



# Statement of Faith

We believe the following statements to be a summary of the doctrine, which is essential to the practice, and propagation of true Biblical Christianity; and therefore are held by this church.

## **The Scriptures**

The scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the Written Word of God and the Supreme and sole authority of Christian faith and practice. The Scriptures were originally given by the Holy Spirit by plenary, verbal inspiration, infallible true and free of error. No other writings, experiences or traditions of any kind are inspired in this sense. (2 Timothy 3:16- 17, 2 Peter 1:20-21, John 20:31, Psalms 119:105)

## **The Nature of God**

The only true and living God is the Triune Godhead—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Triune Godhead is co-existent, eternal and co-equal in all attributes. The Father is omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, the Creator and ruler of all things. He has been revealed to man through the Scriptures and completely and supremely in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 13:14, Colossians 1:15-17, Hebrews 1:3, John 15:26-27)

## **The Nature and Work of Jesus Christ**

The Lord Jesus Christ is the Son of God equally divine and eternal with the Father and is also the Son of Man, truly human, but without sin. He became flesh in the person of Jesus of Nazareth who is born of the virgin Mary by miraculous conception of the Holy Spirit and virgin birth. He lives a sinless human life, perfectly fulfilling the divine law and then offered himself as a sacrifice for the sins of every man. He died on the cross shedding his precious blood in full substitution and atonement for the sins of all men everywhere. He was buried. On the third day He arose bodily from the dead, alive forever more. He later ascended bodily into Heaven, where at the right hand of the Father He now continually intercedes for those who put their trust in Him. (Matthew 1:20, Isaiah 9:6, Luke 1:35, John 17:5, 17:8, Philippians 2:6-8, 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18, Romans 3:24-25, 1 John 2:2, Colossians 1:20, 2 Corinthians 5:18, John 19:38-42, Romans 10:9, Acts 1:9, John 21:19, Romans 8:34)

## **The Nature and Work of the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is one with the Father and Son in the Godhead, whose work it is to glorify God in Christ through convicting men of sin and regenerating those who believe on Him. He indwells all believers and is the source of all spiritual power, but he may be resisted by both saints and sinners. He is the guide and counselor for all Christians and for the church, to interpret, teach and reveal the mind of God unto us through the Holy Scriptures. (John 3:6, Titus 3:5, 1 Thessalonians 5:19, Acts 7:51, Ephesians 4:30, John 14:17, Ephesians 3:16, 1 John 2:27, 1 Corinthians 2:13, John 14:26)

## **The Nature of Man**

Man was originally created in the image of God. The Genesis account of creation reveals that man came by direct creation of God. Though created in the image of God, man willfully sinned by disobedience, thereby bringing sin and death into the world. Through Adam all have inherited a sin nature and are condemned to eternal punishment. (Genesis 1:16-17, Romans 3:10-19, Romans 3:23, 5:12-14, 6:23, 1 John 1:8, Revelation 21:12)

## **Salvation**

Man is utterly unable to save himself from the power or penalty of sin. Each man must be saved wholly on the basis of the work Christ has done in dying for his sins and rising for his justification. Salvation is received by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, as the Son of God and personal Savior. (John 3:5, 1:12, Romans 5:1, Ephesians 2:8-9, Titus 2:11-14)

The Bible clearly teaches that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are safe and secure in Christ forever. (John 5:24, 6:37-40, 6:47, 10:27-30, Romans 8:28-39, Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30, 1 Peter 1:5, 1 Corinthians 1:4-8, Hebrews 13:5) Therefore, it is impossible for a born again child of God to lose his/her salvation. (John 10:28)

On the other hand, the person whose life is devoid of Christian character ought to make certain of his calling and election (2 Peter 1:3-10) and should examine himself to see whether he is in the faith (2 Corinthians 13:5). The question, therefore, is not whether saved people can be lost (which is impossible) but whether one who professes belief is truly saved. (1 John 2:4, 6, 9)

