

THE ESSENTIALS WE BELIEVE



ABOUT THE BIBLE - The Bible is God's Word to Man, the sole authority for Christian faith and practice.

The Bible is authoritative and is the sole basis of our belief, morality and governing of life. The Word of God is the written revelation of Himself to man, complete in its authority, complete in its revelation, final in its content and without any contradictions in its teachings. The Bible is God's Word to us, written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit.

II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20,21; II Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105, 160,12:6; Proverbs 30:5

ABOUT GOD - There is one true living God.

We believe that there is one true, holy God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal, possessing all the attributes of deity. He is working, by His providence, throughout history to accomplish His redemptive purposes.

Genesis 1:1,26,27; 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; I Peter 1:2; II Corinthians 13:14

ABOUT JESUS CHRIST - Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah of the Old Testament, Son of the Living God.

Jesus Christ is the eternal second person of the Trinity who was united forever with humanity through a miraculous conception and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless human life and voluntarily offered Himself as a perfect sacrifice for the sins of mankind by dying on a cross. Jesus Christ died a substitutionary death for our sins, was buried, arose from the dead with the same body, though glorified, ascended into Heaven where He now is seated at the right hand of the Father. He, the only mediator between God and man, continually makes intercession for His own. He will come again to earth, personally and visibly, where He will reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Matthew 1:22,23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5, 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14,15; I Corinthians 15:3,4; Romans 1:3,4; Acts 1:9-11; I Timothy 6:14,15; Titus 2:13

ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT - The Holy Spirit is sent from God to convict the world of sin, to regenerate, cleanse and secure from sin.

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity, co-equal with the Father and the Son of God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their sins and to draw them to Jesus Christ. He is alive in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He supplies the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual and Biblical truths, and direction for daily living. He implants within every believer a spiritual gift(s) for the upbuilding of the body. As Christians, we live daily under His power and control, appropriated by faith, making it possible for every believer to live a Christ-like lifestyle and bear fruit to the glory of God.

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

ABOUT HUMAN BEINGS - Man's condition is one of sin and separation from God.

Man was created in innocence directly and immediately by God, in His spiritual image, for the purpose of fellowship with God and for the glory of God. Man was tempted by Satan and sinned, and because of this all men have been born in sin since that time. Every person has a tremendous potential for good, but all are marred by a nature of rebellion and disobedience toward God, which the Bible calls sin. Sin separates us from God, others, and everything that is good, ultimately and eternally in hell. All persons need to be saved from their sin.

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

ABOUT SALVATION - God has acted in the person of Jesus Christ to save man from sin.

Man was originally created to have fellowship with God; however, man defied God, choosing independence, and was thus alienated from God, suffered a corruption of his nature, and was rendered unable to please God. The fall of man took place at the beginning of human history, and all people since have suffered the consequences of sin and are in need of the saving grace of God. The salvation of sinful man is, then, wholly a work of God's free grace, not the result, in whole or in part, of human works or goodness. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty.

Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8,9; John 14:6, 1:12; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26; Romans 5:1

ABOUT ETERNAL SECURITY – The Holy Spirit regenerates or gives new life to one who commits his life to Jesus, and he is kept by God's power forever, never to be separated from the love of God. (*Romans 8:35-39*) Because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ, the true believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. If you have been genuinely saved, you cannot —lose|| your salvation. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. It is the grace and keeping power of God that gives us this security.

John 10:29; II Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25; 10:10,14; I Peter 1:3-5

ABOUT ETERNITY – Everyone will face judgment before God; some to eternal life, others to eternal condemnation. People were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation through Christ. To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and Hell are real places of eternal existence.

John 3:16; 5:11-13; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:15; Matthew 1:8; 2:44,46