



# Articles of Faith

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## Baptism

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***There are many texts outlining the theology on adult baptism. This short statement is not designed to present the biblical argument for baptism, that can be done elsewhere, but to state clearly where this ordinance fits into the pattern of church***

One might expect a Baptist church to “do what it says on the tin” and to insist on Baptism as a requirement for membership. However, the issue of adult baptism is not the defining feature of the Baptist tradition this belongs to the unique place that the “Church Meeting” has in Baptist theology.

Here at LBC we certainly hold adult baptism as a sacrament and a biblical concept that we would preach and teach. We would actively encourage people to partake of this ordinance.

However against that backdrop we also recognise that there are those who have found faith in a denomination that does not practice this and we have no desire to impose our own theology and viewpoint on them, (except where it impinges directly on the core aspect of salvation).

For us we feel that the principle laid out in Romans is one we would wish to adhere to. As Paul says “*Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls.*” So, whilst we might encourage adult baptism we believe this is an issue between the individual and God and we would not wish to stand in judgement on those who think differently in regards to this matter. As you can imagine therefore, we would not wish to place this as a stumbling block to anyone who wants to commit to the fellowship here in Ledbury.