Summary of Faith – Part 5
1-2-2022

I. We believe that the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments are the all sufficient, inerrant and infallible word of God, the only rule for faith and practice. Consequently, we believe that God ceased special revelation with the close of the New Testament canon.

II. London Baptist Confession of Faith, Ch.1, Part 1: “…Therefore it pleased the Lord at sundry times and in divers manners to reveal himself, and to declare that his will unto his church; and afterward for the better preserving and propagating of the truth, and for the more sure establishment and comfort of the church against the corruption of the flesh, and the malice of Satan, and of the world, to commit the same wholly unto writing; which maketh the Holy Scriptures to be most necessary, those former ways of God's revealing his will unto his people being now ceased.”

III. Substantiation for Cessationism

1. In the NT signs and wonders whereby God revealed His will to His people were tied to the office of apostle. The apostolic office ended with the death of the twelve apostles. (II Cor. 12:12)
2. The purpose of the N.T. signs and wonders was to attest to the apostles revelatory message. (Heb. 2:1-4, I Cor. 14:20-22)
3. Cessationism is necessitated by the Sufficiency of Scripture
4. In light of the fact that signs and wonders ceased with the close of the N.T. canon, The N.T. canon is self-authenticating. (II Pet. 1:19)

IV. Contemporary Positions

1. Historical Reformed (stated above)
2. Pentecostalism

Speaking in tongues is the initial evidence of baptism in the Holy Spirit. Divine healing is provided for in the atonement.

1. Charismaticism

All the gifts of the Holy Spirit mentioned in Scripture are available to and active in the church today.

1. Moderating view?

“Open but cautious”