

What We Believe

Salvation

We believe the Bible teaches that a person must be born again to see the kingdom of God. (John 3:3) Being born again is believing Jesus Christ is the Lord, believing HE rose from the dead, and asking HIM to save you. (Romans 10:9-10) Ephesians 2:8-9 explains that we cannot be saved by our own works: only by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

The Atonement for Sin

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; through the mediatorial office of the Son of God, who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon Himself our nature, yet without sin, honored the Divine law by His personal obedience and death, made a full and vicarious atonement for our sins and the sins of the whole world; that His death was a voluntary substitution of Himself in the sinner's place, the just dying for the unjust, bearing our sins in His own body on the tree; that having risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in heaven, and is qualified to be our suitable and compassionate High Priest and Savior. (Isaiah 53:11-12, Matthew 18:11, John 3:16, 10:18, Acts 15:11, Romans 3:24-25, 1 Corinthians 15:3, 20; 2 Corinthians 5:21, Galatians 1:4, Ephesians 2:8-9, Philippians 2:7-8, Hebrews 2:14, 7:25, 9:12-15; 12:2)

Scripture

We believe that the Holy Bible, as originally written, was verbally and plenary inspired, and the product of Spirit controlled men. It is therefore truth without the mixture of error. God supernaturally intended the transmission of the Bible through the years, so that we have, in fact, the Word of God. The Bible is the center of true Christian unity, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and convictions are based. (Psalm 119:11, Proverbs 30:5-6, Matthew 24:35, John 5:39, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:19-21)

The Church

We believe in the unity of all true believers in the church, which is the Body of Christ, and was established on the Day of Pentecost; that all believers from Pentecost to the Rapture, both Jews and Gentiles, are added to the church by baptism of the Holy Spirit, which occurs at the time of salvation; that the church is manifested through the local church, which is a congregation of baptized believers associated by the fellowship of the Gospel, observing the two ordinances of Christ (Baptism and the Lord's Supper), governed by His Word, exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word; that its officers are pastors and deacons, whose qualifications and duties are clearly defined in the Scripture; that the true mission of the church is the faithful witnessing for Christ to all men, and the discipleship and edification of the saints; that

the church has the absolute right of self-government, free from the interference of any individual, hierarchy of individuals, or organizations; that the one and only Head of the church is Christ; that it is scriptural for true churches to cooperate with each other in contending for the faith, and for the furtherance of the Gospel; that each local church is the sole judge of the measure and the method of its cooperation; that in all matters of membership, polity, discipline, and benevolence, the will of the church is final.

(Matthew 28:19-20, Ephesians 1:22-23, 3:1-6, 4:11-12, 5:23-24, Acts 2:41-42, 4:11-12, 20:17-28, Colossians 1:18, 1 Timothy 3:1-7)

God

We believe there is one and only one living and true God: an infinite, sovereign Spirit, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three equal persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. They are equal in every perfection, and execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of redemption. (Genesis 17:1, Exodus 20:2-3, Jeremiah 10:10, Ephesians 4:6, 1 Corinthians 2:10-11, 8:6, 2 Corinthians 13:14, Revelation 4:11)

The Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a Divine Person, equal to the Father and the Son; that He is active in creation, in His relationship to the unbelieving world He restrains the evil one until God's purpose is fulfilled, that He convicts of sin, judgment, and righteousness. He is the agent of the new birth. He seals, guides, teaches, sanctifies, helps believers, and endues with power. The gifts of tongues, interpretation of tongues, healing, prophecy, and apostleship were sign gifts, and temporary until the Scriptures were completed. (Genesis 1:1-3, Matthew 28:9-10, Mark 1:8, Luke 1:35, 24:49, John 1:33, 3:5-6, 14:16-17, 16:8-11, Acts 5:30-32, 11:36, Romans 8:14-16, 26-27, 15:19, 1 Corinthians 13:8, Ephesians 1:13-14, Hebrews 2:4, 9:14)

Satan or the Devil

We believe in the personality of Satan, that he is the unholy god of this age, and the ruler of all the powers of darkness. He is destined to the judgment of an eternal judgment in the Lake of Fire. (Matthew 4:1-11, 2 Corinthians 4:4, Revelation 20:10)

Baptism and the Lord's Supper

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, under the authority of the local church: to show forth in a beautiful emblem our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, through Whom we died to sin and rose to newness of life; that baptism is in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; that baptism is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership. We believe that the Lord's Supper is the commemoration of Christ's death and resurrection (until He

returns), and should be preceded by self-examination. We believe that the biblical order of the ordinances is baptism, then the Lord's Supper. (Matthew 3:16, 28:19-20, John 3:23, Acts 8:36-39, Romans 6:3-5, 1 Corinthians 11:23-28, Colossians 2:12)

Security of the Believer

We believe all who are truly born again are kept by the power of God, for Jesus Christ, for eternity. (John 10:28-30, Romans 8:35-39, Philippians 1:6)

The Rapture and Subsequent Events

We believe in the imminent, pre-tribulational, pre-millennial return of Jesus Christ for His Church; that at the moment the dead in Christ shall be raised in glorified bodies, the living in Christ shall be given glorified bodies, without tasting death, and both groups will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air, before the 70th week of Daniel (Tribulation Period). (1 Corinthians 15:42-44, 15:51-54, Philippians 3:20-21, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Revelation 3:10, 4:1)