



STATEMENT OF BASIC BELIEF

1. **The Bible** — We believe the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, to be the verbally inspired, inerrant, infallible Word of God. Men of God were moved by the Holy Spirit to record precisely the words that God intended. It is without error in the original writings. The Bible is God's complete written revelation of Himself and His will for the salvation of mankind, and is the final authority for Christian faith and life.

(Psalm 19:7-9; Matthew 5:18; John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21)

2. **God** — We believe in one living and true God, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three equal persons - God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These three are identical in essence while distinct in office and activity. God is a personal, spiritual, and intelligent Being, the Creator, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe.

(Genesis 1:26; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; 1 Corinthians 8:6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Peter 1:2; 1 John 5:7)

3. **The Person and Work of God the Father** — We believe God the Father reigns with sovereign care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of human history according to His purpose and grace. In His nature He is completely holy, all-powerful, all knowing, omnipresent, eternal, transcendent, immutable, self-sufficient, self-existent, wrathful, just, gracious, good, merciful and loving. He is the sender of His only Son, Jesus Christ. As the Father of the elect, He is their provider disciplinarian and restorer.

(Psalm 139:1-18, 145:8-9; Isaiah 40:18-31; Jeremiah 32:17; Matthew 3:17, 6:30-32; John 3:16, Acts 17:29; Romans 1:18, 3:26, 11:33-36; Galatians 3:26; Ephesians 1:3-6; Hebrews 12:5-13; 1 John 1:5)

4. **The Person and Work of Christ the Son** — We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who became a man without ceasing to be God. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He lived a perfect life and died on the cross as a substitutionary sacrifice for our sins. Our salvation is guaranteed by His literal, bodily resurrection from the dead. He is now exalted in heaven at the right hand of God the Father, where He ministers as High Priest for His people. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission.

(Matthew 1:18-25; John 1:1-14, 10:23, 10:30, 11:35; Romans 4:25; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Colossians 2:9; Acts 9:1-11; Hebrews 1:3, 3:1, 4:14-15, 7:25; 1 John 2:1-2)

5. **The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit** — We believe that the ministry of God the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ. He convicts people of sin, and gives life to the spiritually dead that receive Jesus Christ as Savior, baptizing them at the moment of faith. He permanently indwells believers and bestows on them spiritual gifts. He leads, instructs and empowers them for godly living and service. As we learn more about Him and His work through the Scriptures, pray and yield to Him (allow Him to direct and control their thoughts, words, and actions), He beautifies their character with the fruit of the Spirit and transforms them to be like Christ.

(John 3:8, 7:37-39, 14:12, 16-17, 26, 16:7-11; Romans 8:1-13, 26-27; 1 Corinthians 12:4-13; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 1:13-14, 5:18)

6. **Man's Creation and Fall** — We believe that all things in heaven and on earth are created by God and exist by His power and for His glory. We believe that man was created innocent and in the image of God, but that he sinned, bringing both spiritual and physical and spiritual death to himself and his posterity. While still made in God's image, humankind has inherited a sinful nature and is incapable of redeeming himself. All human life is sacred, in that God created man in his own image, and that Christ died for man; therefore, every human being, born and unborn, young and old, possesses dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.

(Genesis 1:26-27; 2:17, 3:1-24; Psalm 139:13-16; John 3; Romans 3:10-12, 5:12-19)

7. **Salvation** — We believe that every person is lost in sin apart from Christ and in need of a Savior. Jesus Christ died as a full and sufficient payment for the sins of the entire world, and His blood is the only provision by which an individual may be delivered from the wrath of God. We believe that salvation is a gift of God and is received by man only through faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that man is justified by grace through faith alone, apart from human merit or works. We believe that all true believers, once saved, are kept secure in Christ forever.

(John 1:12, 3:36, 5:24, 6:37, 10:27-30; Acts 4:12, 13:38-39; Romans 3:23-24, 6:23, 8:1, 29-30, 38-39; Ephesians 1:7, 2:8-10; Philippians 1:6; Titus 3:5; Hebrews 9:22; 1 John 5:13)

8. **The Ordinances** — We believe that Christ instituted the ordinances of water baptism and the Lord's Supper, which are to be observed by believers until He returns.

(Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

We believe that water baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience publicly announcing and symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried, and risen Savior, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus.

(Acts 8:36-38; Romans 6:3-5)

Jesus never asked His disciples to remember His birth. But He did instruct them to remember His death and resurrection. He gave the church two visible symbols (called "ordinances") as reminders of His death. These two ordinances are: Baptism and The Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is an object lesson that represents a great spiritual truth for believers.

We believe that the Lord's Supper is a memorial of Christ's death by which He established the New Covenant, the elements being symbols of His body and blood. Every Christian has a right and an obligation to partake of the elements of the Lord's Supper, but participation should be preceded by solemn self-examination.

(1 Corinthians 11:20-34; Matthew 26:26-29)

9. **The Church** — We believe that the true, universal church is made up of all who have saving faith in Jesus Christ. The believer is placed into the church by the baptizing work of the Holy Spirit, and is thus a part of the Body of Christ of which Jesus is the Head. We believe that the church, as defined by the New Testament, is distinct from Israel (God's "chosen people" as defined in the Old and New Testaments). (

Acts 2:1-4, 11:16-17; Romans 11; 1 Corinthians 10:32, 12:12-14; 2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Eph. 1:22-23, 5:25-27)

We believe that every local church has the right under Christ to decide and govern its own affairs.

(Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 2:42-47; 1 Corinthians 5:1-5; Ephesians 4:11-16, 5:23; Colossians 1:18; 1 Peter 2:5, 9)

10. **Events of the End Times** — We believe in the personal, physical coming of the Lord Jesus Christ in the air to receive to Him all those, dead or alive, who have received salvation. This event, the rapture of the Church, is the blessed hope for which we should be constantly looking.

(John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Titus 2:11-14)

The culmination of the seven years of judgment called "The Tribulation" will be the personal, bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ to the earth to establish the Millennial Age, during which He will reign, Satan will be bound, Israel will be restored, and the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord.

(Isaiah 11:9; Ezekiel 37:21-28; Matthew 24:15- 25:46; Revelation 19:11-20:3)

We believe that every person will be raised from the dead. Believers will be raised to stand for evaluation at the judgment seat of Christ to determine rewards based on their faithfulness and obedience to God. Believers will then live with Him in everlasting blessedness and joy in glory. We believe that every unbeliever will be punished with everlasting, conscious torment away from the presence of the Lord.

(Matthew 10:28, 13:48-50, 25:46; Luke 16:19-26, 23:42-43; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15; 2 Corinthians 5:8-10; Philippians 1:23; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; Hebrews 9:27)

OUR CORE VALUES

SCRIPTURE — They are infallible, inerrant, and inspired by God. 2 Timothy 3:16

WORSHIP — Realizing that authentic worship is in effect every day of our lives. Romans 12:1-2
Offering acceptable and contemporary musical worship to all.

COMMUNITY — Authenticity, Sharing life, Outreach, Servants heart, Devotion, Obedience
Acts 2:42-47

MINISTRIES — Christ followers need to be equipped effectively to accomplish the mission
God has for them. Ephesians 4:11-13