

Spirit And Truth Christian Fellowship -Tenants of Faith

I THE SCRIPTURES INSPIRED

The bible is the inspired Word of God, a revelation from God to men; the infallible rule of faith and conduct, and is superior to conscience and reason, but not contrary to reason (2 Tim. 3:15, 16; 1 Pet. 2:2).

II THE ONE TRUE GOD

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent, self-revealed "I AM"; and has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association, i.e., as Father, Son and Holy Ghost (Deut. 6:4; Mark 12:29; Isa. 43:10, 11; Matt. 28:19)

III MAN, HIS FALL AND REDEMPTION

Man was created good and upright—for God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness." "But man, by voluntary transgression fell and his only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God." (Gen. 1:26-31; 3:1-7; Rom. 5:12-21).

IV THE SALVATION OF MAN

Conditions to salvation: The grace of God, which brings salvation, has appeared to all men, through the preaching of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; man is saved by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, and being justified by grace through faith, he becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life. (Titus 2:11; Rom. 10:13-15; Luke 24:47; Titus 3:5-7).

The evidences of salvation: The inward evidence, to the believer of this salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Rom. 8:16); the outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness.

V BAPTISM IN WATER

The ordinance of baptism by burial with Christ should be observed as commanded in the scriptures, by all who have really repented and in their hearts they have truly believed on Christ as Savior and Lord. In so doing, they have the body washed in pure water as an outward symbol of cleansing, while their heart has already been sprinkled with the blood of Christ as an inner cleansing; thus they declare to the world that they have died with Jesus and that they have also been raised with Him to walk in newness of life (Matt. 28:19, Acts 10:47, 48; Rom. 6:4; Acts 20:21; Heb. 10:22).

VI THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements, bread and fruit of the vine, is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Pet. 1:4); a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Cor. 11:26); and a prophesy of His coming again (1 Cor. 11:26); and is enjoined on all believers "until He comes".

VII THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER

All believers are entitled to, and should ardently expect, and earnestly seek, the promise of the Father, the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of the Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian church. With it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment of the Gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4; Cor. 12:1-31). This wonderful experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9).

VIII SPEAKING IN TONGUES

The Baptism of the believers in the Holy Spirit can normally be witnessed by the physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives the utterance (ACTS 10:44-46). The speaking in tongues in the Acts 2:4 instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues (1 Cor. 12:4, 10, 28) but different in purpose and use.

IX ENTIRE SANCTIFICATION

The scriptures teach a life of Holiness without which no man shall see the Lord. By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command, "Be ye Holy, for I am Holy." Entire Sanctification is the will of God for all believers, and should be earnestly pursued by walking in obedience to God's Word (Heb. 12:14; 1 Pet. 1:15, 16; 1 Thess. 5:23, 24; 1 John 2:6).

X THE CHURCH

The Church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the General Assembly and Church of the First-born, which are written in heaven (Eph. 1:22, 23; 2:22; Heb. 12:23).

XI THE MINISTRY AND EVANGELISM

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for a two fold purpose: (1) The evangelization of the world, and (2) The edifying of the body of Christ (Mark 16:15-20; Eph. 4:11-13).

XII DIVINE HEALING

Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement, and is the privilege of all believers (Isa. 53:4-5; Matt. 8:16, 17).

XIII THE SECOND COMING OR BLESSED HOPE

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the blessed hope of the Church (1 Thess. 4:16-18; Rom. 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Cor. 15:51-52; Rev. 11:15).

XIV THE REIGN OF JESUS

The revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ from heaven, the salvation of the nation Israel, and the reign of Christ on the earth is the scriptural promise and the world's hope (2 Thess. 1:7; Rev. 19:11-14; Rom. 11:26-27; Rev. 20:1-7).

XV THE LAKE OF FIRE

The devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, and whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, shall be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Rev. 19:20; 20:10-15).

XVI THE NEW HEAVENS AND NEW EARTH

We "according to His promise, look for the new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:22).