

What We Believe

“If any man is willing to do His will, he shall know of the doctrine...” **John 7:17**

THE SCRIPTURES

We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as verbally inspired by God and inerrant in the original writings, and that they are the supreme and final authority in faith and life. **(Isa. 40:8; II Tim. 3:16, 17; John 10:35; II Peter 1:19-21).**

THE TRUE GOD

We believe in one God, eternal, immutable, omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent, manifesting Himself in Three Persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - one in nature, name, attributes, power, and glory.

(Gen. 1:1; Prov. 30:4, Mt. 28:19; Mk. 12:29; II Cor. 13:14; John 1:1-4, 18; Acts 5:3, 4)

THE SON OF GOD

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary and that He is true God and true man.

(Mt. 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-35; Phil. 2:6-11)

THE CREATION AND FALL OF MAN

We believe that man was created in the image of God; That he sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death which is separation from God; and that all human beings are born with a sinful nature, and in the case of those who reach responsibility, become sinners in thought, word, and deed.

(Gen. 1:26, 27; 2:7-9, 16-17; 3:1-19; Ps. 51:5; 58:3; Rom. 5:12; Eph. 2:1-3)

THE ATONEMENT

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures as a propitiatory and substitution sacrifice and rose again for our justification; and that all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood and are saved by grace through faith wholly apart from merit and works.

(Acts 13:38, 39; 16:31; Rom. 3:21-28; Eph. 2:8-10; Titus 3:3-8)

FAITH AND SALVATION

We believe that all who receive by faith the Lord Jesus are born again by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God and thereby become the children of God, possessing eternal, divine life.

(John 3:3-16; 1:12, 13; 5:24; 10:28, 29; I Peter. 1:23; II Pet. 1:4-11)

SECURITY OF THE SAINTS

We believe that all who are truly “born again” are eternally kept by God the Father for Jesus Christ. **(Phil. 1:6; John 10:28, 29; Rom. 8:35-39; I John 5:11-13)**

THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a Divine Person - the Administrator of the Godhead - convicting of sin, revealing Christ, teaching the truth, restraining evil, energizing believers in prayer, worship, and service, and is ever present in the believer as Comforter and Helper.

(Ps. 139:7-12; John 14:16, 17; 15:26; 16:13, 14; Rom. 8:9; I Cor. 6:19; II Thes. 2:7)

We believe further that the baptism in the Spirit occurs at the moment of Salvation and unites the believer to the Body of Christ **(I Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:13, 14)**, and that the sign gifts of the Holy Spirit were for the apostolic age and are not sought after today. **(Heb. 2:3, 4 and I Cor. 13:8-10; 14:21, 22)**

THE LOCAL CHURCH

We believe that a local church is a congregation and assembly of immersed believers associated by covenant of faith and fellowship of the Gospel; and that we should cooperate with such churches in the accepted methods of scriptural evangelism and the placing of new converts. **(Acts 2:41-47)**

BAPTISM AND THE LORD’S SUPPER

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water to show our identity, with the crucified, buried, and risen Savior. We believe that the Lord’s Supper is the commemoration of our Lord’s death until He comes.

(Acts 8:26-29; Rom. 6:3-5; I Cor. 11:23-28)

RESURRECTION AND RETURN OF CHRIST

We believe in the resurrection of the body of our Lord, His ascension into heaven, His present life there as our High Priest and Advocate, and His personal, visible, pre-tribulational, pre-millennial return to establish His kingdom on earth and to resign as the Only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords. **(Luke 24:26-43; John 20:24-29; Acts 1:9-11; I Cor. 15:20-25 I Tim. 6:14; Rev. 1:5-7; 19:11-16; 20:6)**

RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

We believe that any moment the rapture of the saved may occur, when “the Lord shall descend from heaven” to catch up with His people to meet Him in the air, and “so shall we ever be with the Lord”, after which the seven-year tribulation will begin on the earth, revealing the antichrist, and ending with the glorious second coming of Christ to the world. **(John 14:1-3; I Thes. 4:13- 18; 5:1-4; I Cor. 15:51-58)**

DESTINY OF SAVED AND LOST

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all the dead - the saved to life of eternal glory and bliss in heaven with God; the unsaved to eternal judgment of conscious suffering and woe in the lake of fire. **(John 5:28, 29; Rev. 20:6, 11-15; Mt. 10:28; 18:8, 9; 25:41, 46; Mark 9:43-49; II Thes. 1:6-9)**

SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD

We believe in separation from all worldly practices and in wholehearted devotion to the cause of Christ as the only scriptural basis for a happy and useful Christian life. For this reason, we oppose all indulgence in intoxicating liquors, narcotics, tobacco in any form, membership in secret societies, and all similar practices which detract from a separated life. **(Mk. 4:22; Lk. 8:17; Rom. 6:1-14; 12:1, 2; Gal. 5:16-25; II Cor. 6:14; 7:1; Col. 3:1-17; Jas. 4:4; I John 2:15-17)**

SEPARATION FROM APOSTASY

We further believe in separation from apostasy as exemplified in ecclesiastical organizations, such as the National and World Council of Churches, or local alliances that are inconstant with upholding all biblical doctrine in statement or practice. **(Gal. 1:8, 9; II Cor. 6:14-17; II John 9-11; Titus 3:10; Rev. 2:12-29; 17:1-18)**

GENDER ROLE DISTINCTIONS

We believe that in the body of Christ there is no distinction as to personal salvation and baptism. (Gal. 3:28) However we do believe in the distinction of male and female and to the divinely given roles of those distinctions in the assembly and home, whereby the glorious relationship of Christ and His Bride is kept pure before the world. Therefore, we do not believe that women should pastor, teach or take authority over men in the church, nor do we condone the sin of homosexuality in any form, according to the scriptures.

(Gen. 1:27; 2:18-25; I Cor. 6:9, 10; Eph. 2:22-33; I Tim. 2:9-3:7)