

Countryside Bible Church – Statement of Faith

Scripture

We believe that the Bible, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is the verbally inspired word of God—inerrant in its original autographs, infallible in its prophecies, and providentially preserved in trustworthy translations (1 Cor. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:16; Mt. 5:18; Lk. 16:17; Jn. 10:35; 17:17). Therefore, the Bible is the supreme, final, and sufficient authority in all matters of faith and practice (Isa. 8:20; Jude 3; 2 Tim. 3:17).

God

We believe in one God, eternally existent in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Dt. 6:4; Mt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14).

Creation

We believe that God created everything from nothing by His word (Ps. 33:6; Heb. 11:3), and that He made man in His own image, giving him upright character and dignity (Gen. 1:26-28; Eccl. 7:29). We also believe that God made mankind male and female (Gen. 1:27), that gender identity and biological sex are identical, and that marriage is a covenanted, sexual union between a man and a woman, and is intended for a lifetime (Gen. 2:18, 24; Mt. 19:3-9).

Sin

We believe in the fall of man—that through Adam's sinful choice, man forfeited his upright character and became depraved, a slave to sin, and thus deserved God's wrath and eternal punishment (Rom. 3:9-20, 23; 5:12-19; Jn. 8:34; Rom. 3:9-12; Eph. 2:3; Mt. 25:46). Nevertheless, in light of his original creation, man on earth retains dignity and should be treated accordingly (Gen. 9:6; Jas. 3:9-10).

Jesus Christ

We believe that God loved the world and sent His Son to be the Savior of the world (Jn. 3:16-17; 4:42; 1 Tim. 4:10). This Son, Jesus Christ, was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, worked true miracles, was crucified and died for our sins, was buried but then raised bodily from the dead on the third day, after which He ascended into heaven, where He is now seated at the Father's right hand until the day He returns bodily to judge the world (Mt. 1:18-25; Lk. 1:35; Isa. 53:9; Mt. 11:4-5; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; Acts 1:9-11; Eph. 1:20; Acts 17:31). Jesus Christ is Lord, truly God and truly human, the only mediator between God and men, and the only way to heaven (Rom. 10:9; Jn. 1:1, 14; 1 Tim. 2:5; Jn. 14:6).

Salvation

We believe in salvation by grace alone—that through faith alone, a repentant sinner is securely united to Jesus, whose blood justifies him from sin and whose life guarantees to him eternal life (Eph. 2:8-9; 1 Cor. 1:30; Acts 20:21; Rom. 5:1, 9-10; 6:1-14; 8:1; Heb. 7:23-25). Unless a sinner is justified and made alive by the Holy Spirit while yet on earth, he cannot enter heaven (Rom. 3:19-20; Jn. 3:3, 5).

Holiness

We believe that every believer should unite with other believers in a local church (Heb. 10:25), should participate in the ordinances of the church, baptism and communion (Mt. 28:19-20; Acts 2:38; 10:47-48; 1 Cor. 11:23-26), and should strive by God's power to live a holy and exemplary life in preparation for the Lord's imminent return (Heb. 12:14; 2 Pt. 1:3-11; 3:8-14). Through a life of faith, love, and obedience, a believer shows that he is truly born of God (1 Jn. 2:29; 4:7; 5:1).

Eternal State

Both believers and unbelievers will be resurrected (Acts 24:15)—believers to everlasting blessedness (Jn. 6:40; 11:25-16; Rom. 6:5; 2 Cor. 4:13-14; 1 Th. 4:13-18) and unbelievers to everlasting separation from God and punishment (Mt. 10:28; 25:46; Jn. 5:28-29; 2 Th. 1:6-10; Rev. 20:11-15).