

Keeton W. Wainscott



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OBJECTIVES

To serve faithfully the people of God in the place God has called me. To give a good account at the Judgment seat of Christ of my duty to watch and care for the souls of men. To invest my energies and abilities toward the furtherance of the Gospel so that the eternal God might be pleased and glorified.

EDUCATION

Pensacola Christian College
May 2002
Bachelor of Bible: Pastoral Concentration

EXPERIENCE

Pastor | Calvary Baptist Church
April 2011 – Present

Associate Pastor | Gospel Light Baptist Church
August 2005 – March 2011

Youth Pastor | Grace Baptist Church
December 2002 – August 2005

PHILOSOPHY

To make full proof of my ministry (2 Tim 4:5) by helping people to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Pet 3:18). My joy would be full to know that people are walking in truth (3 Jn 1:4) because I have helped them to develop a sincere love for the Word of God; so that it becomes their sole authority for faith and practice.

PERSONAL REFERENCES

Pastor, Jon Horton (Gospel Light Baptist Church of Malvern, AR)

my personal pastor since August 2005

(501) 815-3144 cell

Jon.Horton.1013@gmail.com

Evangelist, Dr. Bruce Turner

my personal friend and trusted counselor since June 2015

(813) 918-6265 cell

BruceTurner.Evangelist@gmail.com

Missionary, Jason Dover

my personal friend and supported missionary since April 2011

(515) 269-1890 cell

DoversToPeru@hotmail.com

Brandon Davenport

my personal friend and previous Youth Director

(319) 238-3805 cell

BDavenport33@gmail.com

Thank you for your faithfulness to your church and to the Lord as you trust Him during this time of transition. A church member recently told me that they'd "rather be searching for a new church all together than to be searching for a new Pastor." In some regards I can understand those sentiments exactly. Being without a Pastor can be a difficult thing for a church to endure and sometimes it's even destructive.

I believe that God gives to a church a man of God that will watch for the souls of its members, and to a man of God a church whose members will know and follow his leadership. I trust that as you continue this process of calling your next Pastor you will be still and know that God is, and that through a still small voice He will guide your search for the right man. Seek to do the Father's will, and be confident in the Spirit's leading, and He will give you peace when He reveals the right choice for your next Pastor.

Thank you for taking the time to review my information and for prayerfully considering me as a candidate. I look forward to talking further with you and the church, and potentially meeting you all face to face. Please feel free to contact me directly or by e-mail if you have any further questions or if I can be a help to the church during this time.

In Service

Keeton W. Wainscott

STATEMENT OF FAITH

WORD OF GOD. I believe that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and that God has preserved His word down through history, and that God through His providential care has so preserved them that we have His word without error in the King James Version, and that the Word of God has supreme authority in all matters of faith and practice.

THE TRINITY. I believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons; that these are equal in every divine perfection, and they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence and redemption.

GOD THE FATHER. I believe in God, the Father, an infinite personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. I believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and spiritual death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

JESUS CHRIST. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. I believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. I believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible return to earth.

THE HOLY SPIRIT. I believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. I believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is helper, teacher and guide.

REGENERATION. I believe that all men are sinners by nature and by choice, and therefore are under condemnation. I believe that those who repent of their sins and trust In Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

THE CHURCH. I believe in the local church, consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized on a credible profession of faith, and associated for worship, work, and fellowship. I believe that God has laid upon the members of the local church the primary task of giving the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world.

CHRISTIAN CONDUCT. I believe that a Christian should live for the glory of God and the well being of his fellow men; that his conduct should be blameless before the world; that he should be a faithful steward of his possessions, and that he should seek to realize for himself and others the full stature of maturity in Christ.

THE ORDINANCES. I believe that the Lord Jesus Christ committed two ordinances to the local church: baptism and the Lord's Supper. I believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the triune God. I believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ commemorating His death. I believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY. I believe that every human being has direct relation with God, and is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith; that each church is independent and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority.

THE LAST THINGS. I believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His kingdom. I believe in the resurrection of the body; the final judgment, the eternal reward of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the wicked.

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

A Brief Sketch of My Ministry Experience

College:

During my first three years at Pensacola Christian College I was involved in a number of different Christian Service groups. On a weekly basis I conducted services at local nursing homes, working with three different facilities. Periodically I would also help my friend with a city Bible Club he started. I also went soul-winning in the downtown Seville Square area on weekends that my work schedule permitted. On a weekly basis I attended Missions Prayer Band to pray for missionaries around the world. During my Junior year I served as Collegian Chaplain which afforded me the chance to preach to my peers on a monthly basis.

During my winter (5 weeks) and summer breaks (4 months) I would serve in the ministry back home at Victory Baptist Church in Leander, TX. One summer I was the Interim Youth Pastor, and the next summer I was the Singles' Pastor. I always sang in the choir while home on vacation.

