



Logos Class

What Baptists Believe Session 4

Class for June 21, 2026

Rooms 123/124 Adult Ed Building

For your Calendars

Today is Father's Day, and I want to thank all of you who are fathers and grandfathers. You are blessed, but also have an awesome God-given responsibility to mentor and guide your children in the ways of the Lord

FIRST REDEEMER CHURCH'S FREEDOM CELEBRATION

250th CELEBRATION and FIREWORKS
Under the tents

Sunday, June 28, 2026
Gathering begins at 6:00 pm
FRC Festivities begin at 7:00 pm

LOGOS CLASS

HOMEMADE ICE CREAM SOCIAL

FRIDAY

AUGUST 28, 2026

6:00 PM

WHERE: Bob & Jeannene Steinke's home, outside around the pool. Use the driveway entrance pathway on the left side of their home, through the gate, down to the backyard.

8570 St. Marlo Fairway Drive
Duluth, GA 30041

Before we get started...

- I will do a quick review of the information on Christ, and then we will begin the discussion today with the Holy Spirit, ***Ruach HaKodesh***
- After today, I project 2 more sessions to finish the discussion, but if the questions and discussions (which I encourage) delay our progress, I will add one more week.

Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *May 10, 2026. - What Baptists Believe Part 1- History & Distinctives*
- ✓ *May 17, 2026 - What Baptists Believe Part 2- God the Father*
- ✓ *May 24, 2006 – Dr Scott Downing - Free Will vs Predestination*
- ✓ *May 31, 2006. - Dr Scott Downing – Prophecy Overview*
- ✓ *June 7, 2026. - Charlie Owens – What Baptists Do - Missions*
- ✓ *June 14, 2026 - What Baptists Believe Part 3*
- ✓ *June 21, 2026. - What Baptists Believe Part 4*
- *June 28, 2026. - What Baptists Believe Part 5*

Quick Update ...ICYMI

Middle East

- *MOU signed between The US and Iran. Israel is an unsigned party with hazy obligations*
- *Growing rift between US and Israel on the MOU, and its limitations on Israel's right to self defense*
- *The "world" applauds the deal, but many issues and unresolved items remain, especially for the security of Israel and its citizens in the Northern part of the State*

US/World

- *Many are troubled by the Iran Peace Deal, but God's prophetic word WILL come to pass*
- *FIFA in North America brings huge security challenges*
- *Anti-Israel sentiment growing in the US population (Pew research poll)*
- *The Russia-Ukraine war is going nowhere towards an end.*
- *Relations between the President and Congress are strained: cabinet picks, the economy, and war powers, Iran*
- *Christians are being slaughtered in African conflicts. Very little coverage*
- *Europe is in an immigration crisis, with danger everywhere*

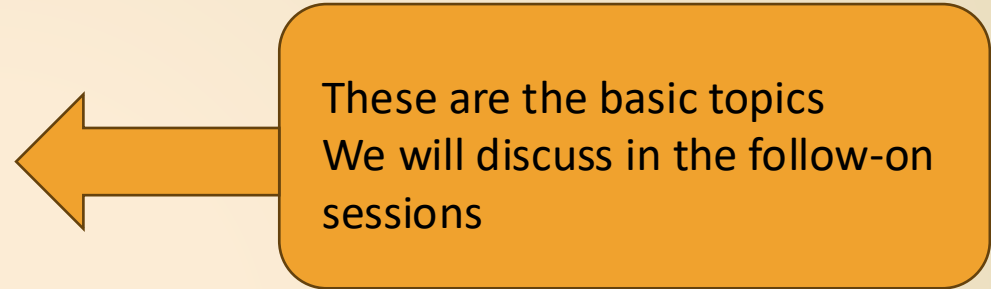
*Earthquakes, Floods, volcanic eruptions, **famine, and disease.** Wars and rumors of wars. California fault lines are under the most pressure for hundreds of years*

- ***Many signs of the Tribulation are appearing with more frequency***
 - *Natural Disasters, Isolation of Israel, Antisemitism, Apostasy in the church, **Peace in Israel to presage the Antichrist, Scoffers of Prophecy, and deniers of God. Time of Noah and time of Lot prophecies. Continuation of the Aliyah to Israel. Isolation of Israel, and end-time coalitions forming. Christian Apostasy and Lack of Unity. One World Religion***
 - ***Substantial European acts to move away from Western values and embrace one-world ideas.***
 - *Remember, Israel is God's timepiece for the End of Time. Israel is the hour hand, Jerusalem is the minute hand, and the Temple Mount is the second hand*

