

WSBC Statement of Faith

1. GOD

We believe in God the Creator and Sovereign Ruler, infinitely perfect. He exists in three distinct persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit co-equal and co-eternal. These three are of the same substance and are one God.

Genesis 1:1,26-27; Psalm 90:2; John 4:24; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:1

2. JESUS CHRIST

We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ the eternal Son of God. We believe He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin, lived a sinless life and offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. He died physically on the cross, was resurrected on the third day and ascended bodily into heaven to demonstrate His power over sin and death. Today He sits at the right hand of God as our mediator, high priest and advocate to return someday to earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Matthew 1:22-23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5; 5:18; 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14-15; 1 Corinthians 15:1-5; Romans 1:3-4; 1 Timothy 2:5; Titus 2:13; 1 John 5:20

3. THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity. He convicts, regenerates, indwells, baptizes and seals all believers in Christ. He empowers those who yield to God for living, understanding of spiritual truth and guidance in what is right.

2 Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13; 14:16-17; 1 Corinthians 2:12; 3:16; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:18

4. THE BIBLE

We believe the Bible is inspired by God and without error in its original manuscripts. Written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit, it is our sole authority in all matters of faith and practice.

2 Timothy 1:13; 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Psalm 119:105, 160; Proverbs 30:5

5. MAN

We believe that man was made in the image of God and is the supreme object of God's creation. Man was originally sinless but through Adam fell into disobedience towards God, sin. As a result man is justly condemned and of himself is unable to merit salvation.

Genesis 1:26-27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1-2

6. SALVATION

We believe that salvation is a gift of God's grace. It cannot be gained by meritorious works, but is freely bestowed on all who put their faith in the completed work of Jesus Christ. At the moment of faith we are forgiven of our sins and enter into eternal life.

Romans 6:23; 8:29-30; Ephesians 1:4-5; 2:8-9; John 14:6; John 1:12-13; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26, 29

7. CHRISTIAN LIVING

We believe all Christians are eternally secure in their salvation because of Jesus Christ. Salvation is maintained not by our obedience but by the grace and power of God. True salvation is evidenced by a fruitful, Spirit-led, God-pleasing life.

John 6:37; 10:27-29; 17:12; Romans 5:1; 8:29-30; Ephesians 4:30; 2 Timothy 1:12; 1 John 5:13

8. MARRIAGE

We believe God designed marriage to be a unique covenant relationship joining one man and one woman in a single, exclusive, life-long union, as a representation of Christ's relationship with his people. God intends sexual intimacy to only occur between a man and a woman joined in marriage. All forms of sexual intimacy outside of this union is sinful and offensive to God.

Genesis 2.4-25, Ephesians 5.22-33, 1 Thessalonians 4.1-8

9. THE CHURCH

We believe the church is composed of all believers. It is the body and bride of Christ, formed by the Holy Spirit and existing in two aspects: the universal and the local church. The universal church is an elect company of believers, baptized by the Holy Spirit into one body. Its mission is to witness to its head, Jesus Christ, preaching the gospel among all nations. The local church is a group of believers voluntarily joined together in love to worship God and to glorify Jesus Christ through the making of disciples and the exercise of spiritual gifts.

Acts 2:41-47; Ephesians 1:22-23; 5:24-30; 1 Corinthians 12:4-13,27; Galatians 3:28; Romans 16:17

10. ORDINANCES

The Bible sets forth two ordinances, the Lord's Supper and Baptism. The Lord's Supper is to be celebrated regularly in remembrance of Christ's death on the cross, and in expectation of His return. Water baptism is an outward testimony of a person's belief in Christ. Immersion is the ideal means set forth in Scripture.

Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 16:15,16; Acts 8:12, 36-38; Acts 9:18; 10:47; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

11. LAST THINGS

We believe the blessed hope of the church is the imminent visible return of Jesus Christ and the consummation of His kingdom. We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men: the saved to eternal life and the unsaved to everlasting judgment. We believe in the reality of heaven and hell as places of eternal existence.

Titus 2:13; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 4:13-18; 5:4-10; John 14:1-3; Matthew 24:21, 29-30; 25:31-46; Revelation 3:10; 21:1-5

Please Print Name Clearly

Signature

Date