

What We Believe

The Scriptures

We believe in the verbal, plenary (full, entire, complete) inspiration of the Bible, which is the Word of God, that in its truthfulness and completeness it is the only and final criterion and authority of both church and individual for faith and practice. 2 Peter 1:19-21; 2 Timothy 3:16

God

We believe that there is one God eternally existing, manifesting Himself to us in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Holy Spirit). Gen. 1:1; John 9:35,10:30; John 14:16-26

The Person and Work of Jesus Christ

We believe in the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ; His virgin birth; His sinless life; His substitutionary death on the cross for our sins; His bodily resurrection from the grave; His ascension to the right hand of God, where He liveth to make intercession for believers; and His personal, visible, imminent, and premillennial return to the earth at the end of this age. Matt. 1:18; John 1-4; Acts 1:11; 1 Thess. 4:16-17

The Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is very God, possessed of all the distinctive Divine attributes. We believe that He is the Administrator of the things of God concerning sin, revealing truth, energizing believers for prayer and service, and restraining evil "until he be taken out of the way." Ps. 139:7-10; 2 Thess. 2:7; John 16:8-13

Satan

We believe in the reality and personality of Satan; that he is a created being, once known as the "anointed cherub that covereth"; that through pride he fell; that he is the "god of this world" and the "prince of the power of the air"; that the judgment already passed on him will be executed at the Revelation of Jesus Christ; and that ultimately he will be cast into the lake of fire. Matt. 13-19; John 8:44; Eph. 2:2; Rev. 20:10; Ezekiel 28:13-15

Man

We believe that man was created by God in his own image, not by evolution but by a special act of creation, and that this creative act of God was separate and distinct from any other work of God. We believe the scripture record of the fall of man through his own disobedience, bringing the whole human race under sin and death; that man is totally depraved and hopelessly lost apart from the grace and salvation of God. Gen. 1:26-28,2:7, 3:16; Rom. 3:23, 5:12; Gal. 3:22

Salvation

We believe that salvation is by grace through repentant faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ; that it is instantaneous and wholly apart from the human merit; that every individual is a sinner by birth and that all accountable human beings are sinners by practice and by choice and therefore must exercise personal faith in the redeeming work of Christ on

Calvary and receive him as Savior in order to be saved. Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5; Psalms 51:5; Romans 3:23,10: 9-10

We believe that it is a privilege of believers to rejoice in full assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word, but that the same Word clearly forbids the use of our liberty as an occasion to the flesh. Romans 13:14; Gal. 3:15;

Titus 2:11-15

We believe that salvation is eternal; that all who are truly born again are kept by God the Father for the Lord Jesus Christ.

John 6:37-40, 10:27-30; 1 Cor. 1:4-8; 1 Peter 1:5; Phil. 1:6; Rom. 8:35-39; Jude 1

The Body of Christ. We believe that every born-again believer, is, by the sovereign act of God, accorded a place in the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit, and that this body is Biblically identified as "the church." Eph. 3:3; Col. 1:24-27; 1 Cor. 12:12-13

The Church

We believe that a local church is a congregation of immersed believers, associated together by covenant faith and fellowship of the Gospel; that it has the absolute right of self-government, directed by the Holy Spirit and answerable only to Christ; that in all matters of membership, polity, government, discipline, and benevolences the will of the church is final. Acts 2:41-42;

1 Cor. 11:2; Eph. 1:22; 5: 23-24; Col. 1:18

We believe the ordinances of the church are baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper. Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-26

Separation

We believe in the absolute separation of church and state. Matt. 22:21

Personal and Ecclesiastical Separation

We believe that all "who name the name of Christ" as their Savior should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon His name. We believe also that separation from all religious apostasy as well as worldly and sinful pleasures and associations is commanded by Him. 2 Tim. 3:1-5; Rom. 12:1-2, 14:13; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 John 9:11; 2 Cor. 6:14 - 7:1

The Two Natures

We believe that every saved person has two natures, with full provision made by God for victory of the new over the old nature through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit; and that all claims to the eradication of the old nature in this life are unscriptural. Rom. 6: 13, 7:17 - 8:1; 8:12-13; Gal. 5:16-25; Eph. 4:22-24; Cot. 3:10

Civil Governments

We believe that civil governments are of Divine appointment for the interest of good order of human society; that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed except in things opposed to the will of God as expressed in His Word and interpreted in the light of this constitution and confession of faith. Rom. 13:1-7; Titus 3:1; 1 Pet. 2:13-14,17

The Lord's Return

We believe in the bodily, personal, imminent, pre-millennial return of our Lord Jesus Christ; that he will come before the great tribulation to catch away His bride, the church; that all who are His shall then be caught up to meet him in the air; that at the end of the tribulation he will come with his church to the earth to judge the living nations and set up his kingdom.

1 Thess. 4:13-16; Matt. 25:34-46; Rev. 19:11-21

The Righteous and the Wicked

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as exercise saving faith in Jesus Christ are righteous in His sight, while all who continue in impenitence and unbelief are wicked in His sight and under His wrath; and that this distinction holds both in and after life, in the everlasting felicity of the saved and the everlasting conscious suffering of the lost in hell. Mal. 3:18; Gen. 18:23; Rom. 6:17-18; Luke 16:25; Matt. 25:34-41; John 8:21; Luke 9:21; Matt. 7:13-14

The Ministry and Spiritual Gifts

We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowment of all his gifts; and, that the gifts of evangelists, pastors, and teachers are sufficient for the perfecting on the saints today; and, that speaking in tongues and the working of sign miracles gradually ceased as the New Testament Scriptures were completed and their authority became established. 1 Cor. 12:4-11; 2 Cor. 12:12; Eph. 4:7-12

We do believe that God does hear and answer the prayer of faith, in accord with His own will, for the sick and afflicted.

John 15:7; 1 John 5:14-15

We do not embrace or allow the doctrine or the practices of "Charismatic" type groups relative to the baptism of the Holy Spirit, gift of tongues or the working of miracles. 1 Cor. 12:13, 13:8-11, 14:33; 2 Cor. 12:12; Eph. 4:7-12

Future Events

We believe in the pre-tribulation rapture of the Saints, both of the living and of the dead in Christ. 1 Thess. 5:1-10; Rev. 3:10, 4:1; 1 Thess. 4:13-17; John 14:3

We believe in the pre-millennial coming of the Lord Jesus Christ in glory. Matt. 25:29-31; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; Rev. 19:11-16, 20: 3-6

We believe in the millennial reign of Christ on earth. Luke 1:31-33; Matt. 25:31-32; Zech. 14: 9, 16 ; Rev. 20: 2-6

We believe the Saints will stand before the judgment seat of Christ concerning their works on earth and their rewards.

2 Cor. 5:10-11; Matt. 12:36; 1 Cor. 3:11-15; 2 Tim. 4:8; Rev. 22: 12

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the unsaved dead for the great white throne judgment. John 5:28-29; Rev 20:11-15

We believe there will be new heavens and a new earth wherein dwells righteousness. Rev. 21:1; Isa. 65:17; 2 Peter 3:10-13

We believe the next great event in God's program on earth is Christ's coming for His Church and that from then on we shall be with Him in glory. John 14:2-3; 1 Thess. 4:16; Acts 15:14-16

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