Basic Baptist Beliefs, subject to the caveats mentioned earlier

Belief in

- ✓ Nature and Essence of God
- ✓ Jesus Christ
- ✓ Holy Spirit
- ✓ The Bible, including the authority and interpretation
- ✓ Nature and Essence of Man
- ✓ Man's relation to God
- Salvation
- Worship Purpose, not so much style
- New Testament Church, including Polity/Structure
- Marriage & Culture
- Family
- Government Relationship
- ✓ End Times – generally, not in detail
- Heaven/Hell



Unity in Essentials, Diversity in Non-Essentials

- ✓ **Some of the non-essentials are important, even if not a salvation issue (Free will / Predestination beliefs. Some Baptists hold Calvinistic beliefs)**

We will cover details of these beliefs in future sessions

Reminder: Jesus Christ beliefs discussed last week

What do Baptists believe about Jesus Christ?

 *Jesus Christ is part of the Godhead, FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT (not created)*

Baptist Faith and Message book, p39

- Christ is the **eternal** Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus , the Messiah... He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind, yet without sin.
- He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in **His substitutionary death on the cross, He made provision for the redemption of mankind from sin.**
- He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person who was with them before His crucifixion.
- **He ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God**, where He is the One Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man.
- He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever-present Lord, through the Holy Spirit

John 14: 6 Jesus said to him, ***“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*”**

How do we see Him?

Do we see Him in a Manger?

Do we see Him Teaching?

Do we see Him Healing, Walking, at the Transfiguration, in the Temple?

Do we see Him with the cross? Carrying it, being nailed to it, hanging on it?

Do we see Him with His Disciples at the Last Supper?

Do we see Him returning to the Father?

Do we see Him meeting us in the Clouds?, Returning to Earth?

Do we see Him coming in the Clouds for Judgment on a White Horse?

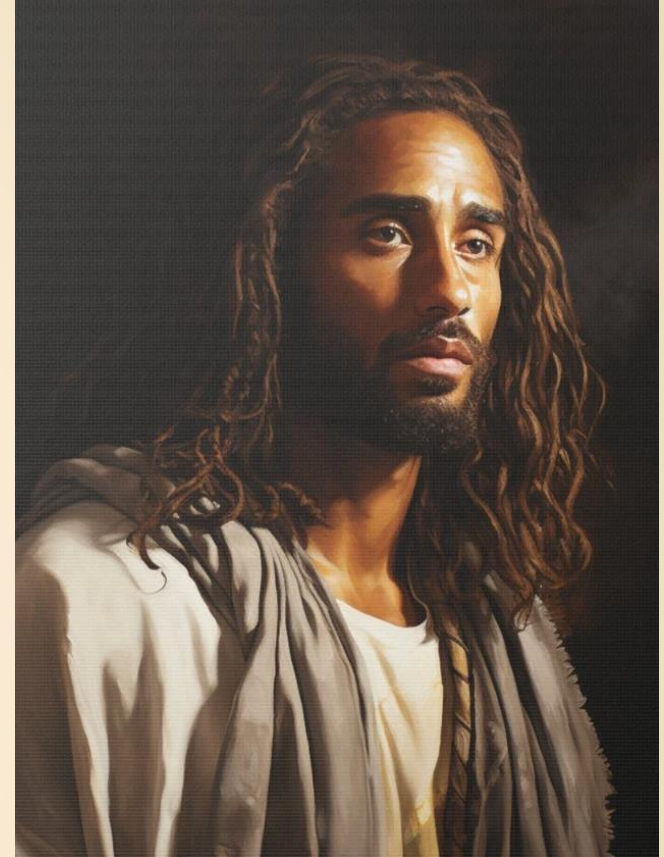
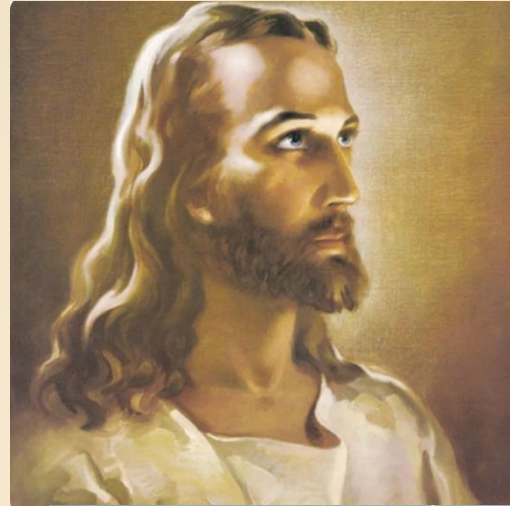
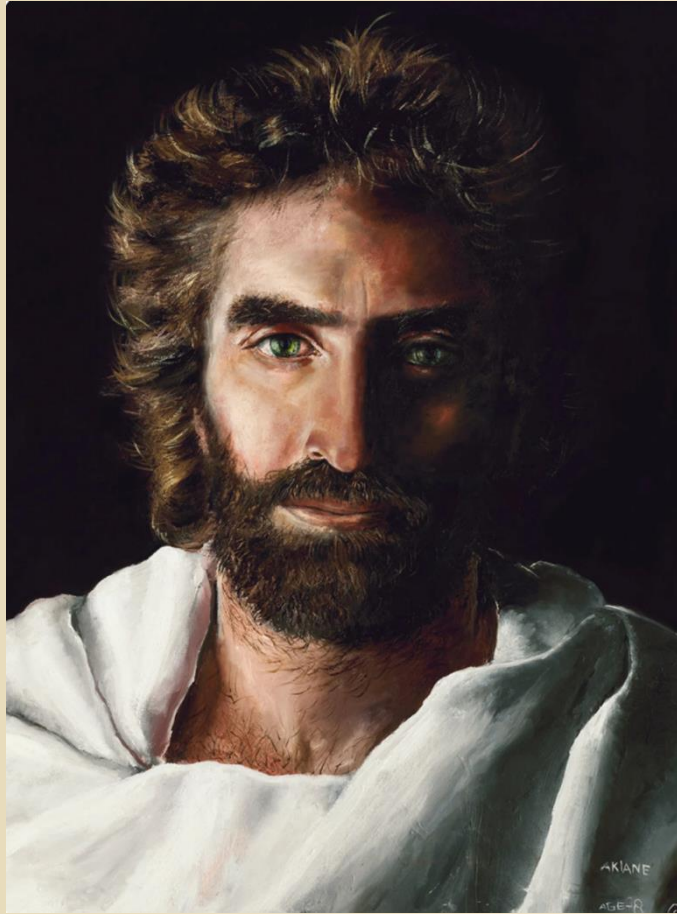
Do we see Him on His Throne in Heaven, on Earth?

