

Bethlehem PBC OKC

Articles of Faith

- Article 1

What are the Articles of Faith?

Articles of Faith (AOF) are short summaries of doctrines that a church publishes and holds to as a statement of belief. Most PB Churches still have them, and most are similar (but not identical).

When the Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church of Jesus Christ in Oklahoma City was constituted in November 1900, the body of believers there adopted these articles as a public declaration of "those things which we most surely believe."

AOF do not rise to the level of Scripture, but they are central points upon which anyone who joins our assembly must believe and affirm.

Bethlehem PBC AOF: <https://pbokc.org/us/articles-of-faith/>

Article 1

We believe in one true and living God, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are one.

What does this Article mean?

This Article affirms:

He is one God. This means He is not many, but one.

He is the true God. This means He is the righteous one, the authentic one, the real one.

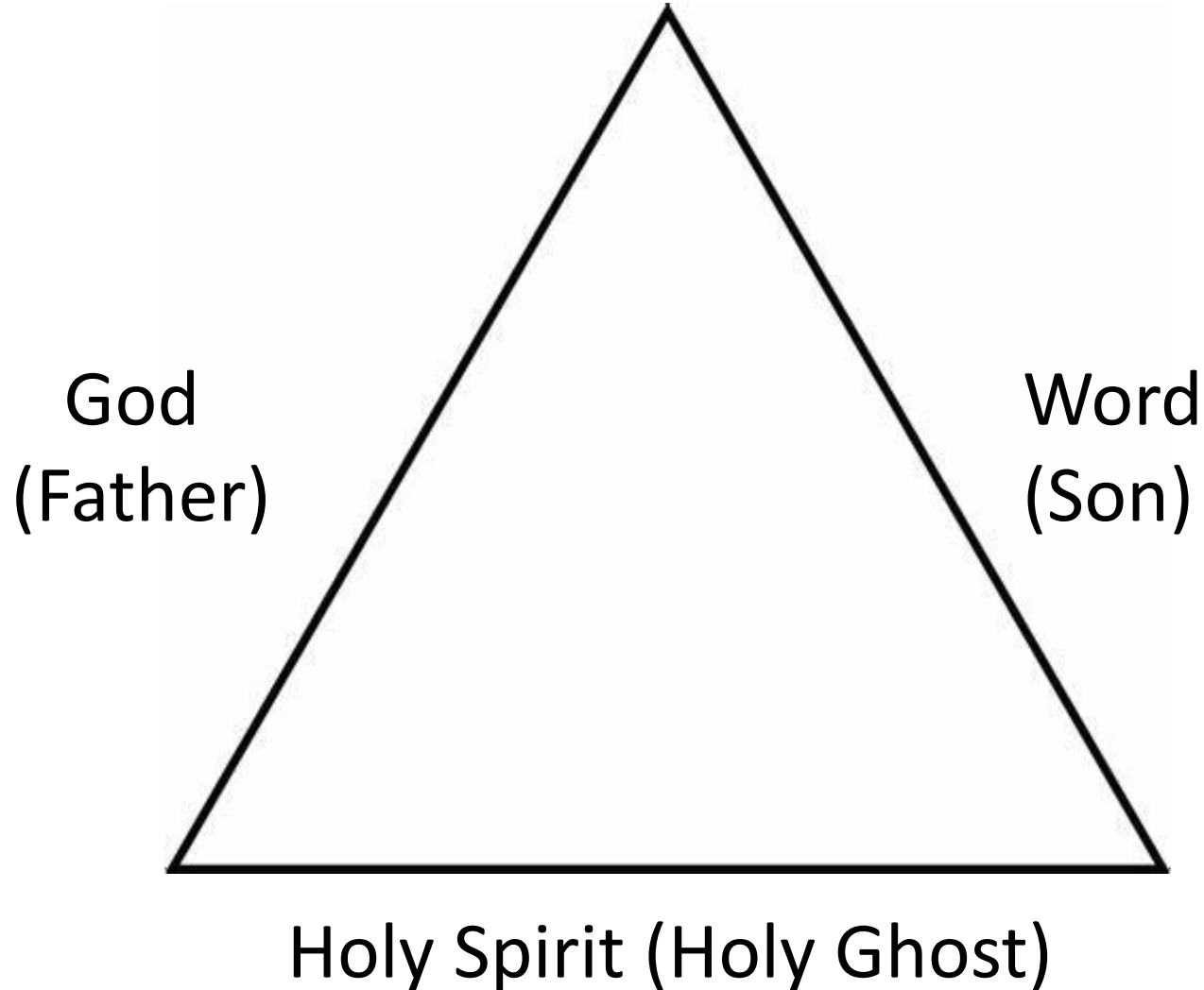
He is the living God. This means He is alive, He works, He acts, He sees, He judges, He is.

He consists of three essences or persons, identified in Scripture as the Father (God), the Word (Son), and the Spirit (Holy Ghost).

These are in perfect harmony.

God is One in purpose, unity, power and love.

Triune (Three-in-One) Godhead



God created triangles, and they teach us about Himself.

A triangle is one shape with three sides.

Each side is necessary. Take one side away and it is no longer a triangle.

Each side is perfectly joined to the other two sides.

What are some Scriptures that teach us that God is the true and living God, He is one God, and He is a Triune Godhead as provided by Article 1?

Some Scriptures that teach the Principles of Article 1

Deuteronomy 6:4: “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:”

1 John 5:7: “For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”

2 Corinthians 13:14: “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, *be* with you all. Amen.”

Some more Scriptures that teach the Principles of Article 1

Isaiah 61:1: “The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound;

Jeremiah 10:10: “But the LORD *is* the true God, he *is* the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation.

Further Listing of Scriptures that Teach the Principles of Article 1

- 1 Thes 1:9-10
- Matt 28:19
- 1 John 5:7
- Gen 1:26-27
- Gen 1:1-3
- John 1:1-4
- Mat 3:16-17
- Mark 1:9-11
- Psalm 90:2
- John 1:32-34
- Gen 11:7
- Jer 14:16-18
- 1 Cor 8:6
- 1 Tim 2:5
- John 4:24
- Psalm 45:6-7
- John 1:14
- John 14:27

* There are many more Scriptures that teach Article 1, so this is not an exhaustive listing.

**Many thanks to Bro. John Wattenbarger for accumulating this list for us

Conclusion

We believe in one God.

He is the true and living God.

He consists of three essences or persons.

These three are identified as the Father (God), the Word (Son), and the Spirit (Holy Ghost).

These three are one in unity, purpose and power.

These three are in perfect harmony.

These three are Love.

He is one, and He has made us one with Him.