After getting married between my Junior and Senior year I started an internship at the Heritage Baptist Church of Pensacola, FL. Under the direction of Pastor Jerald Manley I had the opportunity to run Wednesday night Youth Group for three months, lead congregational singing every other week, preach in Sunday evening services monthly as well as preach in the annual Bible Conference.

Previous Ministries:

Grace Baptist Church of Early, Texas (Associate/Youth Pastor)

- Taught teen Sunday school class
- Ran Wednesday night youth program
- Organized weekly/monthly activities
- Ran Nursing Home Ministry
- Was ordained

Gospel Light Baptist Church of Malvern, Arkansas (Associate Pastor)

- Helped start Ambassador Baptist Academy
 - School board member for five years
 - School principal for two years
 - Junior high and senior high Bible teacher
- Project manager for building campaign during church relocation and remodel
- Adult Sunday school teacher
- Visitation director
- Music director for adult choir
- Nursing home director
- Junior church director
- Audio-visual and Media director

Current Ministry:

Calvary Baptist Church of Waterloo, Iowa (Pastor)

- Followed a previous pastor stepping out of the ministry (church was without a pastor for 8 months)
- Taught and started a growing Faith Promise Missions Program
- Taught and restructured ministry to be built around the family
- Started monthly soulwinning blitzes and extended summer outreach programs
- Led through a church property relocation
- Started the Calvary Baptist Academy
- Taught 9th - 12th grade Bible class in CBA
- Started a Reformers Unanimous chapter
- Taught and started church-wide 3-day fasts
- Taught and started extended Scripture Readings & Prayer Meetings
- Taught six-week marriage emergency class
- Taught two-day marriage seminar
- Preached multiple marriage and family events for other pastors
- Faithfully preach God's Word every week in Sunday school, Sunday morning and evening services, and Wednesday evening services

I love shepherding one of God's churches and compassionately watching for the souls of God's people. The sheepfold of the local New Testament church is where I want to be faithfully serving until Jesus comes or calls me home. I know the Lord has called me and put me into the ministry, and I count it the highest calling and honor. To have the privilege of ministering as the under-shepherd is the most wonderful thing. The highlight of my week is standing in the pulpit God has given me charge over and boldly proclaiming "Thus saith the Lord" without apology.

For the past 14 years God has allowed me to build a ministry where the Bible preaching and teaching is the pinnacle of everything that we are and do as a church. I live every day with a passion to share the truth of God's Word, as Paul said, not shunning to declare the whole counsel of God's Word. The Bible is an extremely powerful book and has answers and practical applications for any situation you might be facing, and it is my constant desire to help people apply Bible truths to their everyday life. I am primarily an expository preacher and most often preach series and verse-by-verse through the Bible.

As an added note, I believe a church is only as strong as its families are strong, and its families are only as strong as its marriages are strong, thus I regularly preach about the home and often find the application to marriage and family no matter the text we are studying. I also believe in the importance of strong male leadership in a church and have spent the past 14 years teaching and equipping the men of our church to stand up and take the lead in their homes and in the work of the ministry.

I have always had a real burden for missions near and far. While in college I began preparing for the mission field myself believing I'd probably end up in some Spanish-speaking part of the world. As God continued to direct my steps, I realized that God wanted me to pastor in the United States and lead a church to do everything within our power—and beyond our power—to help get missionaries to the field and keep them on the field. Thus, I love missionaries and regularly look to keep the work of missions before the eyes and ears of our people. Believing it our responsibility to reach the entire world in our generation, I have earnestly prayed that God would call laborers into His harvest field, out of our congregation, and look forward to the day we would send them forth to once again turn the world upside down!

MY SALVATION TESTIMONY

Born on December 12, 1979, I was the first son and second child of Winston and Debra Wainscott. Although I had a wonderful home life with exemplary parents, I was not raised in a Christian home. My family did not go to church during my childhood, and the things of God were not discussed. It was not until my early teens that my family started to attend church.

At the end of my freshman year of high school I was invited by a friend of mine to attend Teen Camp with the Hyde Park Baptist Church of Austin, TX. I looked forward to a week and thought it was going to be a week of nothing but fun, fun, fun. The first night of services was a totally new experience for me. The preaching was nothing like anything I had ever heard before. My interest was peaked by this man that seemed to have a real passion and burden to explain to us teenagers that there was more to life than what we merely saw or touched every day. He faithfully preached the gospel every service that week, and there's no doubt in my mind now that God made sure I was there to hear the gospel for the very first time in my life. I remember many teenagers going forward at the end of the service and talking with counselors. I wondered just what they were doing and why they seemed to be so emotional.

Tuesday seemed to fly by and I was again sitting and listening to this preacher who seemed to be talking to me personally. By Wednesday morning it seemed as if I had the weight of the world on my shoulders, trying to process what I was hearing from the preaching services and wondering what was I supposed to do with it if it was really true. There wasn't anywhere I could go to get away from my feelings (the Holy Spirit was really working on my heart, convincing me of sin, righteousness, and the judgment to come). I was faced with the fact that there was something going on in my heart and I wasn't sure what to do with that. After lunch and the afternoon activities I retreated back to my bunk to try and sort out some of the feelings. While lying on my bed another camper in the dorm came over and asked me if everything was ok. I began to share my troubles and concerns with him, and at the conclusion of my rambling his simple reply was that I needed Jesus and needed to be saved! An orphan boy, named Jimmy, from the Texas Baptist Children's Home led me to the Lord that afternoon in our cabin.

