

WHY WE ARE BAPTISTS?

“Security of the Believer”

John 10:24-30

July 13, 2014 AM Worship

Talking about our Baptist Distinctives, what makes us unique, sets apart, why are we Baptists?

Bible is our sole authority; Autonomy of the Local Church; Priesthood of the Believer; Tithing; Immersion

ILLUS: Golden Gate Bridge, net under while building it

Has God promised the security net of his hand to prevent believers from experiencing the eternal fall?

In other words, the question we need to wrestle with this morning and is yet another very important Baptist distinctive and is there eternal security for a Christ Follower? Another way to put it, once a person is saved, born again, can they be assured of the fact that their salvation is secure for the rest of their lives until they reach heaven?

ILLUS: Friends who were not certain of their salvation. Constantly doubting, wondering, hoping that they were saved and secure. NO assurance, no security is this a day where you are saved are not? What a way to live.

We believe as Southern Baptists that the Bible clearly answers this question and one that we stand firmly upon. Listen again to what this section of the *Baptist Faith and Messages* says

“Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is a glorious display of God’s sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility. All true believers endure to the end. Those who God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, bring reproach on the cause of Christ, and temporal judgments on themselves, yet they shall be kept by the power of God