Statement of Faith



<u>The Scriptures:</u> We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the verbally and plenarily inspired Word of God. The Scriptures are inerrant, infallible, and God-breathed, and therefore are the final authority for faith and life. The sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments are the complete and divine revelation of God to man. The Scriptures should be interpreted according to their normal grammatical-historical meaning. We believe the King James Bible is the preserved Word of God for English speaking people and is the only translation that we use.

<u>God:</u> We believe in the Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit all equally part of the God-head. God is the Sovereign creator and ruler of the universe.

<u>The Person and Work of Christ:</u> We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful men. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through the shedding of His blood and death on the cross, and that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead. He ascended to Heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God. He now fulfils the ministry of representative, intercessor and advocate. (John 1:1-2, 14; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; Galatians 4:4,5; Philippians 2:5-8; Romans 3:24; 1 Peter1:3-5; Hebrews 7:25, 9:24)

<u>The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit</u>: We believe that the Holy Spirit is a Person who convicts the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment; and that He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration, indwelling and sealing all believers unto the day of redemption. He is the Divine Teacher who assists believers to understand and appropriate the Scriptures and that it is the duty of all the saved to be filled with the Spirit.(John 16:8-11; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 1 John 2:20,27)

Salvation and Security of the Believer: We believe that salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. All redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are thus eternally secure in Christ forever. (John 6:37-40; 1Corinthians 1:4-8)

<u>The Church</u>: The local church, which is the body and espoused bride of Christ, is solely made up of born again believers. The establishment and continuance of the local church is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures. We believe in the autonomy of the local church, free of any external authority or control. (1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 1Timothy 3:1-13; Acts 13:1-4)

<u>The Ordinances of the Local Church:</u> Water baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper are the two Scriptural ordinances of obedience for the church. (Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

The Personality of Satan: Satan is a person, the author of sin and the cause of the fall of Man. Satan is the open and declared enemy of God and man; and, that he shall be eternally punished in the lake of fire. (Isaiah 1:6-7; 14:12-17; Revelation 20:10)

<u>The Eternal State</u>: We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life in heaven, and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment in hell. The souls of the redeemed at death are absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection. The souls of unbelievers after death remain in conscious punishment and torment until the second resurrection when they shall appear at the Great White throne judgment, and be cast into the lake of fire.(Matthew 25:46; John 5:28-29; Revelation 20:4-15)

<u>The Second Coming of Christ:</u> We believe in that "blessed hope", the personal imminent return of Christ Who will rapture His church prior to the seven-year tribulation period. (1 Thessalonians 1:10, 4:13-18; Titus 2:13; Revelation 19:11-16, 20:1-6)

The Millennium: At the end of the Tribulation, Christ will personally and visibly return, with His saints, to establish His earthly Messianic Kingdom which was promised to the Nation of Israel. (1 Thessalonians 1:10, 4:13-18; Titus 2:13; Revelation 19:11-16, 20:1-6)

<u>The Great Commission</u>: The Lord 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. We believe the boundaries of the mission field lie at the thresh hold of our church doors. As ambassadors of Christ we must use all available means to go to the lost and not wait for them to come to us.

Ecclesiastical Separation: All believers should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord; and, that separation from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices and associations, including homosexuality, lesbianism, adultery, etc. is commanded of God in His Word. (Romans 12:1-2, 14:13; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1; 2 Timothy 3:1-5)

<u>The Ecumenical Movement</u>: This movement is the attempt to unite in cooperation the unity of all believers of different faiths. We believe this movement contradicts true unity of believers according to the Bible based on sound doctrine. We reject all cooperation with this movement. (i.e. The World Council of Churches, freemasons, Promise Keepers) (Romans 16:17; Galatians 1:6-8; 1Timothy 1:3, 6:3-5)

The Charismatic: The Charismatic are characterized many times by emotions, experiences, dreams, signs, speaking in tongues, healers, miracles, and gifts of prophecy. The Charismatic (Pentecostal) Movement is a false doctrine and teaching that has lead to such blatant erroneous beliefs as "God wants you to be rich", Holy laughter, "name it and claim it beliefs, and many others. We believe that the sign gifts of the Holy Spirit such as speaking in tongues and the gift of healings were temporary. Speaking in tongues was never the common or necessary sign of baptism or filling of the Holy Spirit and that the ultimate deliverance of the body from sickness or death awaits the consummation of our salvation in the resurrection, though God frequently chooses to answer the prayers of believers for physical healing. (1 Corinthians 1:22, 13:8, 14:21-22; 2 Thessalonians 2:9; 2 Peter 1:20; Revelation 22:18)

Neo-Evangelicalism: In general Neo-Evangelicalism is described as individuals that have taken a "lower view" of Scriptures and have developed a more open and inclusive spirit toward liberalism. We completely reject Neo-Evangelicalism (NAE, Campus Crusade for Christ, Billy Graham ministries). It is a "watered-down" view of the fundamentals of the faith. This movement was born out of compromise. We firmly stand on the fundamentals and sufficiency of the Word of God regardless of social acceptance, science of man, or worldly religious views.

<u>Neo-Orthodoxy</u>: This term for the most part refers to "modern contemporary theology" or liberal theology. It holds that the Bible is a fallible human book and that, experiences with God is what makes the Scriptures real. We reject all aspects of the Neo-Orthodoxy. The Scriptures are inerrant, infallible, and God-breathed, and therefore are the final authority for faith and life.

Worship: We believe in worshipping the Lord in spirit and in Truth. We believe that worship should be traditional, honoring to the Lord and free from wordliness, or self glory. Therefore we do not believe that contemporary worship or music, is honoring to the Lord.