

Suggested Elucidating Documents

One thing you will notice about both The Praetorian Project Statement of Beliefs and the Suggested Statement of Beliefs for local churches is that they are very basic. This is intentional. The desire is that new Christians can join the church in good conscience with the beliefs that are necessary for them to covenant with the church in good conscience. Overly detailed statements of beliefs create unnecessary hurdles to church membership for new believers.

It is helpful, however, to have a few “elucidating documents” in addition to the basic Statement of Beliefs. These are documents that you would have your pastors/elders (and perhaps deacons) affirm in addition to the Statement of Beliefs in an effort to better “guard the teaching” and long-term health of the church. They elucidate/clarify/expound on the Statement of Beliefs.

What follows are a recommended list from which to choose elucidating documents. While I would not recommend selecting ALL of this list as that would be overwhelming, I would recommend selecting a few of these that your local pastors/elders can affirm together and that you would want future pastors/elders to be able to affirm in good conscience.

Feel free to reach out for further discussion!

Brian O'Day

Brian@praetorianproject.org

Baptist Faith and Message of 2000:

<https://bfm.sbc.net/bfm2000/>

Chicago Statements on Biblical Inerrancy and Hermeneutics:

<https://defendinginerrancy.com/chicago-statements/>

Danvers Statement on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood:

<https://cbmw.org/2007/06/26/the-danvers-statement/>

Together for the Gospel's Affirmations and Denials (This is the Statement required to appear on 9Marks Church Search):

<http://t4g.org/about/affirmations-and-denials/>

The Gospel Coalition Confessional Statement (Required to be on their Church Directory):

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/about/foundation-documents/#confessional-statement>.