

WHAT I BELIEVE

1. **THE WORD OF GOD** – We believe the Bible is the inspired, infallible and inerrant Word of God in its entirety, written as Holy Men of God were moved by the Holy Spirit and that it is the sole authority for the Christian faith and conduct. We believe the King James Version of the Bible is the preserved Word of God for English-speaking people.

Psalm 12:6 Psalm 119:89 II Timothy 3:16 II Peter 1:21

2. **THE GODHEAD** – We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe that they are equal in every divine perfection and are executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

Matthew 28:19 John 14:7-12 John 16:7

3. **GOD THE SON** – We believe that Jesus Christ was conceived of the Holy Spirit and was born of Mary, a virgin, in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful men; that He is both the Son of God and God the Son.

Matthew 1:18-21 John 1:1-2 Acts 1:8-11 Colossians 1:19-20

4. **GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT** – We believe that the Holy Spirit is a divine Person, equal with God the Father and God the Son and of the same nature. It is He who convicts of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He is the Restrainer of the Evil One until God's purpose is fulfilled. He bears witness to the truth of the Gospel and is the agent in the new birth, indwelling all true believers.

John 15:26 John 16:7-14 Acts 1:8 Romans 8:9 Ephesians 5:18

5. **MAN** – We believe that man was created in the image and after the likeness of God, but he by voluntary transgressions fell from his sinless and happy estate. The resulting consequences are that all men are now sinners not by constraint but by choice and are therefore under the just condemnation of God, without excuse or defense.

Romans 3:23 Romans 5:12 Romans 6:23 Revelation 20:14-15

6. **ATONEMENT** – We believe the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice and that all who believe in Him are justified on the merits of His shed blood.

I Corinthians 15:1-4 II Corinthians 5:21 Galatians 3:13 I Peter 2:24

7. **SALVATION** – We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly by grace through faith and is received only by repentance and personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free by the Gospel and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel.

Mark 1:15 John 14:6 Acts 4:12 Romans 6:23 Ephesians 2:8-9

8. **SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER** – We believe that those who receive Jesus Christ as Saviour are eternally secure. Their security rests in the finished work of Jesus Christ and all of the redeemed are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever.

John 3:13 John 3:36 John 10:37-39 II Timothy 1:12

9. CHRIST'S RESURRECTION – We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, in His ascension into heaven, and in His present life there as High Priest and Advocate.

John 20:19-28 John 21:13-14 Acts 7:55-56 I Corinthians 15:1-8 I Timothy 2:5

10. SECOND COMING – We believe in “The Blessed Hope,” the personal, pre- tribulation and pre-millennial, imminent return of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, at which time the Church will be gathered together unto Him.

I Thessalonians 4:13-17 Titus 2:13 I Thessalonians 5:9 Revelation 20:1-7

11. BODILY RESURRECTION – We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved and the everlasting punishment of the lost.

I Thessalonians 4:3-8 Revelation 20:11-15

12. SCRIPTURAL ORDINANCES – BAPTISIM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

We believe that baptism is one of the two ordinances committed to the local New Testament Church, that immersion is the only scriptural method and that Salvation is the only prerequisite. It is a step of obedience and a symbol that publicly identifies the believer with Christ and His church.

Romans 6:1-5 Acts 2:41 Acts 8:36-38

We believe the Lord's Supper to be a church ordinance in commemoration of the Lord's death till He comes again. The unleavened bread representing His body and the cup (non-alcoholic grape juice) symbolic of His blood are the elements used. The Lord's Supper should be partaken of by believers who have been scripturally baptized and members of the local church and then only after careful self-examination.

Acts 2:41-42 I Corinthians 11:23-32

13. THE CHURCH – We believe the visible local New Testament church is an organized assembly of saved baptized believers who meet for the purpose of practicing New Testament principles, believing its doctrines, observing its ordinances, and exercising its autonomy. We believe it is the responsibility of the local New Testament church to propagate the Gospel to the world.

Matthew 16:18 Matthew 28:19-20 Acts 2:41-47 Acts 13:1-3

14. MISSIONS - We believe missions is God's program through the local New Testament church to reach the lost of this world with the only message of salvation for mankind (John 14:6; Acts 4:12). Missions is the local church reaching its own Jerusalem and Judea with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through personal evangelism and planting Local N/T churches, while at the same time helping to send, by prayer and financial assistance, those whom God calls to His harvest in Samaria and the uttermost parts of the world with the same task.

It is therefore our responsibility and privilege to support the following missionaries that are involved in planting churches in our Judea, Samaria and the uttermost parts of the world with our prayers and finances.

Matthew 28:18-20 Acts 1:8

15. PRESENT TRENDS IN DOCTRINE AND PRACTICE

Neo-Orthodoxy - This theological persuasion is a futile attempt to reconcile, "The higher scientific Biblical criticism with the true Biblical interpretation." Such an appeal to Biblical revelation is based on half-truths and as such is false and deceptive. We utterly reject this method and position.

Neo-Evangelicalism - This movement, while claiming to be fundamental in theology, has actually compromised the underlying principles of the Christian Faith. It questions inspiration and literal interpretation; it accepts liberals as Christians, takes a new attitude toward the ecumenical movement, promotes ecumenical evangelism, denies both ethical and ecclesiastical separation, restructures eschatology and over stresses the social aspects of the Gospel. We hold this stand to be un-Scriptural.

Ecumenical Movement - The attempt to unite the different faiths today on the basis of the least common denominator of doctrine is a betrayal of the unity of believers based upon sound doctrine of the historic Christian Faith. Its dialogue with other religions is dialectical. Its method of operation is subversive and shows a tendency to totalitarianism. Its concept of an ecclesiastical kingdom is not supported by Scripture. We reject all cooperation with this movement.

Contemporary Christian Music (CCM) - We believe that worshipful music must be centered on Jesus Christ and what he accomplished for mankind, and should be objective and didactic in nature. We reject this new style of contemporary / rock music. We believe this style of music to be the music of the world, which is man's natural expression of rebellion. We further believe that the use of this style of music opens the doors to both Neo-evangelicalism and Charismaticism, all of which detracts from the polity, practice and doctrine of Historic Baptist Churches.

The Tongues Movement - We believe that the gift of tongues was given as a sign to Israel and like the gifts of apostleship and prophecy which were for the founding of the church, is therefore not being given today. While we recognize that God may give any gift to the church at any time, we believe that the current resurgence and the practice of the *unknown* tongues movement to be un-scriptural.

Of Human Sexuality - We believe the Scriptures teach that God has clearly commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a natural born man and a natural born woman. We believe that marriage is between "one man and one woman." We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions.

Genesis 2:24; 19:5-7,13; 26:8-11; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; I Corinthians 5:1; 6:9; I Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4.

Of Abortion - We believe the Scriptures teach that human life begins at conception and that an unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of unborn human life. Abortion is murder.

Job 3:16; Psalm 51:5; 139:13-16; Isaiah 44:24; 49:1,5; Jeremiah 1:5; 20:15-18; Luke 1:44.

We as believers do not and will not accept or promote any movement or organizations, which promotes or financially supports these movements or any other movement, which promotes doctrines contrary to those listed in this Doctrinal Statement. We, therefore, will not accept nor promote people who practice or encourage this type of unscriptural behavior.

16. AUTHORITY OF STATEMENT OF FAITH – This Statement of Faith does not exhaust the extent of our Faith. The Bible itself is the sole and final source of what we believe. We do believe, however, that the foregoing Statement of Faith accurately represents the teaching of the Bible and, is therefore the doctrinal position that I hold to.