On June 6, 1995, at the Highland Park Baptist campgrounds I placed my personal faith in the finished work of Christ on the cross, trusting Jesus Christ as my personal Savior. I called upon the name of the Lord and He saved me! That night in the services I waited anxiously for the invitation time. My heart leapt with joy at the opportunity to go forward and talk with a counselor about my decision earlier to trust Christ as my personal Savior.

Thursday morning I called my parents to let them know that I had gotten saved the day before and asked for their permission to be baptized at the conclusion of the camp. They rejoiced at the good news, and agreed to drive out to the campgrounds to see the baptismal service held Friday evening which concluded camp. The last two days of camp are just a blur in my mind up to the point of the baptismal service. With my parents and younger brother there to watch, I was baptized in Lake Travis, taking the first step of obedience in my new Christian life.

I praise the Lord for prompting my friend to invite me to summer camp, I praise the Lord for Brent Farren's faithful preaching of the gospel that week, I praise the Lord for prompting Jimmy to question me about my salvation, I praise the Lord for not being willing that any should perish, but that Keeton Wainscott should come to repentance. As my 30th spiritual birthday approaches this coming June, I'm so thankful that the gospel is STILL the power of God unto salvation, and that Christ saved my soul from hell that summer day back in 1995!

Approximately one year after accepting Christ, with one year of Christian School behind me, the Lord began to work in my life concerning what He wanted me to do with the rest of my life. During the summer of 1996 I surrendered to preach, believing that the Lord wanted me in full-time Christian service. In subsequent years, leading through graduation from Great Hills Christian School and Pensacola Christian College, the Lord more specifically ordered my steps into the ministry, now serving Him as a Pastor.

MY WIFE'S SALVATION TESTIMONY

I have attended church since I was only a few weeks old. My mother is still faithful to the same church in which she raised my siblings and me: Calvary Baptist Church of Tallassee, Alabama, pastored by Jim Voss. At the age of eight, God got my attention during a sermon preached by Sammy Gates. I fought conviction during the invitation, but later that night before bed, I went to my mother and told her I needed to be saved. She led me to the Lord by my bed, and I trusted Jesus as my own Savior that night, January 18, 1988.

MY FAMILY



Natasha and I met on October 14, 1998, as freshmen at Pensacola Christian College. From our first introduction to one another, the Lord began a friendship that has continued to this present day. We spent the next 18 months of our relationship as friends, never discussing dating or pursuing a deeper relationship. During Thanksgiving of 1999, with the blessing of my parents, I asked Natasha's parents for their blessing to enter a courtship with the intention of asking her hand in marriage in the future.

On December 15, 1999, while on Christmas vacation, I for the first time, expressed my feelings to Natasha and communicated my desire to pursue a relationship. She reciprocated my feelings and accepted the promise ring that I purchased as a token of my intentions.

On June 6, 2000, I formally asked Natasha to be my wife. She excitedly accepted my proposal, and we began planning a wedding for the following summer. Our Junior year at PCC was spent strengthening our relationship, establishing a foundation of mutual love and respect for our heart for service.

On June 1, 2001, we exchanged vows at the Calvary Baptist Church in Tallassee, AL. We returned to Pensacola in August as married town students to finish our senior year. Natasha continued to work for the school, and I found a job in the community as we learned to balance the duties of being students, employees, and newlyweds. After graduation in May of 2002, we stayed in Pensacola waiting for the Lord to lead us to a full-time position in the ministry.

We moved to Early, Texas, in December of 2002 to work in the ministry at Grace Baptist Church. While in Texas we began planning a family and preparing for my future ministry as a Pastor. Desiring further training and practical experience in the ministry, we moved in August of 2005 to Arkansas to work in the ministry of the Gospel Light Baptist Church of Malvern. Just days before we moved, we discovered that we were expecting a baby!

On April 12, 2006, the Lord blessed us with the arrival of our first son, Kambridge Mason. Two years later on April 21, 2008, we welcomed our daughter Corinne Ansley to the family. Then our second son, and third child, Knox Hudson was born on December 8, 2009. After accepting the call to pastor the Calvary Baptist Church of Waterloo, Iowa, in 2011, God blessed us with two more children: Coraline Azalea on June 25, 2013, and Kohlman Edison on May 29, 2016.

God has been so good to Natasha and me, and we count our marriage and family as the greatest part of our lives. Every day spent together is a banner day, and we love the memories we've made since exchanging "I do's" 23+ years ago! I don't believe in perfect marriages and perfect families, but there's no doubt that we have a GREAT marriage and family. We praise the Lord for his evident blessing in our home.

