

Statement of Faith

1. The Scriptures

We believe that the Holy Bible is (a) verbally & plenary inspired of God; (b) that it is truth without any admixture of error; that it is infallible and inerrant in all matters of which it speaks; and (c) therefore is the only complete & final revelation of the will of God to man; the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions shall be tried.

a. By "Holy Bible" we mean that the collection of sixty-six books, from Genesis to Revelation.

b. By "inspiration" we mean that the books were written by men who were moved by the Holy Spirit of God. c. We believe the texts which are closest to the original autographs of the Bible

are the Masoretic Hebrew Text for the Old Testament, and the Textus Receptus for the New Testament. d. We believe that the King James Version is the true and faithful translation

of these two providentially preserved texts, and that it is the preserved inerrant word of God for English speaking people. (a) 2 Tim.3:16,17, 2 Peter 1:19-21, Acts 1:16, Acts

28:25 (b) Psa.119:160, Psa.119:130 Luke 24:25-27, John 17:17, Luke 24:44,45 (c) Psa.119:89, Prov.30:5,6 Rev.22:18,19, John 12:48, Isa.8:20, Eph.6:17, Psa.12:6,7.

2. The True God

There is (a) one living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, the Creator and supreme ruler of heaven and earth; (b) glorious in holiness, worthy of all honor, confidence and love; (c) that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

(a) Ex. 20:2-3, Gen.17:1, I Cor.8:6, Eph. 4:6, John 4:24, Psa.147:5, Psa.83:18, Psa.90:2, Jer.10:10;

(b) Ex.15:11, Rev. 4:11, I Tim. 1:17, Rom. 11:33, Mark 12:30;

(c) Matt. 28:19,

John 15:26, I Cor.12:4-6, I John 5:7, John 10:30, John 17:5, Acts 5:3-4, I Cor.2:10-11, Phil. 2:5-6, Eph.2:18, II Cor.13:14.

3. The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is a divine Person; (a) equal with God the Father and (b) God the Son and (c) of the same; (d) that He was active in the creation; (e) that in His relation to the unbelieving world He restrains the evil one until God's purpose is fulfilled; (f) that He convicts of sin, of judgment and of righteousness; (g) that He bears witness to the Truth of the Gospel; (h) that He is the agent in the New Birth; (i) that He seals, endues, guides, teaches, witnesses, and sanctifies the believer.

(a) John 14:16-17;

(b) Matt. 28:19;

(c) Heb. 9:14, John 14:26, Luke 1:35;

(d) Gen.1:1-3;

(e) II Thess.2:7;

(f) John 16:8-11;

(g) John 14:26-27, Acts 5:30-32;

(h) John 3:5-6;

(i) Eph.1: 13-14, Luke 24:49, John 16:13, John 14:26, Rom. 8:14-16, II Thess.2:13, I Pet. 1:2

4. The Devil, or Satan

Satan was once (a) holy, and enjoyed heavenly honors; but through pride and ambition to be as the Almighty, fell and (b) drew after him a host of angels; that he is now (c) the evil prince of the

power of the air, and the unholy god of this world. (d) He is man's great tempter, (e) the enemy of God and His Christ, (f) the accuser of the saints, (g) the author of false religions, the chief power behind apostasy; (h) the lord of the antichrist, and (i) the author of the powers of darkness—destined (j) to final defeat at the hands of God's Son, and (k) to the judgment of an eternal justice in hell, a place prepared for him and his angels.

(a) Isa. 14:12-15, Ezek. 28:14-17;

(b) Rev. 12:9, Jude 6, II Pet. 2:4, Eph. 2:2, John 14:30;

(c) I Thess. 3:5, Matt. 4:1,3;

(d) I Pet. 5:8;

(e) Zech. 3:1, I John 3:8, Matt. 13:25, 37-39, Luke 22:3-4;

(f) Rev. 12:10;

(g) II Cor. 11:13-15, Mark 13:21-22;

(h) I John 4:3, II John 7, I John 2:22;

(i) Rev. 13:13-14, II Thess. 2:8-11;

(j) Rev. 19:11, 16, 20, Rev. 12:7-9, Rev. 20:1-3;

(k) Rev. 20:10, Matt. 25:41.

