

The Doctrine of the Bible

A. We believe in the verbal, plenary inspiration of the scriptures. Consisting of 66 books (39 Old Testament books and 27 New Testament books). We believe the original Hebrew and Greet manuscripts were inerrant and infallible.

1. Inspiration is the process whereby the Holy Spirit superintended the divine message and its inscription by the diverse human authors resulting in the inerrant and authoritative Word of God (II Peter 1:20-21; II Timothy 3:16).

2. Verbal inspiration is that ministry of the Holy Spirit upon the Scripture writers which, while preserving their individual styles of writing, guided them even in the choice of words so that what they wrote was exactly what God wanted written.

3. Plenary inspiration means that the entire Scripture is equally inspired and complete to sufficiently meet the needs of mankind for salvation and daily Christian living (II Timothy 3:16-17; Revelation 22:18-19).

B. We believe that the Traditional Texts of the Old Testament and New Testament the Masoretic and Received Text respectively, and the equivalent to the originals.

C. We believe that God has preserved His very words in the King James (1611) Version of the Bible and it is the Word of God without error for the English speaking people. (Psalm 12:6-7; 138:2; Isaiah 40:8; Mark 13:31).

D. We believe that the Bible is our only authoritative guide and rule for faith and practice. The Bible is without error in all matters, including history, Science, prophecy, morality, etc. (II Timothy 3:16-17).

E. We believe the Bible was written to be interpreted in literal, Historical, grammatical sense with the help of the Holy Spirit illuminating the believer, leading to the Dispensational approach to Scriptural interpretation. (II Timothy 2:15; John 20:31).

The Doctrine of God

A. The Trinity

1. We Believe there is one living and true God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and that He is revealed in both nature and the Holy Scriptures.

a. The universe declares the existence of God. (Romans 1:19-20; Psalms 19:1).

b. The writers of Scripture declare the existence of God. (Genesis 1:1; Psalm 14:1; I Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 11:6)

2. We believe God is a Spirit, the Creator and Sustainer of all things, having created the universe, visible and invisible, in six solar days (Genesis 1:1-27; Psalm 8:3; John 1:1-3).

3. We believe the nature of God is reflected in his attributes. Some of His attributes are:

a. God is Holy (Isaiah 6:3; Leviticus 11:44-45).

- b. God is sovereign (Romans 9:15,18).
- c. God is Spirit (John 4:24).
- d. God is eternal (Psalm 90:2).
- e. God is omnipresent (Psalm 139:7-10).
- f. God is omnipotent (Genesis 18:14; Jeremiah 32:17, 27).
- g. God is omniscient (Matthew 10:29; Romans 11:33).
- h. God is immutable (Malachi 3:6).
- i. God is perfect (Matthew 5:48).
- j. God is infinite (Psalm 40:5; Romans 11:33).
- k. God is true (John 17:3).
- l. God is love (1 John 4:7-10).
- m. God is righteous (I Corinthians 1:30; I John 2:29)
- n. God is faithful (I Corinthians 10:13).

B. God the Father

1. We believe that God the Father exists eternally as the First Person of the Godhead (Matthew 28:19; I Peter 1:2).
2. We believe that God the Father is the originator of both creation and Scripture (Hebrews 1:1-2).

3. We believe that God the Father designed and directed the redemption provided by Christ on the cross (Ephesians 1:3-6).

C. God the Son.

1. The Person of Christ.

a. We believe that Jesus Christ exists eternally as the Second Person of the Godhead that He has no beginning or end, and is equal in essence and power with the Father. (Matthew 28:19; John 1:1-2; John 17:5; 1 John 5:7)

b. We believe that Jesus Christ was the agent of the creation of the universe (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16).

c. We believe that Jesus Christ was born of the virgin Mary, thereby becoming God Incarnate, God in Flesh.

1) Jesus born of Mary through miraculous conception of the Holy Spirit thus preserving the sinlessness of Christ (Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:35).