Life really is a wonderful thing, and all the better when you get to spend it with God's perfect match for you. Natasha is my best friend and a wonderful helpmeet. She is a phenomenal wife and a wonderful mother to our children. We are excited about the future and what opportunities await us to serve the Lord together.

CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What is your religious affiliation?

I believe that every local church should be an autonomous body of believers that have assembled themselves together for the purpose of reaching this world for Christ and being equipped for the work of the ministry. I am Baptist by conviction and am fundamental in position, holding to the faith and doctrine once delivered to the saints (Jude 3).

2. Why do you feel you are called of God to preach?

God equips every believer for a position well-fitted for their use and His glory, and I believe God has spiritually gifted me to the position of Pastor-Teacher (Ephesians 4:11-12). My call has been agreed to and confirmed by ordained Baptist preachers and evidenced by God's use of me as a servant in the ministry since my salvation in June of 1995. 1 year after my salvation, while attending youth conference, I responded to God's call into full-time Christian service. Met with the guest preacher for prayer after the service. Followed up with my Youth Pastor and began preparing for future ministry and serving in the church.

3. Have you been examined and ordained as a Baptist Pastor, if so, when?

Yes, I was examined and gave appropriate answer before the ordination counsel at Grace Baptist Church of Early, TX. on April 29th of 2005. The pastor and ordaining counsel laid hands on me and ordained me into ministry as a Baptist Pastor.

4. Why do you desire to be a Pastor?

As we delight ourselves in the Lord, He will give us the desires that we are supposed to have (Psalm 37:4), and those desires will be in accordance with His gifting of us spiritually. The office of a bishop is a good work to desire, and I know that God has cultivated in me the heart of a pastor. I have a burning passion to teach people to have a love for the Word of God and to help people grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

5. What do you believe about the qualifications for the office of pastor as outlined in I and II Timothy and Titus?

I believe the qualifications listed in these passages are exactly that, qualifications. Not a list of suggestions. I believe the lists provide clear instruction of who can and who cannot be considered for the office of pastor in one of the Lord's churches. A pastor should have a good reputation, being blameless before mankind. He should exhibit self-control in all areas of his life having brought his body into subjection. He should have Godly values with a character that produces Godly living. He should be compassionate responding to the needs of humanity by noticing that they are as sheep that have no shepherd. He should have a healthy home by maintaining a warm and intimate relationship with his wife and position of respect and obedience from his children. He should be mature in his faith so as to properly lead the people of God in the ways of righteousness. He should possess a teachable mind that will allow him to continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ so as not to become a castaway in the full-time service of God.

The words used to define the office of a pastor give us insight into his role and obligation to the church. He is the shepherd, bishop, overseer, and elder. His job is to protect and nourish the flock of God. His duty is to lead in administration and management. He is to provide biblical counsel and spiritual leadership. As a pastor watches over the souls of the church's members he dutifully prays and studies the Word of God. These two activities will adequately equip him to meet the specific needs of the people in the place God has called him to pastor.

The pastor is to be the servant leader of the local church. He is the agent by whom God provides the vision and direction that He wants a particular church to have. The pastor is obligated to first follow Christ and then to compel his congregation to follow him as he follows Christ. The pastor works to teach the whole counsel of God's word so that the people of God can be equipped for the work of the ministry. A pastor is not a surrogate for a vital spiritual life that the members are supposed to have themselves; he is merely a model and example to the believers in word and deed. I believe that I meet and or exceed any of the required qualifications the Bible expresses for the office of pastor. My strengths are the fruit of walking in the Spirit and understanding the importance of personal sanctification. Humility, honesty, integrity, and steadfastness of character are crucial for the pastor. My greatest desire is to be faithful in my relationship with God, my wife, my children, and my church.

6. Have you ever been involuntarily terminated from a position in the ministry?

I have never been terminated from a position in the ministry. Each change or move in the ministry has been as the Lord directed, and with the support of my wife, family, pastor, and church family.

7. Will you take advantage of every opportunity to further prepare yourself to do the work of God?

Absolutely, I believe a call to preach is a call to prepare. The Pastor who will effectively lead a people will be a man that acutely understands that he himself needs to continue his growth and maturation, much the same way Paul did. "Follow me as I follow Christ"...a continual pressing forward for the mark of Christ.

8. What are your preferred preaching method (topical, textual, expository) and why do you choose it?

I love shepherding one of God's churches and compassionately watching for the souls of God's people. The sheepfold of the local New Testament church is where I want to be faithfully serving until Jesus comes or calls me home. I know the Lord has called me and put me into the ministry, and I count it the highest calling and honor. To have the privilege of ministering as the under-shepherd is the most wonderful thing. The highlight of my week is standing in the pulpit God has given me charge over and boldly proclaiming "Thus saith the Lord" without apology. For the past 14 years God has allowed me to build a ministry where the Bible preaching and teaching is the pinnacle of everything that we are and do as a church. I live every day with a passion to share the truth of God's Word, as Paul said, not shunning to declare the whole counsel of God's Word. The Bible is an extremely powerful book and has answers and practical applications for any situation you might be facing, and it is my constant desire to help people apply Bible truths to their everyday life. I am primarily an expository preacher and most often preach series and verse-by-verse through the Bible. As an added note, I believe a church is only as strong as its families are strong, and its families are only as strong as its marriages are strong, thus I regularly preach about the home and often find the application to marriage and family no matter the text we are studying. I also believe in the importance of strong male leadership in a church and have spent the past 14 years teaching and equipping the men of our church to stand up and take the lead in their homes and in the work of the ministry.

