



# Hillsdale

## Free Will Baptist College

Master of Arts in Ministry  
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### **BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS STATEMENT**

*(A complete disclosure is can be found in A Treatise of Faith and Practices of Free Will Baptists, Inc., 1992 edition and is available upon request from Hillsdale FWB College.)*

1. **God** – The one true and living God revealed in nature as the creator, preserver, and righteous governor of the universe. He is revealed in Scripture as the triune God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the One personal, perfect, infinitely wise and good God existing in three persons. He is the Redeemer, Savior, Sanctifier, and Judge of humanity, the only proper object of worship whom all intelligent creatures are to love, adore, and obey.
  - 1.1 **Father** – He is infinite Spirit, the first person of the Godhead who is self-existent, eternal, unchangeable, everywhere present, all-knowing, all-powerful, independent, good, wise, holy, just, and merciful. There is nothing in the universe that can justly represent Him, for there is none like Him. He is the fountain of all perfection and happiness, exercising providential care and superintendence over all His creatures and governing the world in wisdom and mercy, according to the testimony of His word. He is glorified by the whole creation and is worthy to be loved and served by all intelligence.
  - 1.2 **Son** – Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is one with the Father in His divine nature. He is the second person of the Godhead and fills all the offices and performs the works of God. While possessing all divine perfections, He was miraculously conceived and born of the Virgin Mary and made of the seed of David according to the flesh, the only begotten of the Father, and the only incarnation of God. He is, therefore, God manifest in the flesh, in His divine nature truly God and in His human nature truly man, yet without sin. He is the mediator between God and humanity, once crucified; He is now risen and glorified, the ever present Savior and Lord.
  - 1.3 **Holy Spirit** – The Holy Spirit, the third person in the Godhead, is one with the Father in His divine nature. The Bible ascribes to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. The Holy Spirit convicts humanity of its sin and draws all to Christ. The Holy Spirit indwells and fills the lives of all believers and endows them with spiritual gifts that are to be used in their personal service to God. There are no particular gifts that serve as visible evidence of the salvation or sanctification of the believer.
2. **The Bible** – The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were written by holy men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit. They constitute God's full and complete word to humanity, the infallible rule and guide to Christian faith and practice. They are without error and trustworthy in all matters upon which they speak.

**2.1 Special Creation** – God created the universe in its present state by His spoken word and for His pleasure and glory and the enjoyment of His creatures. This was accomplished in a literal six-day creation week as recorded in the book of Genesis.

**2.2 Historicity** – All historical matters in the Bible, including Genesis 1-11, are to be considered accurate, literal record.

3. **Sin** – Adam and Eve were created innocent, but by willful disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. Their posterity, therefore, inherits a fallen nature of such tendencies that, all who come to moral awareness, sin and become guilty before God.
4. **Redemption** – The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, sufferings, substitutionary death for sin, burial, and resurrection, effected for all redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith. Jesus Christ died for our sins, was resurrected, and ascended to heaven, where He serves as the only mediator between God and humanity. Christ makes intercession for us until He comes again.
5. **Salvation** – Individuals, by virtue of any natural goodness and human work, cannot become the children of God. They are all dependent for salvation upon the freely-provided redemption of God that is effected through the blood of Christ, the regeneration of the believer through faith in Christ, and the operation of the Spirit. In salvation the free will of man is retained. All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.
6. **Satan** – Satan, an evil being, is the evil accuser who slanders God to man and man to God. He is the tempter of humanity who continually solicits people to sin. He is to be resisted by submitting to God. Satan's final destiny is that of a conquered enemy who now abides under a perpetual curse, whereby he is finally to be cast alive into the lake of fire. There he is to be tormented forever, along with all who refuse repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.
7. **Last Things** – The Lord Jesus, who ascended on high and sits at the right hand of God, will bodily return to close the Gospel era, glorify His saints, and judge the world. At the last day there will be a bodily resurrection of the dead, and all humanity will be judged according to their works. Following the judgment, the righteous will enter into eternal life, and the wicked will be condemned to a state of endless punishment.

***Biblical Foundations Student Statement and Pledge:***

- *I have read and understood the Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College Biblical Foundations Statement.*
- *I pledge to respect the Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College Biblical Foundations Statement while enrolled as a student.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print)