**WELCOME TO**

**Choice Hills**

**Baptist Church**

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Fundamental Independent King James Teaching

 MEMBERSHIP HAND BOOK

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Acts 2:41

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1

**Statement of Purpose**

Our Chief purpose in life is to bring Glory to our Most High God

and Savior, Jesus Christ; and to enjoy him forever. (Psalm

73:25,26; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Revelation 4:11)

**Missions Statement**

Choice Hills Baptist Church exists to accomplish this purpose through the following biblical plan:

1. ***Inspiring*** *people to develop a heart for God-Psalm 34*

 A. Through biblically-sound preaching

 B. Through Christ-honoring music

1. ***Including*** *them in a loving church family-Acts 2:41,42*

A. Through membership in our church family

 B. Through fellowship with other believers

 ***III.*** ***Instructing*** *them in Bible Doctrines-2 Timothy 2:2*

 A. Through Adult Bible Study Classes

 B. Through Sunday school Classes

 C. Through Discipleship Programs

1. ***Involving*** *them in a culturally sensitive,*

 *fundamentally sound ministry-1 Peter 4:10*

A. Through weekly ministry opportunities

 B. Through special ministry opportunities

1. ***Impacting*** *Pahrump and the regions beyond with the*

 *Gospel**of Jesus Christ-Matthew 28:18-20*

1. Through weekly soul winning
2. Through worldwide missions program

### By training and equipping Christians to share Christ

###  in the course of their daily lives.

**2**

**Statement of Faith**

**Choice Hills Baptist Church is:**

*Independent*-We are not part of any convention or national organization.

*Fundamental*-We believe the entire Bible, literally.

**Scriptures**

We believe that the Bible is the inerrant (preserved without mistakes), inspired (God-breathed), infallible (without mistakes in its teachings) Word of God. And, that it is the final authority for all matters of faith and practice. For reasons of unity within the Church and textual reliability, we use the King James Version of the Bible.

I Timothy 3 16-17; II Peter 1: 20-21; Psalm 12: 6,7

**Sovereign God**

God is a person, eternally existing, as a Trinity in unity-Father, Son, and Holy

Spirit-three persons and yet, one God. Deuteronomy 6:4; I Corinthians 8:6;

I John 5:7

**Son**

Jesus Christ, eternally existing, is the only begotten Son of God, who became a sinless man in order to redeem us. He was born of a virgin, and is true God and true man. Luke 1:30-55; John 1:1-15; Philippians 2:5-8;

Colossians 1:15

**Sin**

Man was created in the image of God but fell through sin, bringing not only physical death, but also spiritual death or eternal separation from God. All of mankind exists as a fallen race, with an inherited sinful nature, and is totally depraved, unable to save himself. Genesis 1:26-27; 2:16; 3:16-19; Romans 3:10-23; 6:23; Rev 21:8

**Sacrifice of Christ**

The Lord Jesus Christ suffered and died as a substitutionary payment for the sins of the whole world. He physically arose from the dead and then ascended into Heaven.

Luke 24; Acts 1:9-11; Romans 5:8-10; Ephesians 1:20-23; I Peter 3:18

**3**

**Salvation by Grace**

Salvation is impossible apart from the grace (unmerited favor) of God.

Salvation is obtained through the simultaneous act of repentance towards

God and faith towards the Lord Jesus Christ. In essence, salvation is

turning from all self-effort and totally depending on the work of Christ and

His shed blood on Calvary to cleanse us from all sin, (past, present, and

future) and reconcile us to God and take us to heaven when we die.

Salvation is not baptism, or church membership. Isaiah 45:22; John

3:16-18; 5:24: Romans 10:9-13: Ephesians 2:8-9

**Security of the Believer**

Salvation is a gift from God that cannot be taken away. When a person is

truly born again, he cannot become un-born. Nothing can separate him

from the eternal life in Christ, and he can live in full assurance of Heaven

as his future home. John 3:5-24; 10:27-33; Ephesians 2:8-10; 4:30;

Romans 8; I John 5:11-13

**Service**

The local church is a group of believers, baptized by water, banded together

for edification, exhortation, and evangelism as commanded by Christ in the

Great Commission, Preaching the gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15;

I Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 1:22-23

**Second Coming**

Jesus Christ, Himself, will soon come again in the air to catch up the saints

and to reward their service; the unbelievers left behind will go through a

period called the Tribulation. After which, Christ will return to the earth

to set up His Kingdom of one thousand years of righteous rule. After this the

unbelievers of all ages will stand at the Great White Throne to be judged

and cast into the lake of fire, separated from God forever, while believers spend eternity in the fullness of joy in Heaven with the Lord. Matthew 24:29-42; I Thessalonians 4:16-18; Rev 19:11-20:13

**Separation**

Grace teaches us that, as Christians, we have a higher purpose in life and

therefore should seek a higher standard of living. We believe Christians

should separate themselves from worldliness that would hinder their growth

in the Christian life and damage the testimony of Christ and His church in

the community. II Cor 5:14-21; 6:14-18; I Thessalonians 5:22; Titus 2:11-14

**4**

**Statement of Position**

**Why do we use the name Baptist?**

Choice Hills is a Baptist Church because historically Baptists have been identified by a few simple, but defining Biblical distinctive. We feel it is important to uphold biblical traits that would help clarify what kind of church we are. The word Baptist means that we believe in….

**Biblical authority in all matter of faith and practice**

You will not find visions, revelations, tongues, or extra-Biblical “messages from God” at Choice Hills Baptist Church.

**Autonomy (self-governing) of the local Church**

Our church is completely self-governed outside of a denomination or Christian Fellowship.

**Priesthood of the Believer**

Every believer has equal and instant access to God through Christ. This means that each believer has direct access to God’s truth and will for his life. The only mediator between God and man is Christ Jesus; not the pastor, priest, pope or otherwise.

**Two offices within the church**

Scripture refers to only two offices of leadership in the church. Choice Hills Baptist Church ascribes exclusively to the offices of Bishop (elder, Pastor), and Deacon (literally, a servant). It is the responsibility of the pastor to serve the church by leading, teaching, and overseeing the church family through assisting with care and provision of special needs.

**5**

**Individual soul Liberty**

Every man and woman must choose personally to come to Christ for

Salvation, and worship Him according to Scripture as led by their own

conscience.

**Saved, baptized church membership**

Membership of Choice Hills Baptist Church is exclusively for those

who have put their trust in Christ alone for salvation, been baptized

in water by immersion in a Baptist Church of like faith, and ascribe

to the church’s statements of faith, purpose, and position.

**Two Ordinances**

We practice two ordinances at Choice Hills Baptist Church Baptism

and the Lord’s Table (communion) . These ordinances are memorial

in significance and have no part in a person’s salvation.

**Separation of Church and State**

The state shall have no power to intervene in the free expression of

religious liberty.

**To maintain a commitment to the clear teaching of God’s**

**Word without Compromise, Choice Hills Baptist Church**

**does not support the National Council of Churches, the World Council of Churches, the National Association of Evangelicals, the Charismatic movement (including tongues movement, etc.), Ecumenical evangelism, Liberalism, or Modernism. (II Thessalonians 3:6; Amos 3:3; Jude 3)**

**6**

**Christian Living:**

We believe that every saved person should manifest the Christ life in a

consistent walk in the Holy Spirit, fully and constantly yielding one’s

 members to the indwelling Christ, so that they may always be in life and word showing forth the praises of Him who has called him out of

darkness into His Marvelous light. We believe in a separated life for all

 believers as set forth in 2 Corinthians 6:14, 7:1, Romans 12:1-2,

 Ephesians 5:1-8.

**Sexual Immorality:**

1. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate

 sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage

 between a man and a woman. We believe that any

 form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality,

 bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and

 pornography are sinful perversions of God’s gift of

 sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids

 any attempt to alter one’s gender by surgery or

 appearance. (Gen. 2:24; Gen. 19:5, 13; Gen. 26:8-9;

 Lev. 18:1-30; Rom. 1:26-29; 1 Cor. 5:1; 1 Cor. 6:9;

 1 Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4)

 *“Futhermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more. For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his*

 *Holy Spirit.”1Thessalonians 4:1-8*

1. We believe that the only Scriptural marriage is the

 joining of one man and one woman. (Gen. 2:24;

 Rom. 7:2; 1 Cor. 7:10; Eph. 5:22-23)

**7**

**Joining the Church**

***How do I become a Member?***

There are three simple and biblical methods by which a person can become a church member at Choice Hills Baptist Church:

