

**WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT THE BAPTIST DISTINCTIVES?**  
**Part Four: March 18, 2020**

**Distinctive No. 8: The Separation of Church and State**

- **God \_\_\_\_\_ both the church and civil government.**
  - The church:
    - Matt. 16:18: \_\_\_\_\_
      - Will build = \_\_\_\_\_ tense
    - 1 Tim. 3:15: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Civil government:
    - Gen. 9:6: \_\_\_\_\_
    - Rom. 13:1: \_\_\_\_\_
      - Ordained = arranged, \_\_\_\_\_, set in place
- **Each has its own divinely ordained \_\_\_\_\_, proper authority, and sphere of operations.**
  - The church (\_\_\_\_\_, eternal):
    - To serve as the pillar and ground of the truth.
      - 1 Tim. 3:15: \_\_\_\_\_
      - The \_\_\_\_\_ of the truth, not the source of the truth
    - To go into all the world, preach the \_\_\_\_\_ to every creature, make disciples of all nations, baptize, and teach all things Christ has commanded.
      - Mark 16:15, Matt. 28:19-20—the Great Commission: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
    - To \_\_\_\_\_ the saints into the fullness of the stature of Christ.
      - See Eph. 4:11-16: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - Civil government (\_\_\_\_\_, temporal):
    - To \_\_\_\_\_ evildoers and protect the common good
    - Rom. 13:3-4: \_\_\_\_\_
      - Minister = \_\_\_\_\_ (deacon)
- **What is the believer's \_\_\_\_\_ toward civil government?**
  - To \_\_\_\_\_ to regulations, laws, and officials
    - 1 Pet. 2:13: \_\_\_\_\_
      - Ordinance = creation, i.e., \_\_\_\_\_ authority or law
    - Titus 3:1: \_\_\_\_\_
  - To \_\_\_\_\_ those in authority

- 1 Pet. 2:17: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Honor = to \_\_\_\_\_, respect, esteem
- Rom. 13:7: \_\_\_\_\_
  - To all, not just to those we think are honorable!
- Acts 23:5 (quoting Exod. 22:28): \_\_\_\_\_
- To pay our \_\_\_\_\_
  - Rom. 13:6-7: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Matt. 22:21: \_\_\_\_\_
- To \_\_\_\_\_ for those in authority
  - 1 Tim. 2:1-2: \_\_\_\_\_
- To obey God \_\_\_\_\_ in all things
  - Acts 5:29, 40-42: \_\_\_\_\_
- **What the “separation of church and state” means:**
  - The state should not \_\_\_\_\_ the church.
    - This arrangement usurps the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.
    - Example: English separatism
  - The church should not control the state.
    - This arrangement results in religious \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Example: Roger Williams
  - In other words, upholding the freedoms of \_\_\_\_\_ and religion.
    - These are God-given (\_\_\_\_\_) rights.
    - Therefore, government has no \_\_\_\_\_ over them.
- **What the “separation of church and state” does \_\_\_\_\_ mean:**
  - That people of faith should have to practice their religion in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - That Christians should have to violate their \_\_\_\_\_ to comply with public policy.
  - That Christians should not vote, hold office, or \_\_\_\_\_ their rights and freedoms.
  - That we should live in a completely \_\_\_\_\_ (humanistic) society.
    - Thomas Jefferson’s letter to Danbury Baptists, 1802

### **In Conclusion**

- **What does it matter?**
  - We should know \_\_\_\_\_ we are Baptists!
  - Historically, other churches (both Catholic and Protestant) have not \_\_\_\_\_ these distinctives:
    - They practice \_\_\_\_\_ baptism.

- They have admitted \_\_\_\_\_ people into their membership.
- They have not believed in or practiced the \_\_\_\_\_ of church and state.
- They govern local churches through an ecclesiastical \_\_\_\_\_.
- They view the ordinances as \_\_\_\_\_.
- Baptists are truly \_\_\_\_\_!

### **Applications**

- **Separation of Church and State**

- Are you \_\_\_\_\_ the laws of the land?
- Are you a \_\_\_\_\_ citizen for the testimony of Christ?
- Do you \_\_\_\_\_ government officials as ministers of God?
  - See 1 Pet. 2:9-17: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Are you taking \_\_\_\_\_ of the freedoms we enjoy in our country?
  - Including freedom of religion, freedom to assemble, and freedom of speech?
- Luke 12:48: \_\_\_\_\_