



Sovereign Grace Baptist Church  
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## **Policy Statement Regarding Our Statement of Faith and Membership**

By Pastors Heinrich and Sloan – Summer 2008

At SGBC one can expect to hear from the pulpit messages in harmony with its published statement of faith. One can also expect to find the leaders of SGBC eager to give their statement of faith to any and all who ask for it. It will usually be accompanied by a whole copy of the church constitution which explains what we believe and how we function.

At SGBC one is not required to sign this statement of faith to be a member. However the seeking one is asked to state clearly any and all areas of difference. He or she must also state their willingness to not teach their views or be divisive. The leadership of the church has the right to approve or disapprove in these cases (2 Timothy 2:2, Romans 16:17)

It is the belief of SGBC that good and wise Christians have differed. This is especially true in areas of Tongues, Future Events (Eschatology), The Points of Calvinism and divorce. Therefore some allowances are made in these areas. But, again at the discretion of the Pastors. And this allowance should not be seen as compromise, for our statement of faith remains firm. SGBC recognizes unity in diversity. Otherwise many of the marriages within our church would not have durations lasting more than fifty years!

Not everyone comes from the same background or has been exposed to the same teaching. Nor has everyone spent the same number of hours in study on given subjects. Therefore it would be natural that there are going to be some differences. SGBC expects all in attendance to have an openness to all that is taught from God's Word, but does not require all to come to the same conclusions.

Though we attempt to be open on issues of varying views that are considered to be non-essential, there are things on which we have chosen not to bend. These would include Baptized (immersed) Membership, Biblical Authority and Inerrancy, and Salvation by Grace Alone.