2) Through this incarnation, Jesus Christ became the God-man, one Person possessing both the divine and human nature, each complete, with personality undivided so that Jesus was and is, not merely God and man, but properly the God-man (John 8:58; Colossians 2:9; I Timothy 2:5).

d. We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ (John 1:1; Titus 2:13; I John 5:7).

2. The Work of Christ

- a. We believe that Jesus Christ lived a sinless life on earth, while being tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin (Matthew 4:1-11; Hebrews 4:15).
- b. We believe that Jesus Christ lived a perfect life, fulfilled the law, died a substitutionary death for all men, arose bodily from the grave on the third day, and ascended bodily into Heaven where He is now interceding for all Believer's (Matthew 5:17; Mark. 10:45; Luke 24:1-53; Acts 1:9-11; Hebrews 4:14-16; I Peter 3:22; I John 2:2).
- c. We believe that the return of Jesus Christ for his saints may occur at any **time**, to be followed by the tribulation and the setting up of His Kingdom on earth (I Thessalonians 4:16-17; II Thessalonians 2:3-12; Revelation 20:3-6).

D. God the Holy Spirit

1. We believe that the Holy Spirit exists eternally as the Third Person of the **Godhead**, that He has no beginning or end, and is equal in essence and power with God the Father and God the Son. The Holy Spirit is a person, not a force or influence, and has all attributes of God including personality (Matthew 28:19; Acts 5:3-4; II Corinthians 13:14; I John 5:7).

2. We believe that **the** Holy Spirit was active in the creation of the universe (Genesis 1:2,26), in the inspiration of the Scriptures (II Peter 1:21), and in the earthly **ministry** of Christ (Acts 10:38).

3 . We believe that the Holy Spirit's present ministry entails such duties as:

a. Convicting the world of sin, righteousness, and judgement (John16:8-11) and restraining the work of the Evil One (II Thessalonians 2:7)

b. Regenerating the unregenerate (Titus 3:5) and at the same time baptizing that one into the Body of Christ (I Corinthians 12:13).

c. Assuring the believer of his salvation (Romans 8: 16)

d. Indwelling the believer (John 14:16-17; I Corinthians 6:19).

e. Sealing the believer (Ephesians 1:13-14).

f. Filling the believer who yields himself to God (Ephesians 5:18)

g. luminating the believer in order that he may fully and correctly understand the Scriptures (I Corinthians 2:12).

4. We believe that the Holy Spirit imparts spiritual gifts to believers for the edification of the church (Romans 12:6-8; I Corinthians 12:1-11; Ephesians 4:11-13).

- a. Some gifts, such as the office and function of apostle and prophet (in the sense of foretelling), tongues, and healing by means of a specific person, were temporal and ceased when their purposes were fulfilled (I Corinthians 13:8-13).
- b. Other gifts, such as prophecy (in the sense of forthtelling or preaching), serving, teaching, exhorting, giving, ruling, and showing mercy are permanent (Romans 12:6-8).

The Doctrine of Man.

A. We believe that man was created in the image of God on the sixth solar day of creation when God breathed the breath of life into him.

1. Man is a tripartite creature, consisting of body, soul, and spirit (Genesis 2:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:23).

2. Mankind as a whole was in Adam at Adam's creation (Romans 5:12; I Corinthians 15:22).

a. Eve was taken from Adam (Genesis 2:21-23).

b. Each man was created in Adam (Romans 5:12; I Corinthians 15:22; Hebrews 7:9-10).

B. We believe that man was created innocent and perfect before God, and that he had the **ability not** to sin (Genesis 2:16-17).

C. We believe that man receives his body, soul, and **spirit** at conception from his parents and that any destruction of that person before birth is murder (Genesis 2:7,22, 46:26; Psalm 139:15-16; Hebrews 7:9-10).

The Doctrine of Sin.