9. Is your wife in full accord with your call to be a pastor?

Yes, she has faithfully trusted God's direction for our life by submitting to God's call for me personally. She knows God has called her to be my wife and that means that she is married to a pastor.

10. Have you or your wife ever been divorced?

No. (One man, One woman, for One Life)

11. What are your beliefs concerning the relationship of the husband and wife?

The marriage relationship is designed to picture Christ's relationship with the church and is set for one man and one woman till death do them part. Ephesians 5 gives us a beautiful description of a mutual relationship of submission and love. I believe that the only Scriptural marriage is the joining of one man and one woman for one lifetime. Instituted by God in the Garden of Eden and called very good. I believe divorced and remarried, or divorced persons may not be considered for the offices of pastor or deacon.

12. Describe your wife's abilities, interests, and activities in your church.

She is first and foremost my wife and the mother of our children; and in those two duties she is second to none. She is a godly example of a woman that has given herself in body, soul, and spirit to her husband. She embodies the principles of Proverbs 31 and serves well her husband and children. Her service in the church is as she is called and spiritually gifted to serve. In regards to the ministry, she is not the assistant pastor or Mrs. pastor as some would want to call the pastor's wife. She is a member in particular that God has placed in the church no different than any other member of the church. She has a vibrant walk with God and faithfully trusts God's direction for our life by submitting to God's call and leading for me personally. She knows God has called her to be my wife and that means that she is married to a God called pastor.

13. Do you have any criminal convictions that would impact your pastoral ministry?

No, I do not.

14. Do you use tobacco in any form?

Not currently or ever in my lifetime.

15. Do you partake of any type of alcoholic beverage?

Not currently or ever in my lifetime.

16. Do you have any physical, mental, or sensory handicaps which might affect your ministry?

No, I do not.

17. Explain your convictions concerning dress standards.

Our dress ought to be as becometh the saints of God. Scriptural guidelines give us the principle of distinct and modest dress (1 Timothy 2; Philippians 1:27). Ladies should look like ladies and men should look like men. Dress should be appropriate for the occasion and the activity.

18. Have you graduated from a Bible College or Institute?

Yes, Pensacola Christian College, May of 2002.

19. Would you have a problem with persons of other nationalities visiting your church?

No.

20. Do you believe in the inerrancy and inspiration of all Scriptures of the Holy Bible?

Yes, I believe the Bible was written by men divinely inspired (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21). God is the author of the entire Bible, and it is truth without any mixture of error (Proverbs 30:5-6).

21. What is your stand on the Bible Version issue?

Ultimately the Text is the issue, and the King James Bible is the only English translation to come from the Received and Masoretic Texts, which I believe are the pure and preserved original texts. All others English translations come from the Eclectic or Critical text which are unfaithful to the original autographs. I do not study from or preach from any other English translation. This is a matter of faith, and not a matter of preference.

22. Do you believe the Bible to be the all-sufficient rule of faith and practice? Why?

Yes. "Thy word is truth," and the Bible is the very Word of God, giving us the mind and heart of God Himself on all matters of faith and practice. We can find sufficient, through commandment or principle, the Bible and what it has to say for any subject of life.

23. Identify your position concerning the return of Jesus.

His second coming is soon and imminent. There is nothing left to hinder the return of Christ on the eternal timetable of God. The Rapture of the church could happen this very moment when “the dead in Christ shall rise first, and then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together to meet the Lord in the air”. This shall begin the seven-year tribulation after which the Lord Jesus Christ will return physically to the earth to establish a literal kingdom that will last for 1,000 years.

24. Describe your position and practice of personal separation.

We are commanded to “come out from among them and be ye separate” (2 Corinthians 6:17). Our lives should be lived in such a way as the Gospel and Christ are glorified (Ephesians 5:3, 1 Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 3:17). I strive to live my life in a manner that my Lord would approve of, and that would not hinder my testimony to a lost and dying world.

25. What is your stand on music?

Music is given to us as an avenue of worshipping God (Psalms). We should sing and make melody in our hearts (Ephesians 5:19) because of who He is and what He has done for us. Our music ought to glorify God in its lyrics and style. I am opposed to a contemporary or rock movement within Christian circles. As we enter His presence we should not do so with the song and dance that are so familiar to the world (Exodus 32:18-19).

26. Describe your position regarding ecclesiastical separation, including ministerial associations, councils of churches, inclusive evangelistic endeavors.

