

## **Our Statement of Faith**

**This Statement of Faith is a summary of important Biblical truths. We hold these truths in common with God's people throughout the world and history.**

### **The Scriptures**

We affirm that the Holy Scriptures, as originally given by God through the different authors (a) are the infallible (b) and inerrant (c) Word of God. This comprises 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament (d). Recognizing these as our only authority in all matters of faith and practice (e), we believe the doctrines taught in them.

1. 2 Tim. 3:16; Heb 1:1,2; 2Pet. 1:20,21
2. John 17:17
3. Titus 1:2; John 17:17; (Heb 6:18)
4. The books comprising the Apocrypha are not of divine inspiration and are not part of Holy Scripture.
5. Ps 19:7-11; 78:5-8; 119:9-11; Acts 2:42a; 1Thess. 4:1-8; 2 Tim. 3:16.

### **The Trinity**

We believe in the only true and living God (a). Revealed in the Holy Scriptures as God the Father (b), God the Son (c), and God the Holy Spirit (d). The Divine Persons in this Holy Trinity exist in perfect unity (e), are co-equal (f), and co-eternal (g), and are sovereign in creation (h), providence (i) election and redemption (j).

6. Deut 6:4; 1 Cor 8:4,6; Jer 10:10; 1 Thess. 1:9
7. John 6:27; 1 Pet 1:2
8. John 1:1, 14; Titus 2:13; 1 John 5:20
9. Acts 5:3,4
10. Matt 3:16, 17; 28:19; 2 Cor 13:14
11. John 10:30; 17:22
12. Ps 90:2; John 1:1; 1 Tim 1:17; Heb 9:14
13. Gen 1:2,3; Job 24:13; 33:4; John 1:2,3
14. Ps 33:10,11; 135:6; Dan 4:34, 35; Acts 17:25-28
15. Eph 1:3-14

### **God, the Father**

We believe in the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is holy (a), righteous (b), full of grace (c), mercy (d), compassion (e), and love (f). In His infinite love He sent forth his Son, that the world might be saved through Him (g).

16. Lev 11:44,45; 19:2; 20:7; Is 6:3; 1 Pet 1:16; Rev 4:8
17. Deut 32:4; Ezra 9:15; Ps 119:137; John 17:25
18. Gen 33:11; Gal 1:15; 1 Pet 5:10
19. Dan 9:9; Eph 2:4
20. Ps 86:15
21. 1 John 4:8
22. John 3:16,17; Rom 5:8; 1 John 4:9,10

## **God, the Son**

We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Incarnate Son of God (a), whose true humanity (b) and full deity (c) were joined in the unity of His divine Person (d). We believe in His virgin birth (e), in His sinless life and in His teaching (f), in His divine miracles (g), in His substitutionary atoning death on the cross (h). There He offered the one perfect and final sacrifice for sin (i), for all time, triumphing over Satan (j), sin and death (k). We believe in His bodily resurrection (l) and His ascension into Heaven (m), where He now sits in glory at the Father's right hand (n), the only mediator between God and man (o).

23. John 1:14
24. Phil. 2:5-8; Rom 1:3
25. John 1:1; 20:28; Titus 2:13,14
26. Col 2:9; 1 Tim 3:16
27. Luke 1:34, 35; Matt 1:20-25
28. 1 Peter 2:22; Heb 7:26
29. Acts 2:22; John 2:11
30. Matt 1:21; John 10:14-15; Rom 5:19; 3:25; 2 Cor 5:21
31. Heb 7:23-28; 10:14-18
32. Col 2:13-15
33. 1 Cor 15:56-57
34. John 2:19; 1 Cor 15:4-8
35. Acts 1:9-11
36. Eph 1:20-23
37. 1 Tim 2:5; John 14:5; Acts 4:12

## **God, the Holy Spirit**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Godhead (a), who regenerates the sinner (b), leads him to repentance, gives him faith in Christ (c), equips him with gifts for service (d), sanctifies him through the Word (e), in this present life (f) and fits him to enjoy fellowship with God forever (g). For spiritual power and effectiveness His ministry is essential to the individual Christian and the church (h).

38. 2 Cor 3:17,18
39. John 3:5-8; Rom 8:9
40. 2 Thess 2:13,14
41. Eph 4:11-13
42. John 17:17
43. Eph 4:22-32
44. Acts 20:32
45. Zech 4:6

## **Man and the Fall**

We believe that as a result of the Fall all men are sinful by nature (a). Sin pollutes and infects every part of their being (b), renders them unable to please God by their own efforts (c), makes them guilty in the sight of a holy God (d), and subject to the penalty which, in His wrath and condemnation, He has decreed against it (e).

46. Rom 5:12
47. Rom 3:10-18; Titus 1:15
48. Rom 3:12; Mark 7:20-23
49. Rom 3:19
50. Eph 3:2; 2 Thess 1:6-10

### **Salvation**

We believe that through faith alone, in Christ alone, the sinner is freely justified by God (a). The death of Christ was the final perfect sacrifice for sinners, and no sacrifice for sins remains to be offered today (b). On the basis of Christ's sacrifice once offered, God forgives all our sins (c), and credits Christ's righteousness to our account. Salvation is therefore by grace, a gift from God, and not a human achievement (d). Those who are born-again by the Spirit of God are secure in the palm of God's hand. He will enable them to persevere in faith (e).

51. Eph 2:8-10; Gal 2:16; Rom 3:22 & 28; 4:4-5
52. Heb 10:14-18; 7:23-28
53. Col 2:13-14; Rom 4:23-25
54. Eph 2:8-9; Rom 6:23
55. John 10:28-29, 1 Cor 1:7-9

### **Good Works**

We believe that good works are the fruit and evidence of a true and living faith (a). By these believers express their thankfulness to God (b), make the gospel attractive (c); and demonstrate Christ's love in the world (d). The believer's ability to do good works comes not from himself but from the Holy Spirit who is at work in him (e).

56. Jam 2:14-18; 2 Pet 1:5-10
57. Ps 116:12-14; Phil 1:11
58. Titus 2:9-10
59. Matt 5:16
60. John 15:5; Phil 2:13; Ezek 36:26,27

### **The Return of Jesus Christ**

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ will return personally, visibly and gloriously to this earth (a) to raise all the dead, both the just and the unjust (b). As the righteous Judge he will divide all men into two, and only two, categories - the saved and the lost (c). Those whose faith is in Christ will be saved eternally (d) and will enter immediately into the joy of their Lord sharing with Him his inheritance in heaven (e). The unbelieving will be condemned by Him to hell, where eternally they will be punished for their sins under the righteous judgment of God (f).

61. Acts 1:11; Matt 25:31-33
62. Acts 25:15
63. John 5:28,29
64. John 5:24,25
65. Matt 25:34; 1 Thess 4:13-18
66. Matt 25:41,42,46; 2 Thess 1:8,9; Rev 20:10

## **The Church**

We believe that the church consists of the elect of God (a), that is, all those who in every age are born again of the Spirit of God (b) and thus united to Christ their Head (c).

We believe that a true local church exists where the following marks are evident and practiced according to the Word of God:

The preaching of the Gospel of Christ (d)

The administration of believer's Baptism (e) and the Lord's Supper (f)

The exercise of Church Discipline.(g)

67. 1 Pet 1:1,2; Eph 1:1,4,5,11-13

68. 1 Cor 1:2; John 3:3,5

69. 1 Cor 12:12,13,27

70. Mark 16:15; Gal 1:8,9

71. Matt 28:19

72. 1 Cor 11:23-26

73. Matt 18:15-18; 1 Cor 5:12-6:3