

STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

- I. The Bible, in its original writing, is the divinely inspired, infallible, and inerrant Word of God. It is the final authority on all we believe and all we do.**

2 Timothy 3:15-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21, John 1:1, 14, 1 Thessalonians 2:13, Hebrews 4:12, Romans 15:4, Matthew 5:18.

- II. Man was created good and upright, but by disobedience he fell. Through Adam's sin and fall, all mankind has inherited a sinful nature that we are powerless to change.**

Romans 3:10-12, Genesis 1:27-31, Genesis 2:17, Genesis 3:4-7, Genesis 3:22-24, 1 Corinthians 15:21-22, Romans 5:12, Romans 3:23, Romans 5:17-19, Romans 7:14, 17-18, Ephesians 4:18, 1 Corinthians 2:14, Romans 8:7, Ephesians 2:1-4.

- III. Resurrection and Eternal Life: We believe in the resurrection of all mankind; the saved to the eternal life with Christ (heaven), and the lost to the eternal damnation (hell).**

Acts 24:15, John 5:28-29, 1 Corinthians 15:42-44, Philippians 1:21-23, Philippians 3:21, 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10, Revelation 1:7, Revelation 20:4-5, Revelation 20:11-12.

- IV. The Blood of Jesus is sinless, 100 percent sufficient, and God's only way to cleanse mankind from sin. Jesus allowed Himself to be punished for our sinfulness and our sins, freeing all who believe on Him from every penalty of sin.**

1 John 1:7, Revelation 1:5, Colossians 1:20, Romans 3:23, Romans 5:9, Hebrews 9:22, Leviticus 17:11, John 1:29.

- V. Salvation: We are restored (redemption) to a right relationship with God (justification) as He leads us to accept by faith (faith in Christ) that Jesus paid our sin debt by dying on the Cross. When we come to Christ, we turn from sin (repentance), we are born again by the Holy Spirit (regeneration) and we acknowledge Jesus as our Lord and Savior (indwelling Lordship of Christ). God continues His work in us as He forms the character and life pattern of Jesus in us (sanctification).**

- A. Redemption: The only hope for redemption of fallen man was for Jesus Christ to purchase us for God by offering his life as payment of the death sentence imposed by God for sin. He did this on the Cross.**

Acts 20:28, 1 Corinthians 6:11, Ephesians 2:1-9, Revelation 5:9, Acts 4:10-12, Romans 3:23-25, Romans 5:12-19.

B. Justification: God's declaration that we are no longer guilty but righteous. Based on the sole condition of faith in the Lord Jesus, it entitles us to all the advantages and rewards of God. To be justified is the opposite of being condemned. It relegates "good works" to an *evidence of salvation, and not a cause of it.*

Romans 5:1-10, Romans 10:3-9, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Romans 4:6-8, Romans 1:17, Romans 3:25, Romans 3:26, Romans 4:20-22, Philippians 3:8-11, Galatians 2:16, Romans 6:2-7, 14, Romans 7:6, Ephesians 2:8-9.

C. Faith in Christ: We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection, and His saving work. Faith is a gift from God and not a result of any human goodness, works or effort.

Galatians 2:16, Galatians 3:2-3, Romans 10:9-10, Acts 16:31, Hebrews 9:22, Ephesians 2:8-9, 1 Corinthians 15:12-20.

D. Repentance: Demonstrated in all true believers, repentance is the Holy Spirit enabled commitment to turn away from sin in every area of our lives and in the desire to obey Jesus. When we repent, we are forgiven of sins, regenerated by the Holy Spirit and given eternal life.

John 14:21-24, 1 John 1:9, Acts 3:19, John 3:16-18, John 3:36, Romans 6:22-23.

E. Regeneration: For anyone to have relationship with God, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential. This "re-generating" is God recreating us by implanting a new nature and imparting the spiritual life of Jesus himself.

2 Corinthians 5:17, 2 Peter 1:3-4, John 3:5-7, Titus 3:5, Colossians 3:10.

F. The indwelling Lordship of Christ: Christians are people who have invited Jesus Christ to come and live inside of them by His Holy Spirit. We relinquish our personal authority over our lives to Jesus and acknowledge Him as both Lord and Savior. We put our trust in Jesus alone.

John 1:12, Luke 6:46, Romans 6:17-18, John 14:17, John 14:23, Romans 8:14-16, John 15:4, Romans 8:11, Revelation 3:20.

G. Sanctification: A lifelong process whereby God motivates and helps us yield to the Word of God and to the ministry of the Holy Spirit in order to complete the development of Christ's character in us, enabling us to live a godly life.

Thessalonians 4:3, Romans 8:29, Romans 12:1-2, Ephesians 4:21-24, 2 Peter 1:3-4, 1 John 3:3-9.

VI. Trinity: We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Deuteronomy 6:4, Isaiah 43:10-11, Matthew 28:19, Luke 3:22, John 14:6, John 14:16-17, 1 Peter 1:18-20.

A. These three are coequal and coeternal.

1 John 5:7, Genesis 1:26, Matthew 3:16-17, Luke 1:35, Isaiah 9:6, Hebrews 3:7-11.

VII. Jesus Christ: We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

John 20:28-29, Philippians 2:6-11, Isaiah 9:6, Colossians 2:9, 1 Timothy 3:16

A. He is the second person in the Trinity, the Son of God. He is fully God and fully human.

John 1:1, 14, 1 Timothy 3:16, Philippians 2:5-8, 1 Timothy 2:5.

