

What We Believe

- God is bigger and better and closer than we can imagine.
- The Bible is God's perfect guidebook for living.
- Jesus is God showing Himself to us.
- Through His Holy Spirit, God lives in and through us now.
- Nothing in creation "just happened." God made it all.
- Grace is the only way to have a relationship with God.
- Faith is the only way to grow in our relationship with God.
- Evil exists because of sin; God can bring good even out of evil events and God promises victory over evil to those who choose Him.
- Heaven and hell are real places. Death is a beginning, not the end.
- The church is to serve people like Jesus served people.
- Jesus is coming again!

Complete Doctrinal Statement

ABOUT GOD

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three personalities: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God. (Genesis 1:1,26,27; 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

ABOUT MAN

Man is made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. He is the supreme object of God's creation. Although man has tremendous potential for good, he is marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called sin. This attitude separates man from God. (Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1,2)

ABOUT ETERNITY

Man was created to exist forever. He will either exist eternally separated from God by sin or in union with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and Hell are places of eternal existence. (John 3:16; John 2:25; 1 John 5:11-13; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:11-15)

ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is the Son of God, who was born of a virgin and is co-equal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all men by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again to earth to reign as King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. (Matthew 1:22,23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5; 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14,15; 1 Corinthians 15:3,4; Romans 1:3,4; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Timothy 6:14,15; Titus 2:13)

ABOUT SALVATION

Salvation is a gift from God to man. Man can never make up for his sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can man be saved from sin's penalty. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith. (Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8,9; John 1:12; 14:6; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26; Romans 5:1)

ABOUT BAPTISM

Water: the believer publicly confesses his faith in Jesus Christ by taking water baptism by immersion. (Matthew 3:11; Luke 3:16; John 1:26; Matthew 28:20)

Holy Spirit: the baptism in the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4 is given to believers who ask for it.

ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and the Son as God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. The Christian seeks to live under His control daily. (2 Corinthians 3:17; John 14:16,17; 16:7-13; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:12; 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25)

ABOUT THE BIBLE

The Bible is God's word to all men, written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Inspired by God, the Bible is truth without any mixture of error. (2 Timothy 1:13; 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20,21; Psalm 12:6; 119:105,160; Proverbs 30:5)

ABOUT THE CHURCH

The Bible tells us that the church is the body of Christ in the world today. The New Testament tells us the church is a local body of baptized believers. The head of the church is Jesus Christ. The biblical purposes of the church are worship, evangelism, fellowship, discipleship and ministry to others. Support of the ministry and church is to be accomplished through tithing and through giving offerings. It is best to bring these funds into the church for distribution to places of need. (Matthew 16:15-19; 18:15-20; Acts 2:41,42,47; 5:11-14; Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; 3:16; Ephesians 1:22,23; Philippians 1:1; Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 3:1-15; 4:14; 1 Peter 5:1-4; Nehemiah 13:10-14; Malachi 3:8-10; Matthew 23:23)