

COUNTRYSIDE BIBLE CHURCH DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

THE DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

A. The Scriptures

We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the verbally inspired Word of God, the final authority for faith and life, inerrant in the original writings, infallible, and God-breathed. [2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Mt. 5:18; John 16:12-13, 17:17]

We believe the Scriptures to contain the complete revelation of God's will for the salvation of men.

B. The Godhead

We believe in one Triune God, existing in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; eternal in being, identical in nature, equal in power and glory; and having the same attributes and perfections. [Deu. 6:4; 2 Cor. 13:14; John 10:30; Mt. 28:19]

C. God the Father

We believe that God the Father is the Author of all creation which was completed in six- twenty four hour days and all created beings owe their origin to Him. [Gen. 1-2; Job 38:4-7; Acts 17:24-25] We reject the view of the Fatherhood of God and the universal brotherhood of man. God is only the Father of all who trust in Christ as their Lord and Savior. [Gal. 3:16; John 8:42-44]

D. The Son of God

1. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ was present with the Father from the beginning and is the creator of all things. [John 1:1-3, Col. 1:16-17]

2. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, thus He is the 'only begotten Son of God.' [John 3:16] He became man without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, in order that He might redeem sinful man and fulfill all the Old Testament prophecies and the purpose of God. [John 1:1-2; Luke 1:35; John 3:16; Acts 2:23]

3. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice, and that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead. [Eph. 1:7; 1 Pet. 1:3-5, 2:24; 2 Cor 5:21]

4. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God, where, as our High Priest; He fulfills the ministry of Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate. [Heb. 9:24, 7:24-25; 1 John 2:2; Acts 1:9-11]

E. The Holy Spirit

1. We believe the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Godhead. [Mt. 3:16-17, 28:19; John 14:16-17, 15:26]
2. We believe the Holy Spirit regenerates, indwells, baptizes, and seals all true believers in Christ at the moment of salvation and empowers the believer for godly living and service. [Tit. 3:5; 1 Cor. 6:19, 12:13; Eph. 4:30; 1 Pet. 1:2; Gal. 5:16-18; 1 John 4:2-4]
3. We believe that the Holy Spirit baptizes the believer into the body of Christ at the moment of salvation for all eternity and this baptism is not accompanied by physical signs. [1 Cor. 12:13; John 1:33; 2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 8:9]
4. We believe that believers are commanded to be controlled by the Spirit. [Gal. 5:16; Eph. 5:18]
5. We believe that the sign gifts of miracles, healings, prophecy, visions, exorcism, and speaking in tongues ceased at the closing of the apostolic age as noted by the closing of the canon of Scripture. [1 Cor. 13:8, 14:22; Heb 2:3-4; Eph. 2:20; Rev. 22:18-19]

F. The Total Depravity of Man

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but in Adam's sin; mankind fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God; and as a result man is utterly unable to remedy his lost condition. [Gen. 1:26-27; Rom. 3:23, 5:12; Eph. 2:1-2]

G. Salvation

1. We believe that our salvation is by God's choice through His effectual call by the means of the Holy Spirit. [Eph. 1:4-6; John 6:44, 16:8-11] We believe that we are saved by grace. [Eph. 2:8-10]
2. We believe that salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and it is offered freely to all who trust Jesus as Lord and Savior, whereby His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord. Repentance and faith are inseparable experience of grace. Repentance is a genuine turning from sin toward God and faith is the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. [John 1:12; Rom. 10:13; Heb.2:3; 1 Pet. 1:18-19]
3. We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by the power of God and thus secure forever. [John 10:27-29; Rom. 8:1; Eph4:30; 1 John 5:11-13]
4. We believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation, however, God's Word warns against the use of Christian liberty as an occasion to the flesh. [Gal. 5:13; Tit. 2:11-12]

H. THE CHURCH

1. We believe that the church is the spiritual Body and Bride of the Lord Jesus Christ which began on the Day of Pentecost and will be completed at the Rapture. [Col. 1:18; Acts 1:4-5, 2:1-4, 38-47; 1 Thess. 4:16-17]
2. We believe that all true believers of this dispensation, irrespective of membership in the organized local churches of earth, have been baptized into the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit. [1 Cor. 12:13]
3. We believe that true believers should assemble themselves together into a Bible teaching church for worship, prayer, fellowship, teaching, and observing the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper. [Heb. 10:25; Acts 2:42; Mat. 28:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-29]
4. We believe that the local church should be supported by free-will giving. [2 Cor. 9:7]
5. We believe that it is the solemn duty of the local church to 'keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, to love one another from the heart, and to hold fast to the word of life. [Eph. 4:3; 1 Pet. 1:2; Phil. 2:16]
6. We believe the primary mission in the body of Christ, in the world today, is to witness for Christ among all the nations. [Mt. 28:19-20; Acts 1:8]

I. THE PERSONALITY OF SATAN

We believe that Satan is a person, the author of sin and instrumental cause of the fall; that he is the open and declared enemy of God and man; and, that he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire. [Job 1:6-7; Isa. 14:12-17; Mt. 4:2-11; Rev. 20:10]

J. FUTURE EVENTS

1. We believe that the next great event in the fulfillment of prophecy will be the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ in the air at which time the church saints will be resurrected and the living believers will meet the Lord in the air. This is also known as the Rapture of the church. [1 Thess. 4:13-18; Titus 2:1-4; Rev. 3:10]
2. We believe the Rapture of the church will precede the prophecy of Daniel's seventieth week which is also known as the 'time of Jacob's trouble'; the latter half of the seventieth week called the Great Tribulation. [Dan. 9:27; Jer. 30:7-9; Mt. 24:15-28; Rev. 6-19]
3. We believe that at the close of the Tribulation the Lord Jesus Christ will personally return from heaven with the Church and His Holy angels to bind Satan to the bottomless pit, to judge the living nations, to restore Israel to her land, to establish His glorious and literal kingdom over all nations for a thousand years, to lift the curse which now rests upon the whole creation, and to bring the whole world to the knowledge of Himself. At the end of the Christ's thousand year reign Satan shall be loosed for a short season to deceive the nations. [Rev. 20:1-3; Mt. 25:31-46; Deu. 30:3-5; Rev. 20:4-6; Rom 8:19-23; Isa. 11:9; Rev. 20:7]

4. We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved in Christ go to eternal life and the unsaved go to judgment and everlasting punishment. [Mt. 25:46; John 5:25-29; Rev. 20:5-6, 12-13]

5. We believe that after the judgment of the unsaved, the present heaven and earth shall be destroyed and a new heaven and earth shall be created wherein Christ shall reign with the Father eternally. [2 Pet. 3:10-11; Rev. 21:1]