B. His Virgin Birth - Jesus was conceived by God the Father through the power of the Holy Spirit in the Virgin Mary's womb; therefore, although He became fully human, He remained the Son of God.

Matthew 1:18, Matthew 1:23-25, Luke 1:34-35, Isaiah 7:14, Luke 1:27-35.

C. His sinless life - although he was tempted in every way, He lived a perfectly sinless life.

Hebrews 4:15, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Hebrews 7:26-27, 1 John 3:5, 1 Peter 2:22.

D. His miracles

Matthew 4:23, Luke 6:17-19, John 3:2.

E. His substitutionary, atoning sacrifice for man's sin through death on the cross. Jesus took away all of God's wrath towards sin and reconciled us to the Father.

Romans 5:8-9, Colossians 1:14, Colossians 1:20, Ephesians 1:7.

F. His physical resurrection from death

John 2:19-21, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, 1 Corinthians 15:17-19, Luke 24:4-7, John 20:26-28, Luke 24:36-48, Revelation 1:17-18.

G. His ascension back to His original place at the right hand of the Father

Acts 2:33, Acts 5:30-31, Philippians 2:6-11.

H. Second Coming: the imminent, personal, visible return of this same Jesus in power and glory to establish His Millennial Kingdom on the earth.

Acts 1:9-11, Philippians 2:9-11, Isaiah 9:6, Matthew 24:30, Matthew 26:63-64, 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8, Revelation 1:5-7, Revelation chapters 19, 20, and 21, Revelation 20:2-4.

VIII. Holy Spirit: We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit which includes:

A. Bringing man to salvation

John 16:7-11, John 14:6.

B. Indwelling the Christian, enabling him to live a Godly life

(*see "the Indwelling Lordship of Christ)

C. The supernatural gifts of the Spirit

Hebrews 2:4, Romans 1:11, Romans 12:4-8, Ephesians 4:16, 1 Peter 4:10
1 Corinthians 12:7 (reference whole chapter), 1 Corinthians 14:1-3 (reference whole chapter).

D. empowering of the church for its work, life and worship

John 7:38-39, Acts 1:4-8, Acts 2:1-4.

IX. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit: Given at Pentecost, the Spirit's baptism is the fulfillment of the Father's promise, sent by Jesus Christ after His ascension, to empower the church to preach the Gospel to the whole earth. The initial evidence is speaking in tongues. The gifts will always operate in harmony with the Word of God and be marked by the Fruit of the Spirit.

Joel 2:28-29, Matthew 3:11, Mark 16:17, Acts 11:15-17, Luke 24:49, Acts 2:4,
1 Corinthians 14:2, 4, Acts 8:14-17, Acts 9:17-18, Acts 10:38-46, Acts 19:2-6,
1 Corinthians 14:14-15, 1 Corinthians 14:18 (Paul), Ephesians 5:18-19,
Galatians 5:22-25, John 1:1, Hebrews 13:8, 1 Corinthians 12:3.

X. The Church is made up of all true believers in Christ and is described as both the Body and the Bride of Christ. It is indwelled by the Holy Spirit and commissioned to make disciples of all nations.

1 Corinthians 12 (*see whole chapter) vs.12-14, 27, Acts 16:4-5, Matthew 16:18,
Matthew 28:18-20, Ephesians 1:22-23, Colossians 1:18, Ephesians 1:22.

A. The prime agency for the work of God's Kingdom is the Christian local church functioning under the sovereign headship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 4:7-13, 1 Corinthians 1:2, Galatians 1:2, Galatians 1:22, 1 Thessalonians 1:1,
Philemon 2, Revelation 2:7, Revelation 2:1, Revelation 2:8, Revelation 2:12,
Revelation 2:18, Revelation 3:1, Revelation 3:7, Revelation 3:14, Ephesians 1:22.

B. The church has been entrusted with the ordinances of

1. Believer's Baptism¹

1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Matthew 28:19, Acts 2:38, Acts 8:36, 38, Mark 16:16, Acts 19:4-5, Romans 6:3-4.

2. The Lord's Supper

Luke 22:17-20, 1 Corinthians 10:16, 1 Corinthians 11:23-29.

XI. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 4:1-7, John 13:34-35, John 17:11, John 17:21-23, Romans 12:4-5, Ephesians 4:11-16

XII. We believe that the full gospel includes:

A. Healing for the body

Matthew 10:1, 1 Corinthians 12:9, James 5:14-16, Luke 9:2, Mark 16:18

B. Deliverance from demonic oppression

Mark 16:17, Luke 10:17-20, Acts 19:11-12, Acts 16:16-18

C. The power of praying in Jesus' name

Matthew 16:19, Matthew 18:19-20, Matthew 21:13, Matthew 21:22, Acts 6:4, James 5:15-16, Revelation 5:8, Luke 10:19-20

XIII. Marriage² is a relationship pattern given by God to all mankind and is defined as one man united with one woman in a mutually exclusive life-long covenant. Marriage is a picture of Jesus and the church.

Matthew 19:4-6, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Hebrews 13:4

¹ We practice baptism by immersion subsequent to repentance from sin.

² We reject all relational patterns outside of this norm, including same sex unions, and specify that God ordains our gender identity at birth.