

STATEMENT OF DOCTRINE

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the verbally inspired Word of God. Inspiration is God's superintending of human authors so that, using their own individual personalities, they composed and recorded without error His revelation to man in the original autographs. All Scriptures are authoritative and without error in any category of knowledge, including science and history, and are of supreme and final authority in all matters about which they speak. We believe the Scriptures are to be interpreted in a literal and normal way. This means to consider history, grammar, context, and harmony with other Scriptures as guidelines for interpretation. We believe that the Holy Spirit guides the believer to understand the Bible. We believe that God's revelation to man is complete, and that He speaks to man primarily through the Scriptures.

(Matthew 5:18; John 10:35; II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:20-21; Revelation 22:18-19)

THE GODHEAD

We believe in one Triune God, existing in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, eternal in being, identical in essence, equal in power and glory and having the same attributes and perfection.

(Deuteronomy 6:4; II Corinthians 13:14)

THE ALIENATED CONDITION OF MAN

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but that in Adam's sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, became alienated from God, and is totally unable without God's grace to regain its former position.

(Genesis 1:26, 3:1-24; Romans 3:23, 5:12; Ephesians 2:12)

THE PERSON & WORK OF CHRIST

We believe that the Lord Jesus, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful man. We believe that He accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a substitutionary sacrifice. We believe that our redemption and salvation is guaranteed to us by His literal physical resurrection from the dead.

(John 1:1, 14, 18; Luke 1:35; Romans 3:24-26, 4:25)

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is now in heaven, exalted to the right hand of God, where, as His people's High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of intercession and advocacy.

(Hebrews 1:3, 3:1, 7:23-25, 9:24, 12:2; I John 2:1-2)

THE PERSONALITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe the Holy Spirit is a person who convicts the world of sin, righteousness and judgment. He also, in the present age, regenerates believers in Christ, baptizes them into the church, the body of Christ, indwells them permanently, seals them unto the day of redemption, bestows spiritual gifts upon each one, and fills those yielded to Him.

(John 3:8, 14:16, 15:26-27, 16:7-15; I Corinthians 12:4-11, 13; Ephesians 4:30, 5:18)

SALVATION

We believe that salvation is a gift of God in grace and is received by man through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose precious blood was shed for the forgiveness of our sins.

(John 1:12; Ephesians 1:7, 2:8)

THE ETERNAL SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER

We believe that all those who have genuinely put their trust in Christ as Savior and Lord have become new creations in Christ and are kept eternally secure by the power of the Holy Spirit and the intercession of Jesus Christ.

(John 10:27-30; Romans 8:1, 29-30, 38-39; Ephesians 4:30; Hebrews 7:25; I Peter 1:5)

THE CHURCH

- We believe that the Church is the universal bride and body of Christ. This body is composed of all “born again” believers in Christ regardless of denominational affiliation or church membership.
(I Corinthians 12:4-27; Ephesians 1:22, 5:23-30)
- We believe that the local church is an assembly of professed believers in Jesus Christ who have the privilege and responsibility to voluntarily join together in one locality for the purpose of equipping each believer to be obedient to God through vital, personal and corporate experiences: with Him, in His Word, with one another, and in evangelism.
- We believe that the local church is God’s primary means of leading people to Christ and presenting each believer mature in Christ.
(Matthew 16:18-19, 28:18-20; Acts 2:37-47)
- We believe that the Lord Jesus instituted the ordinances of baptism and the Lord’s Supper to be observed by all believers until His return.
(Matthew 28:19-20; I Corinthians 11:23-26)

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

We believe in the personal imminent coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His own, the Church, and His subsequent pre-millennial return to earth to set up His kingdom.

(Zechariah 14:4-11; I Thessalonians 1:9-10, 4:13-18; Revelation 20:6)

THE ETERNAL STATE

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all persons. Believers are to be resurrected to enjoy eternal life with God and unbelievers to experience judgment and then eternal suffering apart from God.

(John 5:28-29; I Corinthians 15:52; I Thessalonians 4:16; II Thessalonians 1:7-9; Revelation 20:4-6, 21:1-8)

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BELIEVERS

We believe that all believers should seek to walk by the Spirit, not bringing reproach upon their Lord and Savior, and that separation from sinful pleasures and practices is commanded by God.

(Romans 12:1-2; II Corinthians 6:14, 7:1; Galatians 5:16, 25)

We believe that it is the obligation of every believer to witness by life and by word to the truths of Holy Scripture and to seek to proclaim the gospel to all the world. (Acts 1:8)

We believe that it is the responsibility of all believers to remember the work of the Lord in prayer and to support it with their means as the Lord has prospered them. (I Corinthians 16:2)

We believe that Scripture teaches that the local church shall have the priority in our giving. (Acts 2:37-47; I Corinthians 9:11, 16:1-2)