5. The Creation

We believe in the Genesis account of creation, and (a) that it is to be accepted literally, and not figuratively; (b) that man was created directly in God's own image and after His own likeness; (c) that man's creation was not a matter of evolution, (d) that all animal and vegetable life was made directly, and God's established law was they should bring forth only "after their kind".

(a) Gen.1:1, Ex. 20:11, Acts 4:24, Col.1:16-17, Heb.11:3, John 1:3, Rev.10:6, Rom.1:20, Acts 17:23-26, Jer. 10:12, Neh. 9:6;

(b) Gen.1:26-27, I Cor.11:7;

(c) Gen. 2:7, Gen. 2:21-23;

(d) Gen.1:11, Gen. 1:24.

6. The Fall of Man

We believe (a) that man was created in innocence, but (b) by voluntary transgression fell from his sinless state, (c) in consequence of which, all mankind are now sinners and (d) under just condemnation without defense or excuse.

(a) Gen.3:6, 24

(b) Rom. 5:12, Rom. 5:19

(c) Rom. 3:10-19, Eph.2:1,3, Rom.1:18, Eph.2:1-3, Rom.1:18, Ezek.18:19, 20

(d) Rom.1:28,32, Gal.3:22

7. The Virgin Birth of Christ

We believe (a) that Jesus Christ was begotten of the Holy Ghost in a miraculous manner; (b) born of Mary, a virgin and (c) that He is both the Son of God, and God the Son.

(a) Gen. 3:15

(b) Isa. 7:14, Matt. 1: 18-25, Luke 1:35, Psa. 2:7, Gal. 4:4

(c) I John 5:20, I Cor. 15:47

8. The Atonement for Sin

We believe (a) that the salvation is wholly of grace; (b) through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who freely took upon Himself our nature, yet without sin, and by His death made a vicarious atonement for our sins; (c) that His atonement was the voluntarily substitution of Himself in the sinner's place, the Just for the unjust, bearing our sins on the tree; that (d) risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in Heaven; He is in every way our all-sufficient Savior.

(a) Eph. 2:8,9, Acts 15:11, Rom. 3:24

(b) John 3:16, Matt. 18:11, Phil. 2:7, Heb. 2:14,

(c) Isa.53:4-7; Rom. 3:25, I John 4:10, I Cor. 15:3, 2 Cor. 5:21;

(d) John 10:18, Phil. 2:8,

(e) Gal. 1:14, I Pt. 2:24 I Pt.3:18, Isa. 53:11, Heb.12:2

(f) I Cor. 15:20, Isa. 53:12,

(g) Heb. 9:12-15, Heb. 7:25, I John 2:2

9. The Salvation of Sinners

We believe (a) that sinners must be born again; (b) that the new birth results in a new creature in Christ; (c) that it is instantaneous and not a process; (d) that the saved are made partakers of the divine nature and receive eternal life; (e) that the evidence appears in the fruits of repentance, faith and newness of life.

(a) John 3:3

(b) 2 Cor.5:17

(c) Luke 5:27, 28, I John 5:1, John 3:6,7, Acts 2:41, Acts 16:30-33

(d) 2 Peter 1:4, Rom. 6:23, Eph. 2:1, 2 Cor. 5:19, Col. 2:13

(e) John 3:8, John 1:12, 13, Gal. 5:22, Eph. 5:9

10. The Freeness of Salvation

We believe (a) in God's grace; (b) that salvation is free to all by the Gospel; (c) that it is the responsibility of all to accept them by faith and (d) that nothing prevents the salvation of the sinner but his own voluntary rejection of the Gospel; (e) which rejection results in an aggravated condemnation.

(a) I Thess.1:4, Col.3:12, I Peter 1:2, Rom. 8:29, 30(b) Matt.11:28, Isa. 55:1, Rev. 22:17,

(b) Rom. 10:13

(c) Isa.55:6, Acts 2:38

(d) Isa.55:7, John 3:15, 16, I Tim. 1:15

(e) John 3:18, John 3:3

11. Justification

All who believe in Christ is justified, (a) that includes the pardon of sin, the gift of eternal life, (b)

that it is bestowed not by any works of righteousness, but solely through the Redeemer's blood, His righteousness is imputed unto us.

