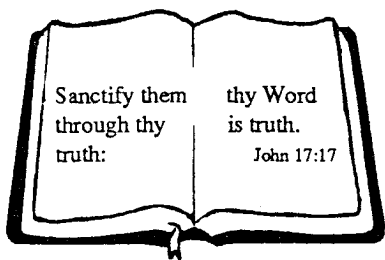


The
Beachy Amish

Who They Are

What They Believe



Over four centuries ago in Zurich, Switzerland, a new Christian brotherhood was formed. These Christians felt that Zwingli, a church reformer at Zurich, as well as other reformers, compromised in their stand, and had not gone completely back to a Biblical foundation only. Because of their

rejection of infant baptism, this brotherhood became known as Anabaptists, meaning rebaptizers. They rebaptized voluntary adults, who had repented of their sins and who had been baptized as infants.

The new brotherhood, led by Conrad Grebel and Felix Manz, was formed to give men and women the opportunity to follow the Lord Jesus Christ according to God's Word, the Bible.

Later they were called by various names. First, they were all called Mennonites. Then, when some wanted to continue the previously agreed upon practices, they were called Amish. Later, some brethren with convictions for Sunday School and Bible studies formed a separate group, which became known as Beachy Amish. They also believe and teach nonconformity to the world, Biblical moral practices and teaching, and moderation in the use of modern conveniences. Today all three groups still exist.

The Beachy Amish believe that God accepts man only by confessing His Son, Jesus Christ, as Lord, and trusting Him as Saviour from sin. A continuing trust in Christ

brings power over sin in the present, and confident hope of heaven in the future.

They also believe that the only spiritually successful life is one lived by the grace and power of God in obedience to the Bible. Only through a continuing fellowship in Christ is such a life possible.

WHAT THEY BELIEVE

The reader is encouraged to see what God has to say about the following beliefs by carefully examining and receiving His Word as truth. References are given for your convenience, chapter first, then verses.

1. The Godhead is composed of three divine Persons, the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19,20; Galatians 4:4-6; Ephesians 2:13-18; I John 5:1-13).
2. Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He was conceived of the Holy Ghost and was born of a virgin (Luke 1:35; Matthew 1:1, 20-25).

3. The Bible in its original form was wholly inspired by God (II Samuel 23:3; Psalm 119:160; II Timothy 3:16).
4. God created all things. His power preserves His creation (Colossians 1:16, 17).
5. The first man and woman were created pure and without sin (Genesis 1:27).
6. Man, through unbelief and disobedience, fell (Genesis 2:17; 3:16-23).
7. Sin, sorrow, and death, both natural and spiritual, are results of the fall (Romans 5:12).
8. The blood of Jesus Christ shed at Calvary is the only means of salvation from sin (John 3:16; Hebrews 9:14-26).
9. To be saved all accountable persons must believe in Christ, repent of their sins, be "born again," and walk in newness of life with Christ in control (John 3:3,5; Romans 6:1-7).
10. All those who are born again and who are obedient to God constitute the true,

pure church of which Christ is the Head (Romans 6:17; Colossians 1:18; Hebrews 5:9).

11. God provides the church with necessary leaders such as bishops, ministers, evangelists, and deacons (Ephesians 4:11-16; I Timothy 3:1-13).
12. Christian baptism is commanded, and that the mode of pouring out of God's Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19, 20; Acts 1:5; 2:2, 16-18, 41; 10:44-48).
13. The bread and cup in communion are symbols of the body and blood of Christ, and when received, show a close, common union of believers with Christ and with each other (I Corinthians 10:16-21; 11:23-26).
14. That Christ taught both by example and by commandment that feet washing is a religious ceremony and should be observed literally (John 13:1-17).
15. Women should wear a covering over their uncut hair for modesty and to signify their acceptance of God's order of

leadership in society (I Corinthians 11:1-16).

16. The "holy kiss" is to be practiced among believers; brethren with brethren and sisters with sisters (Romans 16:16; II Corinthians 13:12; I Thessalonians 5:26; I Peter 5:14).
17. Anointing with oil, accompanied by faithful prayer, is a symbol which God honors in the restoration of physical health (James 5:14, 15).
18. The marriage of a believer with an unbeliever constitutes an unequal yoke and is forbidden for the Christian. The marriage of divorced persons who have former companions living constitutes adultery (Nehemiah 13:23-27; Mark 10:2-12; II Corinthians 6:14).
19. Membership in a secret society is an unequal yoke with the non-Christian world (II Corinthians 6:14).
20. Taking any oath is contrary to God's command (Matthew 5:33,34; James 5:12).

21. The personal appearance of Christian families should be simple and modest, free from worldly fashion and adornment (II Corinthians 6:17; I Timothy 2:8-10; I Peter 14, 15; 3:3, 4).
22. God teaches a distinction between male and female. For this purpose women should not wear men's clothing or men women's. Man also was made with a beard and woman without (Genesis 1:27c; I Corinthians 11:8, 9; Deuteronomy 22:5).
23. As strangers and pilgrims in the world, Christians will seek to maintain simplicity in all areas of life; not abusing this world's goods (Matthew 6:33; Hebrews 11:13; I Corinthians 7:31).
24. The way of Christian love requires that believers should not take part in any destruction of human life, nor in any acts of personal retaliation or revenge (Matthew 5:38-48; II Corinthians 10:3, 4).
25. Church and government are both ordained of God, but are separate entities in His plan (Romans 13:1-7; I Peter 2:13-17).

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26. Obstinate sinners within the church are to be excommunicated and avoided in a loving manner (I Corinthians 5:11-13; II Thessalonians 3:14- 15; Titus 3:10, 11).
27. The church is commanded to evangelize the world; her main mission is to deal with that which is spiritual and eternal (Matthew 28:19, 20).
28. The personal and imminent coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is the blessed hope of believers (Acts 1:11; John 14:2, 3; Matthew 24:44; I Thessalonians 4:13-18).
29. At the day of judgment Christ will raise the righteous to eternal rewards in heaven, and the unrighteous to eternal punishment in the lake of fire (John 5:28, 29; Revelation 20:12-14; Romans 14:10-12).