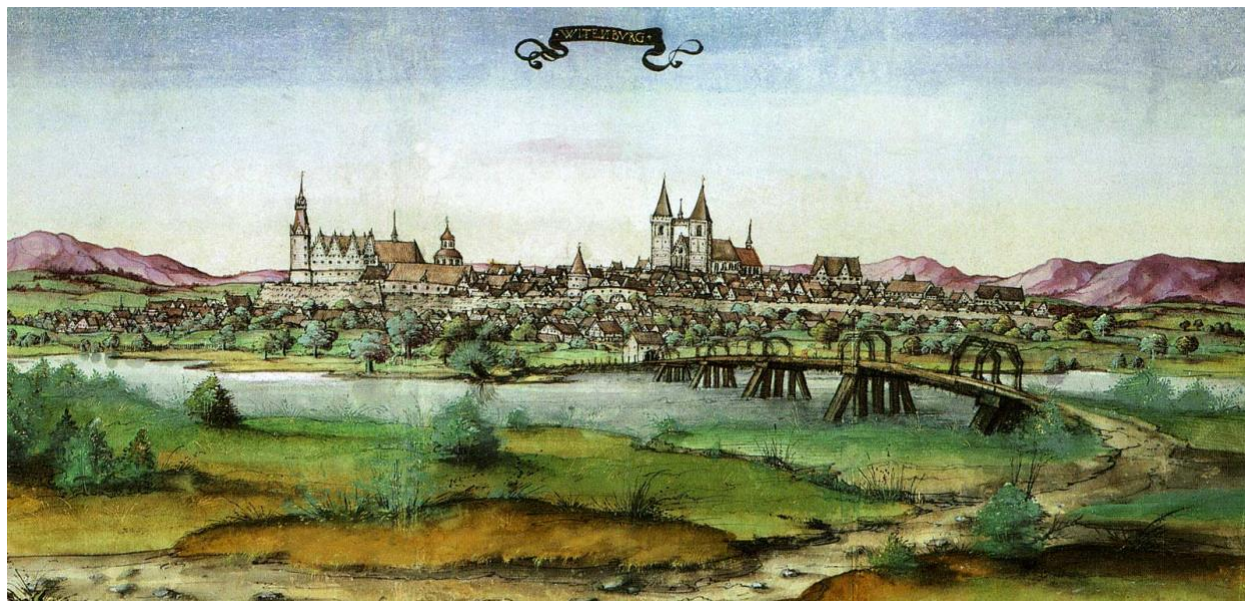


# Baptist Ecclesiology

A Kenwood Hall Anchor Class  
Fall 2024



Instructor: Dr. Colin J. Smothers

Welcome to Kenwood Hall, a ministry of the Kenwood Institute. This twelve-week Anchor Class is a biblical and theological survey of the Baptist Ecclesiology, with an eye toward its biblical and historical rootedness and theological coherence.

## Class Schedule

We will meet at Kenwood Baptist Church on Sundays from 7-7:50pm from September 1 through November 17.

## Class Objectives

Over the course of the twelve weeks, we will:

1. Study the biblical passages that form the strongest case for Baptist ecclesiology
2. Examine how Baptist theology is situated in church history
3. Learn how to promote and defend Baptist ecclesiology in light of challenges from other Christian traditions

## Required Texts

An English translation of the Bible such as ESV, NASB, CSB, NIV, etc.



Dever, Mark and Jonathan Leeman, ed., *Baptist Foundations: Church Government for an Anti-Institutional Age*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2015. \*\*Provided by the Kenwood Institute

Hammett, John *Biblical Foundations for Baptist Churches: A Contemporary Ecclesiology*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2005.

Schreiner, Tom and Shawn Wright, *Believer's Baptism: Sign of the New Covenant in Christ*. In NAC Studies in Bible & Theology. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2006.

### **Recommended Texts for Further Reading**

According to your interest and availability, the following works would greatly enrich your study of Baptist Ecclesiology.

Nehemiah Coxe and John Owen, *Covenant Theology: From Adam to Christ*. Reformed Baptist Academic Press. Reprint edition, October 1, 2005.

### **Class Requirements (for SBTS credit)**

#### 1. Bible Reading

As participants of the Institute, you are encouraged to read the Scriptures daily according to a Bible reading plan.

#### 2. Secondary Literature Reading

You are required to read the entirety of *Baptist Foundations*; *Biblical Foundations for Baptist Churches*; and *Believer's Baptism*. Students will want to read the assigned chapters ahead of class for maximum learning and participation.

#### 3. Book Review

You are required to write a book review of one of the three required texts for the course. Reviews must be 3-5 pages long and conform to the SBTS Style Guide.

#### 4. Theological Position Paper

You are required to write a theological position paper defending Baptist ecclesiology, particularly with an eye toward core Baptist convictions around the newness of the new covenant, regenerate church membership, and believer's baptism, and how these interrelate, defending against pedobaptism arguments.



### **Instructor Contact Information**

If you have any questions or issues during the class please reach out to me!

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## Class Schedule

Date	Class Topics
9/1	Welcome & Introduction: Nature of the New Covenant: A Study in Continuity & Discontinuity   <i>BF</i> , "Introduction-Why Polity?"
9/8	Baptists in Church History: New or New Testament Christianity?   <i>BF</i> , c. 1, 5
9/15	The Ministry of John the Baptist: Hinge of the Covenants   <i>DG</i> article
9/22	What is the Church? One, Holy, Catholic, & Apostolic + Reformational Preaching and Ordinances   <i>BF</i> , c. 3, 18
9/29	The Meaning and Practice of Believer's Baptism   <i>BF</i> , c. 4
10/6	Refuting Paedobaptists
10/13	Who is the church? Regenerate church membership   <i>BF</i> , c. 8-10
10/20	How is the church governed? Congregationalism   <i>BF</i> , c. 2
10/27	How is the church governed? Elders & Deacons   <i>BF</i> , c. 11-17
11/3	What does the church do? Baptism & the Lord's Supper   <i>BF</i> , c. 6-7
11/10	What is the mission of the church?
11/17	History of Baptist Confessions and the Southern Baptist Convention   <i>BF</i> , c. 19