

# **DOCTRINAL STATEMENT**

## **Doctrine of the Bible**

We believe in the Bible as the verbally (every word) and plenary (complete) inspired Word of God as contained in the original manuscripts; that all portions of Scripture are equally inspired and contain no contradictions (1 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20,21). God's Word is to be the only rule of faith and practice for the believer in Jesus Christ; and that the Canon, the sixty-six books of the Bible is complete.

We further believe that God has supernaturally and providentially preserved His inspired Word for every generation (Ps. 12:6-7).

A. By inspiration we mean that the books of the Bible were written by holy men of God as they were moved by the Holy Ghost in such a definite way that their writings were supernaturally and verbally inspired and free from error, as no other writings have ever been or ever will be. This was a one-time event in which God, once for all, delivered His truth to the church (Jude, v.3).

B. By providential preservation we mean that God, through the ages, has, in His divine presence, preserved the very words He inspired. We further believe that the Hebrew Old Testament text, as found in the Traditional Masoretic Text, and the Greek New Testament text, as found in the Textus Receptus, are the true texts of Scripture and therefore are the complete, preserved, inerrant, infallible Word of God.

We therefore believe that the King James Version is an accurate and faithful translation of the original manuscripts and constitutes the preserved, inspired, inerrant, infallible Word of God for the English-speaking people of the world.

## **Doctrine of God**

We believe that the Godhead eternally exists in three Persons - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and that these three are one God, having precisely the same nature, attributes and perfections; and are worthy of precisely the same homage, confidence and obedience. (Gen. 1:1; Gen. 1:25; Jn. 1:1; Jn. 14:16,17; 1 Tim. 3:16)

## **Doctrine of Jesus Christ**

We believe in the essential deity and virgin birth of our Lord Jesus Christ; that He was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary not having human father, and is true God and true man; that He is man's only hope of

salvation from sin, being the only mediator between God and man; that He died, was buried, and rose again the third day for our sins according to the Scriptures; that His return for His Church, the Body of Christ, which He will take with Himself into heaven is imminent; and that He will come to this earth to set up His millennial reign. (Isa. 7:14; Lk.1:35; Jn. 1:1-4; Jn. 10:30; Jn. 14:6; 1 Tim. 2:5,6; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 20:4-6.)

## **Doctrine of the Holy Spirit**

We believe the Holy Spirit to be coequal with the Father and with the Son. He is a Person. He came to this earth as the fulfillment of Christ's promise. He convicts, regenerates, indwells, seals, fills, empowers, and guides the believer. (Jn. 16:7-13; Jn. 3:3-5; Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 6:19; Eph. 1:13,14; Eph. 5:18)

## **Doctrine of Man**

We believe that God created man in His own image, and that man sinned, and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death, which is conscious and eternal separation from God.

We believe that all men are born with a sinful nature, evidenced by sinful acts; that man is totally depraved (every aspect of man has been affected by sin) and that if he is not born again, he is eternally lost. (Gen. 1:26,27; Ps. 51:5; Jer. 17:9; Lk. 16:23; Rev. 21:8; Rom. 3:10-23; Rom. 5:12; 1 Cor. 15:21,22; Rev. 20:11-15, Rev. 21:8.)

## **Doctrine of Salvation**

We believe that a person is saved when he repents of his sin of unbelief and exercises faith by trusting Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. The believer is kept by the power of God and is eternally secure in Christ.

We believe that the scope of salvation includes forgiveness of all our sins; past, present, and future: a perfect standing before God as in Jesus Christ: and the changing of our earthly body to be conformed like unto the body of our Lord at His return for His own.

We believe that the attitude, either of reconciliation or enmity toward God, is eternally fixed at death.

We further believe that there is an appointed day for the judgment of the wicked when they will be cast into the Lake of Fire, there to remain in everlasting conscious punishment and torment. (Jn. 1:12; Jn. 5:24; Jn. 10:28,29; Rom. 6:23; 2 Cor. 5:21; Eph. 2:8,10; 1 Jn. 5:17; Rom. 8:19-23; 1 Jn. 3:2; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; Heb. 9:27; 2 Pet. 2:8, 9; Rev. 20:12-15; Rev. 21:8)

## **The Doctrine of Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers**

We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever. (Jn. 6:37-40; 10:27-30; Rom. 8:1; 38-39; 1 Cor. 1:4-8; 1 Pet. 1:4,5)

We believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion to the flesh. (Rom. 13:13-14; Gal. 5:13; Titus 2:11-15)

## **Doctrine of Separation**

We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord. God commands His people to separate from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices, and associations, and to refrain from all immodest and immoderate appearances, piercings, and bodily markings. (Lev. 19:28; Rom. 12:1-2; 14:13; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 1 Jn. 2:15-17; 2 Jn. 9-11)

## **Doctrine of Satan and Fallen Angels**

We believe that Satan is a fallen angel. He was created in unconfirmed holiness but sinned and became the arch enemy of God and His creation. He is the chief adversary of God's children. He seeks to keep man from the Lord, and when he cannot succeed in this, he seeks to weaken the testimony of Christians. He has at his command a great host of fallen angels and demons to carry out his purposes. He is not omnipotent and can be overcome by the power of God. His doom is sealed in the Lake of Fire forever and forever. (Eze. 28:12-19; Isa. 14:12-14; Rev. 12:10; Rev. 20:10.)