How do you see Him when you think about Him

Images of Christ in Life



How do you see Jesus?



How do we communicate with Him

- We communicate through **prayer, both spoken and thought**
- The Spirit in us connects us to the Lord and provides the conduit for Him to speak to us, and us to communicate with Him.
- We also understand Him speaking through His Word...the Bible. It is the truth of God and His guide for our lives.

***Caution:** Heretics and false teachers have always directed their attacks on the doctrines most closely connected with Jesus Christ. The believing church must always confront these false teachings and doctrinal errors with vigor and truth*

Gal. 1:6-9 No Other Gospel

⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷ not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. ⁹ As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.

We must be ready to defend the virgin birth of Christ, His full deity and humanity, His miraculous acts, His bodily resurrection, His victorious return, and the substitutionary character of His atonement, as well as all other biblical truths about Jesus Christ.

Compromise on these doctrines will be fatal to our witness and subversive of our faith. We stand on the solid rock as we declare these great doctrines of Christian faith. Faithfulness to Christ demands that we cling to Him and serve Him all our days.

God, the Holy Spirit

*The Holy Spirit is the **Spirit of God, fully divine**. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures.*

*In Hebrew, spirit is **Ruach**, which also means wind or breath. **Ruach HaKodesh** means Holy Spirit, and when God breathed into Adam, He breathed life into him.*

In Genesis 1:1, we see our first mention of Him in the Bible

1** In the beginning **God (Elohim)** created the heavens and the earth. **2** Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the **Spirit (ruach) of God was hovering (shepherding) over the waters.

*In the second verse of the Bible, we understand that God (3 in 1) created from nothing the earth, matter, space, and His Spirit was shepherding/covering the waters. We learn that before time began and as creation was beginning, God was **self-existent** in His 3 forms, and the Holy Spirit was active. **He is Eternal, and He is God.***

*In **Ezek 37:5** (Dry Bones Prophecy), we read: **5** This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath (ruach) enter you, and you will come to life. **6** I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.”*

There is the breath of Life, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit...they are different things

This prophecy speaks to the return and rise of Israel as a nation

What is the work of the Holy Spirit

Through illumination,

- *He **calls people to the Savior and effects regeneration.** (not us, Him)*
- *At the moment of regeneration, He baptizes (immerses) every believer into the Body of Christ.*
- *He enables people to understand the truth through illumination.*
- *He exalts Christ.*
- *He convicts people of sin, of the need for righteousness, and of judgment.*
- *He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. He builds the church*
- *He seals the believer unto the day of final redemption.*
- *His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ.*
- *He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service!*
- *He is the restrainer, holding back the advances of Evil in the world, **through believers***

*He works in People and in the World
He is the Breath of Life for Spiritual Belief*

Breathe on me, breathe on me,
Holy Spirit, breathe on me;
Take Thou my heart,
cleanse every part,
Holy Spirit, breathe on me.