**Baptism after Salvation**

After you have accepted Christ as your personal Savior, you may follow God’s simple command of being baptized. Baptism is not necessary for salvation; it is simply a public testimony of your faith. As you follow Christ in Baptism you will be added to the membership of Choice Hills Baptist Church. Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:41

**Statement of Faith or Transfer of Letter**

If you have already accepted Christ and have been baptized in a Baptist Church whose doctrine is in agreement with Choice Hills Baptist Church, you may present your testimony of salvation (see back of booklet) and be voted into membership by your statement of faith or transfer of membership from another Baptist Church. You may do this by coming forward and speaking with the pastor during the invitation of any Church service.

**Statement of Faith by Baptism**

If you have accepted Christ and have not been baptized in a Baptist Church of like faith, you will be asked to publicly identify with Christ and Choice Hills Baptist Church by being baptized into our membership. This is also true if your mode of baptism was other than immersion, or if the doctrine was different in your previous church. Choice Hills Baptist Church is committed to maintaining a doctrinal unity in this day of confusion and doctrinal compromise. If you believe God has led you to this church, and you understand that baptism is simply a testimony of you faith, we invite you to identify with Christ and Choice Hills Baptist Church by being baptized as the Lord leads you. Matthew 3:16; John 3:23; Acts 8:38; Acts 19:1-5

**8**

**A Word From The Pastor**

Everyone needs three good homes. Most importantly, we all

need a home in heaven when we die. We also need a good

family home where we can find love, comfort and shelter from

this world. Finally, we need a good church home where Christian

people can worship God, fellowship, and encourage each other’s

in life. My family and I and the wonderful people at Choice Hills

Baptist Church would like to extend a warm and friendly invitation to you. There is a place for you in our church family. Join us and See!

**A church member should:**

Be committed to be faithful to church services.

Be committed to support the local church with tithes and

 offerings.

Be committed to God’s Word.

Be committed to the Pastor.

Be committed to one another.

Be committed to reaching lost people with the good news

 of Jesus Christ.

**Members are only removed for the following reasons:**

If they stop attending Choice Hills Baptist Church.

If they join another church.

If they pass from this life.

If they willfully, intentionally, and openly conduct

 themselves in a sinful manner that is unbecoming of a

 Christian, and harmful to the testimony of Christ and

 the church family.

**9**

**My commitment to**

***Choice Hills Baptist Church***

I affirm my faith in Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and I agree with the Choice Hills Baptist Church Statement of Faith.

I commit myself to this body of believers and accept its Statement of purpose.

As God guides me, I commit myself to becoming a stronger Christian in this body through participation in the following areas:

**Worship**

I will gather together with God’s people, in God’s house, magnifying the Lord in the regular weekly services.

**Bible Study**

I will gather together in a smaller group for a concentrated time of edification and encouragement.

**Ministry**

I will help my church family by finding a place to serve.

**Financial Stewardship**

I will give the first part of my resources back to God.

**Family Time**

I will spend regular, focused times of fun and devotion with my immediate family.

**Time with God**

I will spend regular times of reading God’s Word and prayer each day.

**Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**10**

**My Personal Testimony**

**When I accepted Christ**

When and how did you receive Christ as your personal Savior?

**When and where I Was Baptized**

Have you been baptized in a Baptist Church?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you remember when and where?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you have not been baptized in a Baptist Church, are you

willing to identify with this church body by water Baptism?

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**“*Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the***

***same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.”***

**Acts 2:41**

***“For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”* Eph 4:12-13**

**(Please be sure to complete entire form)**

**11**

**Membership Transfer Information**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Apt #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Present Church Membership\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Zip\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Birthday (His)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(Hers)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Child’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Child’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Child’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Child’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Child’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Child’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Birthday\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Counselor’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Membership is not finalized until records are received from your former church.**

**12**

# **Questions for the Pastor**

Question:

Answer:

Scripture Reference:

Question:

Answer:

Scripture Reference:

Question:

Answer:

Scripture Reference:

Question:

Answer:

Scripture Reference:

Question:

Answer:

Scripture Reference:

**13**

Notes

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**Choice Hills Baptist Church**

340 W. Mesquite Avenue

Pahrump, NV 89060

Telephone: (775)( 751-1417

www.chbcpahrump.com