

“History has hitherto been written by our enemies, who never would have kept a single fact about us upon the record if they could have helped it, and yet it leaks out every now and then that certain poor people called Anabaptists were brought up for condemnation. From the days of Henry II to those of Elizabeth we hear of certain unhappy heretics who were hated of all men for the truth’s sake which was in them. We read of poor men and women, with their garments cut short, turned out into the fields to perish in the cold, and others who were burnt at Newington for the cries of Anabaptism. Long before your Protestants were known of, those horrible Anabaptists, as they were unjustly called, were protesting for the ‘One Lord, one faith one baptism.’ No sooner did the visible church begin to depart from the Gospel that these men arose to keep fast by the good old way. The priests and monks wished for peace and slumber, but there was always a Baptist or Lollard tickling men’s ears with the Holy Scriptures and calling their attention to the errors of the times. They were a poor persecuted tribe. ... At times ill-written history would have us think that they died out, so well had the wolf done his work on the sheep. Yet here we are, blessed and multiplied...”

Charles Haddon Spurgeon, Preacher

Eight Baptist Distinctives

Biblical Authority: 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Tim. 3:15-17

Autonomy of Local Church: 2 Cor. 8:1-5, 19, 23

Priesthood of Believer: 1 Peter 2:5, 9; Rev. 5:9-10;
Heb. 13:15; Rom. 12:1

Two Ordinances: Matt. 28:18-20; 2 Cor. 11:23-31

Individual Soul Liberty: Rom. 14:4-6, 12; 2 Cor. 4:2;
2 Cor. 5:10; Titus 1:9

Saved Membership: Acts 2:41-47; 2 Corin. 6:14-7:1

Two Offices: 1 Tim. 3:1-13; Phil. 1:1; Acts 20:17-38

Separation of Church & State: Rom. 13:1-7
Matt. 22:15-22; Acts 15:17-29