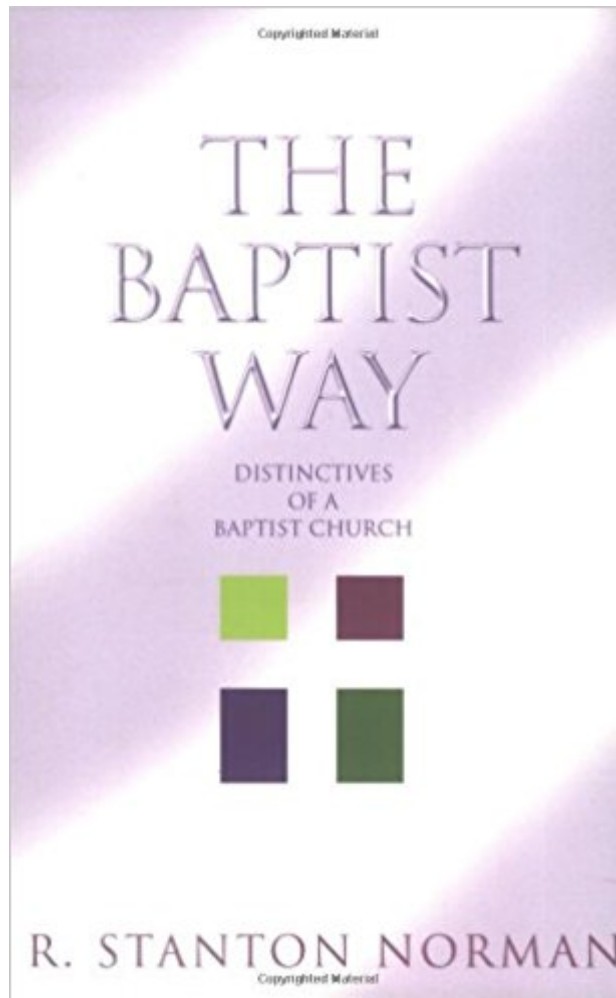


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The Baptist Way: Distinctives Of A Baptist Church



Synopsis

The Baptist Way is an introduction to the principles that distinguish Baptists from other Christians. In some cases these ideas were once peculiarly Baptists, though they are now more widely held among other groups. For Stan Norman, healthy Baptist churches intentionally and diligently adhere to their Baptist distinctives.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

R. Stanton Norman serves as director for the Baptist Center for Theology and Ministry. He also occupies the McFarland Chair of Theology at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He resides in Mateland, Louisiana.

I really enjoyed this book it was what I thought it would be but well done

This is a well written book for any Christian, Baptist or not!

Love this book! A must have!

Did not want to read another book, but this one was cool!

Good resource

This is a short and brief, actually pretty shallow exposition of Baptist ideas and beliefs. The problem that it possesses is that there are many facets to being a Baptist. As for myself, I am a Reformed Baptist, a member of the Southern Baptist Convention. The book is a great resource, but the problem is that it does not really state what the Baptist ideas are, mostly that most Baptists believe this and some believe that. I would have preferred that it concentrated more on the history (how very Calvinist of me I know) and concentrated on the differences between the original Baptist Church in America and the 10,000+ different denominations of today. I also had hoped that there was a little more interaction between Baptists and other denominations. It had potential but every chapter just left me wanting more.

I've been a Southern Baptist for over ten years now, but I haven't really explored my denomination's history or distinctives until the last few years. I picked up this book a year or two ago because I thought it would deepen my understanding of what it means to be a Baptist. Overall, it did not disappoint. In the book, Norman lists and discusses eight historically Baptist tenants in detail. His statements are well documented and are almost always supported by Scripture. I've read several other books on the subject, and they all have their good points, but for the reader who is interested in a detailed introduction, this is a good place to start. To put it another way, this book is for the Baptist who wants to know more about their denomination than what a brochure at the church welcome center would provide. Big point: Norman is a very "conservative" Baptist (Is there any other kind, you ask? Well, yes, there is.). I typically don't mind this since I lean to the right anyway. But for some, his language may seem a bit overbearing in certain places. He makes no excuse in his introduction that this book is for Baptists, and he believes that all Baptist churches should openly and visibly manifest these distinctives. You don't have to be a theologian to read this, but you may need to be at least somewhat familiar with some typically Protestant terms like inerrancy of the Bible, regenerate church membership, congregational polity, and believer's baptism. Might be a good resource for deacons, too.

Unnecessarily polemical.

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