I believe that every New Testament church exists autonomously and is directly accountable to the Lord Jesus Christ. The church should not be under control of any convention or governing body other than that established within the individual church, i.e. Pastor, Deacons, Staff, etc. The beauty of the New Testament church is that God calls a man to be the under-shepherd of Jesus Christ and directly leads the congregation of believers through the indwelling Holy Spirit. We are independent in existence and practice. Grounds of fellowship and joint activity will be decided on the basis of believing and adhering to the faith once delivered and communicated in the Scriptures. Preferences and even convictions are not necessary grounds for breaking of fellowship, but doctrine is, and doctrine will divide. I do not believe in, nor would I participate in, cross-denominational crusades or services.

27. Give a brief explanation of what a preacher is supposed to be.

“In God’s economy, there is no such thing as the delivery of this glorious message [the gospel] without a preacher. In the elective purpose of God his will and work are made known to us through a living personality.” – W.A. Criswell

Here are 10 characteristics of *great* preachers:

- 1) ability to identify with people, 2) a pleasing personality, 3) possess masterful preaching techniques,
- 4) alignment with causes that are great, 5) lives with support from family and congregation,
- 6) builds an image of success, 7) capable of using all of his tools well through prayer and study,
- 8) a prodigious reader, 9) challenges people to live up to their best, 10) appeals for souls and builds his church

28. What is your definition of ministerial success?

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children, my congregation, and the people who I have influence over walk in truth. God has given me a desire to teach people to have a love for the Word of God, and my personal success will only be measured by whether or not I have been faithful as a steward to rightly and effectively use the time and talents the Lord has given. Success is not necessarily measured in numbers, however God adds to His church daily such should be saved, and His promise is that He will build His church. As we strive to evangelize our Jerusalem and edify the people of God, we should be able to see fruit that remains to our account, and a blessing of the multiplication of caught and changed lives by the power of the Gospel. If we stay faithful to Christ, He will make us fishers of men, and it is the whole duty of man to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God.

29. What are two of your greatest strengths and two of your greatest weaknesses?

Two of my greatest strengths are my faithfulness and my patience.

I strive to be faithful in all that I do. I am faithful in my relationship to God, to my wife, to my children, and to my church. Faithfulness is required of stewards and everything I am and everything I have is a good and perfect gift from God. I must be faithful in the little and large things alike. It is my desire to hear well done thou good and FAITHFUL servant. Faithfulness is the mark and model of my entire life.

Ask my wife, and she'll tell you I'm the most patient man on the face of the planet. I have a calm and steady temperament seasoned with a good dose of optimism. My patience is proven in the face of difficulty and heartache by my willingness to bear up under the trial, and to keep the faith. I'm not hasty in my reactions, nor hot in my temper.

Two of my greatest weaknesses are my self sufficiency and my perceived aloofness.

Prior to my salvation I thought there wasn't anything I wasn't strong enough or smart enough to handle and excel at. A form of pride, I truly believed "I can". This same kind of pride has to be constantly mortified and put off, or else I'll revert back to thinking I can handle this, I can figure this out, I can do this...again it's the idea that "I can". I must remind myself that Christ said, "without me ye can do nothing".

As a result of my confidence and security as an individual I'm sometime perceived as aloof or hard to approach. People sometimes think I'm cold and exacting. For this weakness the Lord gave me my WIFE. Whereas people may take a few hours to decide if they like me, everyone loves my wife the moment they meet her. Some say she's the sweetest lady they've ever met. Her sweetness more than makes up for my stoicism, and usually provides the grace needed for people to soon discover that I really do care and love them.

30. What do you like best about being a Pastor? What do you like least?

I absolutely love that God has gifted and called me to be a Pastor. I believe there's no higher calling on the face of the planet. If I could do anything else, I wouldn't do anything else, because I serve at the pleasure of the King of kings and the Lord of lords. I love holding forth the words of life and declaring the whole counsel of God. I love preaching line upon line and precept upon precept. I love seeing the fruit of faithful people receiving the word preached and mixing it with faith. I love the souls that are saved by the preaching of the gospel. I love seeing marriages and families that are reconciled by the preaching of the truth. I love the wayward that is restored by the preaching of repentance. I love that God's word doesn't return unto Him void. What a privilege to stand before the people and cry aloud and spare not. The pulpit ministry is the best part of the ministry.

I like least the broken heart that comes from pouring your life into someone for so long, caring more for their soul than they care themselves, praying and agonizing over their need, believing to see the goodness of God in the land of the living for them, only to have that person forsake God and the truth, knowing that they will become another castaway, casualty, and crown of Satan. The devil is real and he is really good at seeking whom he may devour, and I like least going after the wandering sheep only to find a pile of bones where the Thief has finished his feast of killing, stealing, and destroying everything I've given my life to produce in the life of that person. The ministry is not for the faint of heart, and sometimes even the pastor's heart gets broken.

