

“There was enough tension in the room to
have a Southern Baptist Convention.”

– Lewis Grizzard

“Instead of obeying their professed Leader, who said, 'A new commandment I give you. Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another' (John 13:34), they are bickering with one another.

“What a terrible witness this is to those who do not share their faith. Part of the conflict has to do with interpretation of Scripture. Southern Baptists see other denominations that have gone theologically liberal and . . . fear the same could happen to them.

“It is a legitimate concern, but the way it is being debated is embarrassing.”

– Cal Thomas

“With all my heart I want to leave you
with truth.”

The Truth About the Church

Selected Scripture

I. The Basic Nature of the Church Must Never Change with the Times.

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A. The owner and builder of the church must never change.

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I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

(Mt.16:18b)

B. The foundation of the church must never change.

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So then you are . . . members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. (Eph.2:19-21).

When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.
(Eph.3:4-5)

Jesus is building His church upon the
Foundation of Scripture.

C. The mission of the church must never change.

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And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

(Mt.28:18-20)

Acts 2:42-47

“PFBC exists to be a Worshiping,
Evangelizing, Learning, and Loving (WELL)
family of faith to the glory of God.”

II. The Programs and Organizational Structure of the Church Must Intentionally Change with the Times.

“Several years ago, our team brought attention to the fact that the SBC was in a long-term . . . decline. It was – and remains – a multi-decade decline, and it is accelerating. I wrote about it in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2012. As I had noted, “The membership decline of the SBC is not a matter of debate. It is a matter of math.”

- Ed Stetzer

“Although generational division isn’t as evident nationally today, it still abounds in many places across the SBC.

“Many younger believers have left the SBC, but they aren’t leaving the faith or becoming Wiccans. They are becoming nondenominational evangelicals who still believe like us but now want to go on without us. We should continue to ask why.

“The SBC needs to determine how to help all generations engage in the mission of God, together, before the Southern Baptist Convention grays even more.”

- Ed Stetzer