Role and Function of the Holy Spirit in History

Redemptive Period ▼	Role of the Holy Spirit ▼	Primary Biblical Support ▼	Theological Significance / Mechanism ▼
Before the Fall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cosmic Sustaining • Animating and sustaining creation and physical life. 	Genesis 1:2; Psalm 104:30; Job 33:4	The Spirit brings order out of chaos; life depends on His continuous breath.
Before the Fall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relational Intimacy • Facilitating unhindered communion between God and humanity. 	Genesis 2:7	God breathes the breath of life into Adam, establishing a unique spiritual capacity for relationship.
After the Fall and Before the Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selective, Task-Oriented Empowerment • Anointing specific leaders for specific ministries. 	1 Samuel 16:13; Judges 14:6; Micah 3:8	The Spirit came upon individuals externally and could depart if they rebelled.
After the Fall and Before the Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sacred Craftsmanship • Granting supernatural skill for building God's dwelling place, and the Ark 	Exodus 31:1-5	The first recorded instance of someone being filled with the Spirit was for artistic and structural creation of the Tabernacle.
After the Fall and Before the Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moral Restraint / Confusing Languages • Holding back the full destructive potential of human wickedness. 	Genesis 6:3; 2 Thessalonians 2:7	The Spirit acts as a barrier against absolute moral collapse on earth.
After the Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent, Universal Indwelling • Taking up residence in every believer, forming the Church. 	John 14:16-17; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 12:13	The Spirit shifts from a visiting presence to an indwelling seal of salvation.
After the Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boldness and Witness • Transforming fear into courage and supplying words under trial. 	Acts 1:8; Acts 4:31; Matthew 10:19-20	The Spirit empowers global mission and provides divine utterance when believers face hostile authorities.
After the Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanctification and Gifts • Transforming character and distributing abilities for ministry. 	Galatians 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11	The Spirit produces moral transformation and functional empowerment to build up the body.
During the Tribulation: Restrainer Removed ; Rapture has occurred	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Harvest Amidst Judgment • Convicting the world and drawing a multitude to salvation. 	Revelation 7:9-14; Joel 2:28-32	Even during intense judgment, the Spirit applies the gospel, resulting in an innumerable crowd of martyrs, and draws tribulation saints to faith
During the Tribulation: Restrainer Removed ; Rapture has occurred	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustaining the Martyrs • Providing words and endurance under global persecution. 	Mark 13:11; Revelation 12:11	The Spirit sustains the remnant through unparalleled pressure and persecution.

Work in Progress

One More thing... *What is the difference: Indwelled or Filled?*

Indwelling is when the Holy Spirit becomes a resident in your life (at Salvation), but **filling** is when He becomes the president (In control).

- You never lose the indwelling of the Spirit, but filling is something you experience regularly as you allow yourself to be influenced and controlled by the Spirit instead of other things.
- Think of it this way: the Spirit is always there with you (indwelling), but filling is about letting Him actually run your life day-to-day (filling).
- The Pentecostal belief that you only really have the Holy Spirit when you experience the second blessing (filling) is not Biblical. They say that the ability to speak in tongues is the indicator of the blessing.

Allen Parr, *Misled: 7 Lies That Distort the Gospel (and How You Can Discern the Truth)* (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2023)

The Bible

As Baptists, we are people of the Book

The Bible is our sole authority for our beliefs and practices

We believe it is God's Word to Mankind, given by the Spirit to specific men to reveal what God has done, is doing now, and will do in the future. It is the redemptive plan for mankind.

Baptist Faith and Message, p7

*"The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. **It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter.** Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation."*

God's Revelation in the Bible

When we speak of the Bible or the Holy Scriptures, we are talking

- about God's Revelation to Man
- about 66 books divided into the Old and New Testaments. This Book is different from any other book, for it is not a collection of human opinions about God, but it is, in fact, God's own Word. Baptists love and respect God's Word.
- As God's written revelation of Himself to humankind, the Bible is one of God's most precious gifts to us. In His written Word that God has spoken to His people, taking the initiative to reveal Himself and to disclose Himself in a very real and understandable way. Without this divine self-disclosure, we would have no certain knowledge of God, and all humanity would be left groping for answers in the dark.
- Each individual would have his or her own idea about God's existence, character, and expectations of us. God's revelation is a beautiful demonstration of His love for us. He did not leave us in the dark.