31. What are the conditions of salvation?

Salvation is wholly of grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8-9). Salvation is offered freely to all by way of the Gospel of Christ, and nothing prevents any sinner from being saved other than his own depravity and willful rejection of the Gospel truth. Faith can be exercised after hearing and believing (Romans 10:9-17) the truth of the Gospel.

32. Describe your position on the security of the believer.

The Bible teaches that once a person receives eternal life he is secure forever. Eternal life begins when we believe, not when we die (John 5:24) Man cannot change what God has accomplished for time and eternity (John 10:28-29). Our salvation is secure and settled because of what Christ has done, not on what we must do. If our salvation could be lost or altered, then that salvation would not be biblical.

33. What do you believe about what some call “the baptism of the Holy Spirit”?

Receiving the Holy Spirit as a permanent resident is affected at the time of salvation as opposed to being filled with the Holy Spirit as we surrender control of our lives to the Spirit’s control. We are commanded to be filled with the Spirit and to walk in the Spirit as Christians. To the extent that we mortify the works of the flesh we will enjoy the presence and power of the Spirit in our lives. The filling of the Spirit is an activity that constantly needs to be sought and cultivated in the life of the believer as we strive to be and live more like Christ.

Charismatics hold a subjective view of Scripture making man’s experience the rule for faith; emphasis is placed on what you think and feel rather than the unchanging Word of God. Most charismatics leave room for further and/or new revelations rather than accepting that the Bible is complete and finished; we do have a canon of Scripture. Charismatics falsely teach that the sign miracles found in the Bible are for all people and for all of time. “The sign miracles (tongues, healings, raising of the dead, etc.) only appeared when God was speaking to His people through accredited messengers, declaring His gracious purpose. Their abundant display in the Apostolic New Testament Church is the mark of the richness of the apostolic age in revelation: and when this revelation period closed, the period of miracle-working had passed by also, as a mere matter of course.” –B.B. Warfield.

Charismatics also falsely teach a subsequent baptism of the Holy Spirit. They believe that the baptism of the Holy Spirit comes when you receive God’s full presence and power which is accompanied by a sign-gift/miracle. Scripturally, baptism of the Holy Spirit is God’s action of placing the believer in Jesus Christ which is accomplished through the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:13)

34. What is your position on predestination and the election of man?

“The purpose of the Bible’s teaching on election and predestination is to lead pardoned sinners to worship God for the grace they have experienced. They come to see that salvation is all of God and not at all of themselves. Election and predestination are always to salvation and its blessings-- never to judgment. It is true that no one believes on the Savior unless God the Holy Spirit convicts him, but it is also true that those who do not trust Christ choose not to believe. God never refuses to save anyone who wants salvation.” – Paul Little. “God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance”, accepting Christ as their personal savior. In God’s omniscience and foreknowledge He has chosen, or elected, us before the foundation of the world and has predestined us to be conformed to the image of His Son.

35. Explain the Doctrine of Justification.

The sinner who by faith accepts Christ’s atonement is thereby justified through faith. The sinner now enjoys the righteousness of Christ imputed on his account. Forgiveness of sins is realized, and the promise of eternal life is enjoyed. Upon justification we are accepted in the beloved and restored to a right standing with a holy and just God.

36. Explain the Doctrine of Sanctification.

The process by which God works in us to conform us to the image of Christ. A work that is begun the day we accepted Christ and will be fully completed in us the day we see Christ face to face. Sanctification is progressively accomplished in the life of the believer as he surrenders to Christ and partakes of His holiness. As we draw near to God, willfully allowing him to remove the dross in our lives we will better reflect the image of Christ in our lives.

37. What is the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

It is the good news that is preached, believed, and wherein all who accept stand; it is the death, burial, bodily resurrection, and visual proof of Christ's resurrection, and this all according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:1-8).

38. What mode of baptism do you believe in? Will teach? Will practice?

Christian Baptism is by immersion in water of a believer. Done in the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost. It should show publicly a saving faith and identification with Jesus Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. A baptismal candidate expresses a desire to live for Christ. Baptism is the first step of obedience after salvation. Baptism is required for privileges of church membership and participation in the Lord's Supper.

39. What do you believe are the Biblical ordinances to be practiced by the New Testament church?

Baptism by immersion for those who have exercised saving faith in Jesus and the Lord's Supper for those who desire continued fellowship and remembrance with Christ's bodily sacrifice as born again believers.

40. What is a local New Testament church?

A congregation of baptized believers united together by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel for the purpose of serving Christ and edifying the body. A New Testament church observes the two ordinances of the church and operates in obedience to His Word, the Bible. It is an assembly whose members in particular have been gifted and placed by the Holy Spirit, and whose officers are Bishop (pastor) and Deacon. It is the agency by which Christ intends to be glorified in and expressed to a lost and dying world.