A. We believe that sin originated in the universe with Lucifer, God's **highest** creation (Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:14-18).

B. We believe that Adam and Eve failed the moral test to which they were subjected, thereby plunging the whole human race into sin and causing man to be immediately depraved, having no desire to seek or to please God (Genesis 2:16-3:7; Romans 3:9-18).

C. We believe that as a **result** of this original sin, Adam and Eve immediately **experienced** spiritual **death** and subsequent physical death. The ultimate result of this sin for mankind is everlasting punishment in the Lake of Fire (Genesis 2:17, II Thessalonians 1:8-9; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:11-15).

D. We believe that sin is basically the lack of conformity to the law of God (**Romans 3:23; 1 John 3:4**). The Bible describes sin as:

1. Missing the mark of God's standard (Romans 3:23).
2. Iniquity-the perversion of right (Romans 1:18).
3. Transgression-the passing over of God's boundary of law (I John 3:4).

4. Fault-the falling aside from the truth (Galatians 6:1).
5. Unbelief-the lack of faith (Romans 14:23).
6. Debt-being remiss in obligation (Matthew 6:12).
7. Disobedience-not doing what you know you should (James 4:17).

The Doctrine of Salvation

A. We believe that salvation by Christ is experienced through the regeneration of the Holy Spirit, by the Word of God, as God, in His sovereign grace, saves those who put their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Savior.

1. We believe that God, on the Basis of His foreknowledge, elects certain individuals to be recipients of salvation (Acts 13:48; Romans 8:28-30; Ephesians 1:4-5; I Peter 1:2).

2. We believe that man is a free moral agent and that God does not refuse salvation to anyone who will come to Him in repentance and faith (Romans 10:9-10; John 6:37; Revelation 22:17).

B. We believe that salvation was made possible for all mankind, by Jesus Christ shedding his blood on the cross. However, this salvation is applied only to those who personally repent of their sins and receive Jesus Christ as personal Savior (I Peter 1:18-19; I John 2:2; John 1:12-13; Romans 10:9-10; Ephesians 2:8-9).

C. Preceding and at the time of salvation several actions occur:

1. Repentance (Acts 2:38; 20:21).

2. Faith (Acts 16:31).

3. Conversion (Acts 3:19).

4. Regeneration (II Corinthians 5:17; Titus 3:5).

5. Justification (Romans 5:1, 18-21).

6. Sanctification - progressive (I Corinthians 1:30; 6:11; I Peter 2:2; II Peter 3:18).

The Doctrine of The Church

A. We believe that:

1. A true New Testament church is an organized, autonomous, assembly of immersed believers, having New Testament officers, practicing New Testament ordinances, and is actively engaged in carrying out the Great Commission.

2. The head of the church is Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:15).

3. The authority of the church is the Word of God (I Timothy 3:14-15; II Timothy 3:4-17).

4. The membership of the church is restricted to immersed believers (Acts 2:41-47).

B. We believe that the church has two officers: Pastor and Deacon. These are both elected, in accordance with the Scriptural qualifications, by the church (Philippians 1:1; Acts 6:1-6; I Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9).

1. The Pastor

a. His qualifications are found in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.

b. His duties.

1) The Pastor functions as an Elder - the leader in the church (Acts 15:13; I Timothy 5:17).

2) The Pastor functions as Bishop - the overseer of the assembly (Acts 20:28).

3) The Pastor functions as a Preacher (I Timothy 4:2).

4) The Pastor functions as the Shepherd (Acts 20:28; I Peter 5:2).

5) The Pastor functions as the Teacher (Ephesians 4:11).

2. The Deacons

a. qualifications are found in I Timothy 3:8-13.

b. The Deacons duties are found in Acts 6: 1-6.

C. We believe that there are only two ordinances to be practiced by the Church, Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

1. Baptism is immersion into water of the believer, placing him in the local New Testament Church. It demonstrates the Believer's union with Christ, and it symbolizes the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ as well as the believer's death to the old life and subsequent resurrection to newness of life (Acts 2:41-47; Romans 6:1-6).

