The **Baptist Faith and Message** (**BF&M**) is the [statement of faith](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statement_of_faith) of the [Southern Baptist Convention](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Baptist_Convention) (SBC). It summarizes key Southern Baptist thought in the areas of the [Bible](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bible) and its authority, the nature of God as expressed by the [Trinity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trinity), the spiritual condition of man, God's plan of [grace](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Divine_grace) and [salvation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_soteriology), the purpose of the local church, [ordinances](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ordinance_%28Christian%29), [evangelism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evangelism), Christian education, interaction with society, religious liberty, and the family.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baptist_Faith_and_Message#cite_note-1)

Although the Southern Baptist Convention was organized in 1845, no formal confession of faith was adopted until internationally known Baptist theologian Edgar Y. "E.Y." Mullins led the denomination to adopt the Baptist Faith and Message in 1925. Described as "the [New Hampshire Confession of Faith](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Hampshire_Confession_of_Faith) [of 1833], revised at certain points, and with some additional articles growing out of present needs," it was intended as "a reaffirmation of Christian fundamentals," which was deemed necessary because of "the prevalence of naturalism in the modern teaching and preaching of religion."[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baptist_Faith_and_Message#cite_note-comparison-2)

The BF&M was revised in 1963, amended in 1998, and again revised in 2000. In 1963, it was updated under the chairmanship of pastor-theologian Herschel H. Hobbs, and in 2000 under the chairmanship of pastor-author [Adrian Rogers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adrian_Rogers). The major revisions of 2000 incorporated sociological as well as theological changes.