



THE ETHICS & RELIGIOUS
LIBERTY COMMISSION
OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

Three Reasons Baptists Should Hold to Religious Liberty for All

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IS A core Baptist distinctive that upholds the freedom of individuals to practice their faith without fear of persecution or discrimination. But why is religious liberty important for all people, not just Baptists? Here are three reasons:

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY UPHOLDS HUMAN DIGNITY

Religious liberty is a fundamental human right that recognizes the inherent dignity of every person. All people should be free to practice their faith without fear of coercion or retribution. Upholding religious liberty demonstrates respect for the dignity of all individuals and promotes the common good.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY FURTHERS GOSPEL PROCLAMATION

Religious liberty allows for the unhindered proclamation and practice of the gospel. When people are free to choose and live out their faith, they may be more open to hearing and responding

to the gospel message. A society that upholds religious liberty is one in which the gospel can be freely proclaimed and practiced.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY REFLECTS CHRISTIAN LOVE

Religious liberty reflects the Christian call to love our neighbors. Christians are called to love our neighbors as ourselves, and this includes respecting their right to practice their faith. Upholding religious liberty for all people, not just Baptists, is a way of demonstrating love and compassion to those around us, trusting that God can draw them to his Son.



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