

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT/STATEMENT OF FAITH

Section One: **The Word of God:** We believe the Word of God, the Scriptures of both Old and New Testaments, to be written by men divinely inspired of God, inerrant in the original writings, and our supreme infallible authority in all matters of life and conduct. Psalm 19:7-11; II Timothy 3:16,17; Hebrews 4:12; II Peter 1:19-21

Section Two: **The Nature of God:** We believe in one God, eternally existing in three Persons; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:18,19; Mark 12:29; John 6:27; Acts 5:3-4; Hebrews 1:8; II Corinthians 13:14

Section Three: **God the Father:** We believe in God the Father, perfect in holiness, infinite in wisdom, measureless in power. We rejoice that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men and women, that He hears and answers our prayers, and that He saves from sin and death all that come to Him through Jesus Christ. John 4:24; Deuteronomy 6:4; John 17:1-3; II Corinthians 13:14; Revelation 19:6; Numbers 23:19; Psalm 139:7-12; I John 3:20

Section Four: **God the Son:** We believe in Jesus Christ, the eternal and only begotten Son of God, conceived of the Holy Spirit, of virgin birth, sinless in life, true God and true man making atonement for the sins of the world through His blood and by His death.

We believe in His bodily resurrection, His ascension, His intercession as advocate, at the right hand of the Father, and His visible, pre-millennial return to this earth according to His promise. Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 18:20; 28:19; Luke 1:34,35; John 1:1,2,15; 14:1-3; 20:20; Acts 1:9-11; Romans 5:8; Philippians 2:5-8; Colossians 2:3; II Thessalonians 4:13-18; I Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 4:14-15; 7:25; 9:12-14; I John 2:1

Section Five: **God the Holy Spirit:** We believe the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ. His ministry is to restrain sin during this age to convict men of sin, to regenerate the believing sinner, to indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer for godly living and service. II Thessalonians 1:6-8

We believe the baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs at the moment of salvation as Christ is placed into us and each believer is placed into Christ. We are commanded to be filled with the Spirit daily. Romans 6:1-4; I Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 5:18

We believe the gifts of the Spirit are sovereignly given to each believer at conversion for the edification of the Body of Christ, and that the gifts of healing, tongues and the interpretation of tongues were used of God as sign gifts to authenticate the message of the apostles to unbelieving Jews. After the completion of the New Testament canon these gifts ceased to be necessary.

Matthew 16:1-4; Mark 16:17-20; John 3:34; 15:26; 16:15; Romans 6:1-3; 8:14-27; I Corinthians 12; 13:8-13; Ephesians 5:18; Hebrews 2:1-4

We believe that healing and miracles are an act of God, not dependent upon human involvement or practice. We believe God still heals today, and believers are exhorted in cases of serious illness and pending death to call for the Elders of the Church to anoint them with oil, and to pray for healing.

James 5:13-20

We believe that fellowship with one another is not based on our viewpoints regarding the Holy Spirit and His gifts, but upon our faith and commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. We welcome all true believers who join the body of Christ to place their focus on reaching our world for Christ, edifying one another and to concern ourselves with fulfilling the great commission of making disciples of all peoples.

Section Six: **The Reality of Satan:** We believe in the reality and personality of Satan. Isaiah 14:12-17; Matthew 4:2-11; John 8:44; Revelation 12:9,10

Section Seven: **The Nature 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 eternal separation from a Holy God. We believe that all mankind are born with a sin nature and accountable before God and without excuse. Genesis 1:26; 2:17; 6:5; Psalm 14:1-3; 51:5; Romans 1:20; 3:10-19; 8:6,7; Ephesians 2:1-3

Section Eight: **The Way of Salvation:** We believe that the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His resurrection provide the only ground for justification and salvation for all who believe, and only such as receive Jesus Christ are born of the Holy Spirit, and thus become children of God, a relationship in which they are eternally secure. John 1:12,29; 5:24; 3:16; Acts 8:28-39; 16:31; Romans 3:23,25,26; 5:8; 6:23; 10:9,10,13; II Corinthians 5:21; 10:28-30; Ephesians 4:30; Titus 3:5; Jude 24

Section Nine: **The Church:** We believe in the Church, a living spiritual body of which Christ Jesus is the head and of which all regenerate people are members. We believe that a local Church is a company of united believers in Jesus Christ, immersed on a credible confession of faith, associated with one another in worship, edification, equipping, and the evangelistic outreach and discipleship of each of its members.

We believe that to these local Churches were committed, for perpetual observance, the ordinances of baptism by immersion (not to be regarded as a means of salvation), and the Lord's Supper and that God has laid upon these Churches the task of proclaiming to a lost world the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior, and the enthroning of Him as Lord and Master.

We believe that all human betterment and social improvements are the inevitable byproducts of such a gospel.

We believe that the New Testament local Church is a self-governing body free from any interference of convention, or any ecclesiastical or political body. Psalm 150:6; Matthew 22:21; John 4:23,24; 9:35-38; Acts 5:29; I Corinthians 10:31; Hebrews 1:6; Revelations 4:9-14; 22:8,9

Section Ten: **The Return of Christ:** We believe in “that blessed hope” the personal and imminent return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and that this “blessed hope” has a vital bearing on the personal life and service of the believer. John 14:1-3; I Corinthians 15:51-57; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 20:4-6

Section Eleven: **Eternal Reward and Punishment:** We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead; of the believer to everlasting blessedness and joy with the Lord, of the unbeliever to judgment and everlasting conscious punishment in Hell. Luke 16:19-16; John 5:25-29; II Corinthians 5:1-10; II Thessalonians 1:7-9; Revelation 20:1-15, 21-22