The Bible acknowledges that God has revealed Himself to all humanity through creation itself. As the psalmist reminds us, **“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims the work of His hands”**. Psalm 19:1

God for Its Author

- Even though men wrote the words, the scriptures were authored by God Himself.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon wrote: *This volume is the writing of the living God. Everywhere I find God speaking: It is God's Voice, and not man's. The words are God's words, and the words are eternal, the invisible, the almighty, the Jehovah of this earth. This Bible is God's Bible, and when I see it, I seem to hear a voice springing up from it, saying..." I am the book of God... Man, read me".*

In theological terms, we call this the "Verbal Plenary Theory." What does this mean? It means that the Bible, as a whole, is the Word of God, so that every part of scripture is both infallible truth and divine authority.

*The Bible's inspiration is **verbal** and extends to the very words themselves, and **Plenary** meaning full, complete, or absolute.*

So, In Baptist Belief about the Bible, we affirm

- **It is Authoritative** – Authority from God Himself
- **It is infallible** – God never fails, and neither does His word. It will always accomplish God's purposes.
- **It is inerrant** – Truth, all truth with no mixture of error
- **It is sufficient** - God warned us in both Deuteronomy 4:2 and in Revelation 22:18-19 not to add or take away from it. It is all we need.
 - **Deut 4:2** ² *You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you.*
 - **Rev 22:18-20** ¹⁸ *I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book*
- **It is eternal** – It is eternal because God is eternal.
 - **1Pet 24-25** ²⁴ *for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, ²⁵ but the word of the Lord remains forever.”*

Reminder from Ken Boa's daily email

For as the rain and the snow
come down from heaven,
and do not return there without
watering the earth and making it
bear and sprout . . . so will My word
. . . not return to Me empty.

Isaiah 55:10-11a

- Trust in the Word of the Lord
- We may not understand why or how it works to accomplish God's Purpose, but it does

Man

- *Man is the **special creation of God, made in His own image**. He created them, **male and female**, as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is therefore part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning, man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice, man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan, man transgressed the command of God and fell from his original innocence, **whereby his posterity (children) inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin**. (A sin nature)*
- *Therefore, **as soon as they are capable of moral action**, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, **every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love**.”*

Baptist Faith and Message, p59

Because Adam and Eve were mortal

- *They had the power of Moral agency, or the right of choice*
- *This takes effect as one reaches the age of accountability*

Q: *What is the Age of Accountability?*

The Age of Accountability refers to the point at which God holds children responsible for their sins. Once individuals reach this threshold, they face divine judgment if they fail to repent and believe the gospel.

Practical Implications: Young Children who die or are aborted have never reached this stage of “accountability.” Scripture implies that those dying before reaching an age of responsibility will not face condemnation but will instead receive eternal salvation, despite being sinners by nature and choice. This is by the Mercy of God.

*Similarly, those who are **mentally impaired** and **unable to grasp the idea of sin and salvation** are, by mercy, spared the eternal condemnation that their sin nature has placed on them.*

These beliefs are part of the reason we do VBS, to save as many as early as possible.

The other reality is that once a person reaches the age of accountability, they are on the road to eternal judgment, and only belief in Jesus can save them.

Man's Relationship to God

- *God is God, and we are not*
- *God is the potter; we are the clay. He has created us for His own purposes.*
- *God loves us and has sacrificed His Son so we could have a path back to Innocence and fellowship with Him*
- *We are considered “Children of God” and brothers and sisters to our Lord and other believers*
- *The Lord Christ came the first time to make a way for us, and He will come again to the clouds, to bring us to where He is, and be His Bride (the Rapture of the Church)*
- *He will come the final time to judge the unbelieving world, and redeem the Jews who will come during this time of “Jacob's Trouble”*
- *We will ultimately be with Him and all the redeemed saints of all time in Heaven forever.*

Next week

*We will continue the detailed lessons on “**What Baptists Believe**”. This is an important study for all of us to recalibrate our beliefs regarding God’s Word and also be in harmony with FRC's beliefs.*

➤ *Pray for our Nation and its leaders*

- *Pray for both the Iranian War and the Russia/Ukraine wars to come to an end*
- *Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and Peace for Israel*

➤ *Our State and its Leaders, and the elections to come, for God to give us Godly leaders*

➤ *Our Church, the Pastors and Leaders*

➤ *Pray for the needs of our class members and families*

Thank God for his mercy and grace for each of us as we struggle with all the issues and problems we are facing