsh (William H. Bridges. 15. Rocky River .... < Henry Dorsett 8 63 ( Elder Wm. Lineberry ( John Thompson .... 16. Bock Spring < E. A. Moore 3 47 ( Stephen Moore ( Leander York .... 17. Sandy Creek . < Solomon S. Siler. 1 75 ( William Reece . . . ( Hasten Poe 18. Sandy Field.... . 2 Ruffin Andrews . . 37 112 ( Neverson Cates . .

( James S. Lasater. 19. Gum Spring . < James Gross 19 125 ( Abner Lasater . . . \* Formerly Lick Creek. No. Churches. Counties. ....m.,\* .v .../l(r,fi.-:f .... ^, v JElisha Cagle ) 20 Mechanic's Hill, Asa Williamson >• 1 38 B. P. Person ) 21. Fall Creek Chatham Alston Jones ». Bethlehem Moore { JJ£ ^awhorn. . . . J j ,, ( Spencer Dorsett ) 23. Cedar Falls Randolph .? Matthew Sumner. . . > 2 16 ( James F. Marsh ) 146 1660 In 1846, this body met at Love's Creek M. H., Chat

*A History of the Sandy Creek Association, from its Organization in A.D. 1758 to A.D. 1858*, by Elder George W. Purefoy, (New York: Sheldon and Company, 1859), 199-213