



## **DOCTRINE OF FAITH**

### **A. The Scriptures**

We believe the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments to be the full record of God's self-disclosure to mankind. Different men, while writing according to their own styles and personalities, were supernaturally moved along by the Holy Spirit to record God's very words, inerrant in the original writings. We believe they represent the complete revelation of His Will for the salvation of men and are the divine and final authority in faith, doctrine and life. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21)

### **B. Triune God**

We believe in the one living and true God, eternally existing in perfect unity as three equally and fully divine Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each member of the Godhead, while executing distinct but complementary roles in redemptive history, has precisely the same nature, attributes, and being, and is equally worthy of the same glory and honor and obedience. (Matthew 28:19-20; John 1:1-4; John 17:3 Acts 5:3-4)

### **C. God the Father**

We believe that God the Father created all things for His glory according to His own will, through His Son, Jesus Christ.

He upholds all things by the word of His power and grace, exercising sovereign headship over all creation, providence, and redemption. (Genesis 1-2; Colossians 1:17, Hebrews 1:3; Revelation 4:11)

### **D. God the Son**

We believe that Jesus Christ, the eternal Son, moved by love in accordance with the will of the Father, took on human flesh. Conceived through the miraculous work of the Holy Spirit, He was born of the virgin Mary. He, being fully God and fully man, lived a sinless life and sacrificially shed His blood and died on the cross in our place, accomplishing redemption for all who place their faith in Him. He arose visibly and bodily from the dead three days later and ascended into heaven, where, at the Father's right hand, He is now Head of His body, the Church, the only Savior and Mediator between God and man, and will return to earth in power and glory to consummate His redemptive mission. (John 1:1, 14, 18; John 14:8-9; 1 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 7:25-26)

### **E. God the Spirit**

We believe that the Holy Spirit, in all that He does, glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ during this age. He convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He draws the unredeemed to repentance and faith, and at salvation imparts new spiritual life to the believer, bringing that person into union with Christ and the Body of Christ. The Holy Spirit sanctifies, seals, fills, guides, instructs, comforts, equips, empowers, permanently indwells at salvation, and bestows spiritual gifts to the believer for Christ-like living and service. (John 16:8; 13:15; Titus 3:5; Ephesians 1:22; 4:11-12; Romans 8:9-17; 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 12:4-5, 11-13, 19; Galatians 5:25; Hebrews 2:1-4; 2 Corinthians 12:12)



## **F. Mankind**

We believe that God created mankind—male and female—in His own image and likeness, free of sin, to glorify Himself and enjoy His fellowship. Tempted by Satan, man freely chose to disobey God, bringing sin, death and condemnation to all mankind.

All human beings, therefore, are alienated from God without defense or excuse and, subject to God's righteous wrath, all of mankind is in desperate need of the Savior. (Genesis 3:1-6; Romans 3:10-19; Romans 1:18, 32)

## **G. Salvation**

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, as the substitution atonement in our place, and that salvation is found in none other than Jesus Christ. Before creation, God in His sovereignty provided redemption for all mankind through His Son Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ's death on the cross was the sole and complete payment for sins, fully satisfying God's righteous wrath, for each person that turns from sin in repentance and places their faith in Christ alone, by grace alone. At salvation each person is made a new creation by the Holy Spirit, declared righteous before God, and an adopted child of God. Genuine faith continues in obedience and love for Jesus Christ with a life eager to glorify God and persevere to the end. (Romans 8:37-39; Romans 3:23-24; Romans 5:8, 9; 2 Corinthians 5:17, 21; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Acts 3:19; Acts 20:21)

## **H. The Church**

We believe that the true church is composed of all such persons who through saving faith in the Lord Jesus Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and are thus united together in the body of Christ, of which He is the Head. The Scriptures instruct believers to gather locally in order to devote themselves to worship, prayer, teaching of the Word, fellowship, the ordinances of baptism and communion, service to the local body through the development and use of talents and spiritual gifts, and outreach to the world to make disciples. Wherever God's people meet regularly in obedience to this command, there is the local expression of the Church. A church's members are to work together in love and unity, intent on the ultimate purpose of glorifying Christ. (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 2:42-46; 1 Cor. 12:12 – 27; 1 Corinthians 14:26; Ephesians 4:16; Ephesians 1:22-23; Col. 1: 18)

## **I. Baptism and Communion**

We believe that Christian baptism is a public declaration of the believer's salvation in Christ, identifying with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection symbolized by water baptism. The Lord's Supper is the united commemoration by believers of Christ's death until He comes and should be preceded by a careful self-examination. However both baptism and communion are not to be regarded as means of salvation. (Titus 3:5-7; Acts 2:41; 1 Cor. 11: 23-26; Romans 6:3-6)



### **J. Mission**

We believe that the church has been called to glorify God by shedding the light of the glorious gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ continuously in all the earth and to make disciples of Christ until His return. (Matt. 5:13 – 16; Matt. 28: 19, 20; Matt. 25: 1 – 13)

### **K. Things to Come**

We believe in and expectantly await the glorious, visible, personal, return of the Lord Jesus Christ. The blessed hope of His return has vital bearing on the personal life, service, and mission of the believer. We believe in the personality of Satan, that he is the unholy adversary of this age and the author of the powers of darkness, and is ultimately destined to eternal judgment in the lake of fire. We believe in the bodily resurrection of both the saved and the lost. The lost will be raised to judgment and experience eternal wrath in hell. The saved will be raised to eternal joy in the new heaven and new earth in the manifested presence of God. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Acts 1:3, 9; Revelation 20:10, 12-14; Matthew 16:19-28; 1 Peter 5:8, 9; Ephesians 6:12)



## **CHURCH COVENANT**

The Spirit of the Lord has led us with assurance to receive Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord. We have professed our repentance towards God and our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, in the presence of God, solemnly and joyfully, we enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.