## **Doctrine of The Church**

We believe that the local church, which is the body and part of the espoused bride of Christ, is solely made up of born-again persons, Scripturally baptized by immersion. (1 Cor. 12:12-14; 2 Cor. 11:2; Eph. 1:22-23; 5:25-27; Rev. 21)

We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures. (Acts 14:27; 20:17, 28-32; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-11)

We believe in the autonomy (i.e., its ability and mandate for self-government) of the local church, free of any external authority or control. (Acts 13:1-4; 15:19-31; 20:28; Rom. 16:1,4; 1 Cor. 3:9,16; 5:4-7,13; 1 Pet. 5:1-4)

We believe there are only two Scriptural ordinances for the NT local church: Water Immersion and the Lord's Table. They are purely symbolical, not sacramental

A. We believe that Biblical Baptism is the single immersion of the believer in water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; that it pictorially sets forth the essential facts of redemption: the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We believe that it gives testimony to the change that has occurred in the believer's life: death to sin and resurrection to walk in the newness of life. Baptism follows salvation, therefore, it is not a prerequisite for salvation. It is simply, an act of obedience. There is no saving power in baptism. (Matt.28:18-20; Rom. 6:4-6)

B. We believe that the Lord's Table is a memorial which shows His death until He comes again, that the bread and the cup are only symbols of His broken body and shed blood, and that our observance of it, is pictorial of the believer's fellowship with Christ and His body, the local church, after a time of searching and self-judgment. (Matt 26:26-30; 1 Cor. 10:16-21; 11:17-34)

## **Doctrine of Creation**

We believe that God created the universe in six literal, 24-hour periods. We reject evolution, the Gap Theory, the Day-Age Theory, and Theistic Evolution as unscriptural theories of origin. (Gen. 1-2; Ex. 20:11)

## **Doctrine of Human Life**

We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being.

We believe that the unjustified, unexcused taking of human life such as abortion, euthanasia, and infanticide is murder.

We reject any teaching that abortions of pregnancies due to rape, incest, birth defects, gender selection, population control or the mental well-being of the mother are acceptable, unless a choice between the life of the mother and the life of the child is at stake. (Job 3:16; Ps. 51:1-5, 139:14-16; Isa. 44:24; 49:1,5; Jer. 1:5, 20:15-18; Lk. 1:44)

## **Doctrine of Marriage**

We believe that God created marriage as a divine institution between one man and one woman for life. God hates divorce and intends marriage to last until one of the spouses dies. Therefore, we never promote divorce as a solution to marital problems.

We also believe God's forgiveness includes all sins, including those who violate God's permanence of marriage. Even though such forgiven people can be used of the Lord and serve in many areas of the church, we believe the Scriptures prohibit them from being considered for the offices of pastor or deacon. (Mal. 2:14-17; Matt. 19:3-12; Rom. 7:1-3; 1 Tim 3:2,12; Titus 1:6)

### **Doctrine of Human Sexuality**

We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity should be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. (Gen. 2:24, 19:5,13, 26:8-9, Lev. 18:1-30; Rom. 1:26-29; 1 Cor. 5:1, 6:9; 1 Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4)

### **Doctrine of Last Things**

We believe there will be a resurrection of all, first the just at the coming of Jesus Christ and finally the unjust after the millennium. The saints are raised to be forever with the Lord, and the unsaved will be confined for eternity in the Lake of Fire.

We believe in the "Blessed Hope"(Titus 2:13) which is the personal, bodily, pre-tribulational, pre-millennial, and imminent return of our Lord and Savior for His Church at the rapture and His later return to the earth in power and glory with His saints to set up His Kingdom ( the millennium). (Jn. 14:1-3; Acts 1:9-11, 24:15; 1 Cor. 15:3-20; Phil 3:20;1 Thess 4:13-18, 1 Jn. 2:1-2, Rev. 20: 1-15, Rev. 21:8)

### **Doctrine of Giving**

We believe that every Christian, as a steward of that portion of God's wealth entrusted to him, is obligated to support his local church financially.

We believe that God has established the tithe (10% of gross income) as a basis for giving, but that every Christian should also give other offerings sacrificially and cheerfully to the support of the church, the relief of those in need, and the spread of the Gospel.(Gen. 14:20; Prov. 3:9-10; Acts 4:34-37; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:6-7; Gal. 6:6; Eph. 4:28; 1 Tim. 5:17-18; 1 Jn. 3:17)

### **Doctrine of Missions**

We believe that God has given the church a great commission to proclaim the Gospel to all nations so that there might be a great multitude from every nation, tribe, ethnic group, and language group who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. As ambassadors of Christ we must use all available means to evangelize those in need, here in our homeland & abroad. (Matt. 28:19-20; Mk 16:15; Lk 24:46-48; Jn. 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2 Cor. 5:20)