## **Sanctification**

A true Christian is one who has been "saved" or "born again", set apart by the Holy Spirit when he truly believes in and accepts Christ as his personal Savior. The reality of this experience will evidence itself by a genuine love for Christ and His Word and by a life characterized by Christ-like motives and standards. This setting apart consists of an act, occurring at salvation, wherein the Holy Spirit sets the believer apart positionally for Heaven; a process, to progressively overpower sin in the life of the believer and gradually conform him to the image of Christ. As a result, the believer attains perfect holiness at the rapture of the Church. (John 3:5-6, 2 Peter 1:4, Ephesians 1:3-12, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Romans 1:7, 1 Corinthians 1:2, Titus 3:5, Philippians 1:6, 1 Thessalonians 5:23, Philippians 3:21, 1 John 3:2, Jude 24)

## **Satan**

Satan is a fallen angel of great power in rebellion against God. He is iniquitous, promotes evil, deceives and tempts all men to sin against God. He will be cast into the Lake of Fire at the end of the age. (Ephesians 6:12, Isaiah 14:12-15, John 8:44, 1 Peter 2:4, Revelation 19:20, 20:1-12)

## **The Church**

The church of Christ is composed of all who have been Saved and will be with Him in Heaven. A local church, therefore is an assembly of regenerated persons united by doctrine for effectively witnessing to the unsaved, for baptizing, teaching, exhorting, and edifying those who are saved. For Christian fellowship among the brethren, for united praise and worship of God through song, testimony, prayer and frequent observance of the Lord's Supper as ordained by Christ, and for establishing other local churches of like precious faith, at home and abroad. (Acts 2:41-47, 1 Corinthians 1:2, Romans 16:17, Matthew 28:18-20)

## **Ordinances**

Scripture instructs the church to carry out two ordinances which were instituted by the Lord. These ordinances are a symbol, not a sacrament. These were practiced by the early church and explained in the Epistles. Believers baptized by immersion is a memorial of Christ's death, burial and resurrection. It is a testimony of the believer's union with Christ and a prophecy of the future resurrection of the believer's body after the example of Christ. The Lord's Supper is a memorial of Christ's death, a testimony of His body and shed blood, upon which we are continually dependent and a prophecy of His return at the rapture. (Matthew 26:26-30, Acts 2:41-42, Romans 6:3-5, 1 Corinthians 11:23-34)

## **Civil Government**

All Christians should obey officials of the government and the laws of their country as those appointed by God for the protection of all the punishment of evil doers. The only exception to this would be when these officials or laws conflict with the Word of God. We are admonished to pray for our leaders. (Ezra 7:26, Matthew 22:21, Romans 13:1, 1 Peter 2:17, 2 Timothy 2:1-2)

## **The Promised Return of Christ**

When the present age is consummated the Lord Jesus will return to the earth to establish His millennial kingdom. It is not possible to know the date of His coming; nevertheless, every Christian should live in earnest expectation of His coming at any time. When He comes in the air, both dead and living believers will be caught up to meet Him, receive their resurrection bodies and will appear at the judgment seat of Christ to be judged not for salvation but for rewards. This preMillennial coming of Christ will also be associated with a period of judgment and great tribulation on the earth, in which the wrath of God will be poured on unsaved men because of their rejection of God and His Christ. Then Christ will come to the earth in power and glory to reign for a thousand years. (1 Corinthians 15:51-52, 1 Thessalonians 1:10, 4:13-18, 5:1-10, 1 Corinthians 3:12-15, 2 Corinthians 5:10, Daniel 9:27, Matthew 25:1-10, 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10, Isaiah 65:18-25, Revelation 20:4-10)

## **Finalizing Of God's Prophecy**

Following the millennium, the unsaved dead will be raised, judged according to their works and separated forever from God in the Lake of Fire. Satan, who is a real personality and the source of all evil in the universe, will also be consigned forever to the Lake of Fire. Those who are saved will live forever in the presence of Christ enjoying the fellowship for which they are created and which was secured for them through the reconciling work of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Matthew 25:41-46, Revelation 20:11-15)

## **Marriage**

**Marriage and Sexuality:** Marriage is the exclusive, covenantal union between one man and one woman. Marriage was instituted by God in the beginning, and reaffirmed by the Lord Jesus Christ. All forms of sexual immorality, such as adultery, premarital sex, homosexual behavior, pornography, and transgender behavior are sinful and offensive to God. (Genesis 2:24; Mark 10:6-9; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Colossians 3:5-9; Psalm 139:13-16).