41. What is your view of denominationalism?

The proliferation of denominations has come as a result of man's attempt to formalize and standardize a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof. A denomination should never become the guide and dictator of our religious expression, nor should it become the law that settles our beliefs. However, I am a Baptist by choice and conviction. The Baptist doctrine and religious practice hold true and faithful to that which the 1st century church practiced and delivered to all new converts. Should the day come that Baptists cease to be faithful and true to that form of religious practice started with the foundation of the New Testament church, I would leave off being a Baptist and be nothing more than a Biblicist.

42. Explain the difference between receiving the Holy Spirit and being filled with the Holy Spirit.

Receiving the Holy Spirit as a permanent resident is affected at the time of salvation as opposed to being filled with the Holy Spirit as we surrender control of our lives to the Spirit's control. We are commanded to be filled with the Spirit and to walk in the Spirit as Christians. To the extent that we mortify the works of the flesh we will enjoy the presence and power of the Spirit in our lives. The filling of the Spirit is an activity that constantly needs to be sought and cultivated in the life of the believer as we strive to be and live more like Christ.

43. Define genuine worship.

Worship is to be given to God alone--to the Creator and not the created. Worship is to be done according to the will of God and in a manner prescribed in the Bible. Forms of worship can include prayer with thanksgiving, preaching and/or reading of the Scriptures, diligent hearing of the Word of God, singing with grace in the heart, giving of gifts and sacrificial offerings ,etc. God is to be worshipped in spirit and truth. To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God; to feed the mind with the truth of God; to purge the imagination by the beauty of God; to open up the heart to the love of God; to devote the will to the purpose of God. One day in seven is set aside specially for the worship of God. Since the resurrection of Christ, the Sabbath is recognized on the first day of the week and is called the Lord's Day.

44. What do you believe concerning the Doctrine of Heaven?

Jesus promised His children when He left this earth that someday He would return and take them to the place He has prepared for them (John 14). Heaven will be a place of eternal rest and joy for the saved person. Heaven cannot be fully described in detail, because no human words can do it justice (2 Corinthians 12:4). These things will be in heaven: beauty and priceless wealth, people and angels, river of life, tree of life, Lamb's book of life, and God's presence. These things will not be in heaven: sorrow, death, boredom, thirst, limits, temple, sun or moon, fear, night, sin, impurity, ill health, and the curse.

45. What do you believe concerning the Doctrine of Hell?

Hell is a constant reminder that God is holy and just. The unsaved person will go to Hell because he chooses to reject God's offer of salvation. Hell is a very real and physical place made for the devil and his angels; it is the sad truth however that numbers of humanity will be present there too. Hell will be a place of physical (Rev 20:10; Luke 16:24), mental (Luke 16:25-26), and spiritual torment (separation from God-Matthew 27:46).

46. What is your philosophy on Missions?

The responsibility of missions falls to the local church and the individual both. William Hopewell said "Spreading the Gospel is the primary business of God in the world today and the church is to be 100% mobilized in the task." The church should be giving missions the same prayerful attention as it does any other part of its ministry. The church should be actively involved in financially supporting missions. The church is the reservoir for new missionary candidates: missionaries are called and sent out of the local church. I teach Faith Promise Missions Giving which is that every willing person prayerfully sets an amount they will trust God to enable them to give each week, for one year, for world-wide missions. This is money over and above our tithe and is a commitment that we make to the Lord as we trust Him in faith to supply the funds. I love Faith Promise missions because it's systematic, it's successful, it's unselfish, it enjoys God's enablement, and it's in accord with the Spirit of the New Testament (2 Corinthians 9:7).

47. What is your philosophy on the Great Commission?

The Great Commission is God's blueprint for building His church and it is four-fold in its approach. From Matthew 28:19-20 we see that every Christian is supposed to 1) Go: we should develop methods for finding people and meeting people. 2) Tell: tell those people we find and meet how to be saved by first determining their spiritual condition and addressing that with Scripture. 3) Baptize: lead all new converts to follow the Lord in obedience by making a public profession of faith and getting baptized. 4) Teach: begin to disciple the new converts in what the Lord expects out of their new spiritual life (basically Read the Bible, Pray, Be Faithful, Give, and Witness). The Great Commission is the personal responsibility of every single believer. It is not the "preacher's job" to win people to Christ; it's the believer's job to win people to Christ. Each person will have the opportunity to meet and influence someone that nobody else will be able to influence. Jesus simply commanded us to follow Him and He would make us fishers of men. So, if we are not doing well in the area of soul-winning it's because we are not doing well in the area of following Christ.

48. What are your beliefs about visitation, both to outside community and the church membership?

I believe we are to go into the highways and the hedges and compel them to come to the house of God. I believe we should be out seeking the lost, carrying and preaching the gospel to every creature. I believe in a systematic and committed approach to getting the gospel to every soul in our Jerusalem. Regular and frequent times of church wide soulwinning and canvassing efforts are still appropriate for today. Going door-to-door and house-to-house is a model that can be followed for the community and the church membership. I believe a pastor should be in the home of the church members to further minister to their individual and family needs. I believe a church should welcome the visit and investment of their pastor's time and care as he strives to be diligent to know the state of the flock.