2. The Lord's Supper is a memorial of the sacrificial death of Christ on the cross, depicting the broken body and shed blood of Christ. It also points towards the second coming of Christ. It is also a time of examination for the believer (I Corinthians 11:23-34).

3. Both Ordinances are restricted to the local church and are for believers only. They are not a means of salvation or grace (Romans 6:3-5; I Corinthians 11:23-34).

D. We believe that a true New Testament Baptist church will have the following distinctives:

1. B- Bible only rule of faith and practice (II Timothy 3:15-17; Revelation 22:18-19).

2. R - Regenerate, immersed church membership (Acts 2:41-47).

3. A - Autonomy of the local church (Matthew 18:15-20).

4. P - Priesthood of the believer (I Peter 2:5-9).
5. S - Soul liberty (John 8:32; 14:26; Galatians 5:1).
6. I - Immersion of believers and Lord's Supper only two ordinances (Matthew 28:19-20; I Corinthians 11:23-34).
7. S - Separation of church and state (Matthew 22:17-22; Acts 5:29).
8. S - Separation (ethical and ecclesiastical) (Romans 16:17; II Corinthians 6:14-7:1; II Thessalonians 3:6, 14-15).

The Doctrine of Angels

A We believe that God created a large number of spirit beings in the beginning of creation, and that these spirit beings have personality as well as super-human power and intelligence. Some of these spirit beings, or angels are elect and their number is innumerable. They are everlasting and not able to procreate (Colossians 1:16; Matthew 22:30; 24:36; II Peter 2:11; I Timothy 5:21).

B. We believe that the highest of God's created spirit beings is Satan, originally called Lucifer. He was created perfect and beautiful. He acted as the covering cherub and was nearest the throne of God. He was the originator of sin in the universe when he sinned by reason of his pride (Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:12-19).

C. We believe that Satan took a portion of the angelic host with him, and their combined efforts are to hinder man's temporal and eternal welfare. These fallen angels have different ranks and some are reserved for judgement in darkness and some are free to roam the earth (Revelation 12:4; Genesis 3:1; I Peter 5:8; Ephesians 6:12).

D. We believe that the elect angels are servants for God and that they are ministering spirits (Psalm 103:20; Daniel 6:22; Hebrews 1:14).

The Doctrine of Last Things

A. We believe in the premillennial, pretribulation return of Jesus Christ known as the rapture. The return for believers will result in the resurrection of the dead in Christ and the translation of the living believers into the presence of the Lord (I Thessalonians 4:13-18; I Corinthians 15:51-57; Titus 2:13).

B. Following the rapture, we believe all believers will be judged at the judgement seat of Christ according to their works. We believe there will be both rewards or the lack of rewards based on the faithfulness in the Christian life (I Corinthians 3:13-15; II Corinthians 5:10). This will be followed by the marriage supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:7-10).

C. We believe that just after the rapture God will pour out His wrath upon the unbelieving during the tribulation. Although multitudes will be killed, multitudes of both the Jews and Gentiles will be saved (Daniel 7:25-27;9:24-27; Matthew 24: 1; Revelation 6:1).

D. We believe the tribulation will terminate with the return of Christ to the earth, at which time He will defeat the earth's armies, judge the nations, and set up His millennial kingdom (Matthew 24:29; Revelation 19:11; Daniel 7:13-14).

E. We believe that the millennial reign of Christ will be a time of great blessing during which Satan will be bound. At the end of the millennium Satan will be loosed for his final rebellion. It is at this time that man, even after perfect rule and ideal situations, chooses to rebel against God and joins with Satan's final revolt. Upon being defeated, Satan will be cast into the lake of fire with those who stand and are judged at the Great White Throne (Isaiah 65-66; Revelation 20-21).