(a) Acts 13:39, Isa. 53:11, Zech. 13:1, Rom.13:1, Rom. 8:1, Rom. 5:9, Rom. 5:1

(b) Titus 3:5-7, Rom.1:17, Hab. 2:4, Gal.3:11, Rom. 4:1-8, Heb. 10:38.

12. Repentance and Faith

Repentance and faith are (a) solemn obligations, and (b) are inseparable graces, (c) wrought in our souls by the Spirit of God; (d) thereby, being deeply convicted of our sin and guilt, helplessness, and of the way of salvation in Christ, we turn to God in unfeigned contrition; (e) at

the same time heartily receive the Lord Jesus Christ and openly confessing Him as our Savior.

- (a) Acts 20:21
- (b) Mark 1:15
- (c) Acts 2:37, 38
- (d) Luke 18:13, Rom.10:13, Psa.51:1-4, Psa.51:7, Isa. 55:6,7
- (e) Luke 12:8, Rom. 10:9-11

13. The Church

We believe a church of Christ is a congregation of baptized Believers (a) associated by a covenant of faith; (b) observing the two ordinances of Christ; (c) governed by His laws; and (d) exercising the gifts and privileges invested in them by His Word; (e) that it's officers of ordination

are pastors. (f) we believe the mission of the church is in the "Great Commission": First, to make disciples; Second, to build up the church; Third, to teach and instruct as He commanded. (g)

The local church has the right of self government, free from the interference of any hierarchy of individuals or organizations; and that the only superintendent is Christ through the Holy Spirit; (h) that it is scriptural for churches to cooperate with each other in contending for the faith and for the furtherance of the gospel; that every church is the sole furtherance of the gospel; that every church is the sole and only judge of the measure and method of this cooperation; (i) on matters of membership, of government, of discipline, of benevolence, the will of the local church

is final.

- (a) Acts 2:41, (a & b) Acts 2:42;
- (b) (b) I Cor. 11:2; (c) Eph. 1:22-23; (d) Eph. 4:11,
- (c) I Cor.12:4, 8:11; (e) Acts 14:23, Acts 6:5-6, Acts 15:23, Acts 20:17, 28, I Tim. 3:1-8,
- (d) I Tim. 3:8-13;
- (e) Matt. 28:19-20;
- (f) Col.1:18, Eph. 5:23-24, I Pet. 5:1-4; (h) Acts 15:22, Jude 3-4,
- (g) II Cor. 8:23-24, I Cor.16:1, Mal. 3:10, Lev. 27:32, I Cor.16:2;
- (h) I Cor. 6:1-3, I Cor. 5:11-13.

14. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Christian baptism is (a) the immersion in water; (b) in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, with the authority of the local church; (c) to show forth our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior, with it's effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; (d) that it is prerequisite to church membership in relation to the Lord's Supper; (e) in which the members of the church, by the use of bread and the fruit of the vine are to commemorate the dying love of Christ; (f) preceded by solemn self-examination.

- (a) Acts 8:36-39, Matt. 3:6, Rom. 6:4,5, Matt. 3:16
- (b) Matt. 28:19
- (c) Rom. 6:3-5, Col. 2:12
- (d) Acts 2:41,42, Matt. 28:19, 20
- (e) I Cor.11:23-28
- (f) I Cor.11:27, 28

15. The Eternal Security of Believers

We believe (a) that Believers will endure to the end; (b) that their persevering attachment to Christ is the mark which distinguishes them from professors; (c) that a special Providence

watches over their welfare; and (d) that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto eternal life.

(a) John 8:31, Col.1: 21,23

(b) I John 2:19, Matt.13:19-21

(c) Rom. 8:28 Matt. 6:30, Psa.121:3, Heb.1:14

(d) I Peter 1:5, Phil.1:6, John 10:28, 29, John 16:8, Rom. 8:35-39

16. The Righteous and the Wicked

We believe that (a) there is an essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; (b) that such only as faith are justified through faith in Christ; (c) while all such as continue in unbelief are in His sight wicked and under a curse; (d) and this distinction holds among men after death, in the everlasting felicity of the saved and the everlasting conscience suffering of the lost.

(a) Mal.3:18, Gen.18:23, Rom.6:17,18, Prov.11:31, I Peter 4:18

(b) (b) Rom. 1:17,

(c) I Cor.15:22 Acts 10:34, 35, I John 2:29, I John 3:7, Rom. 6:16

(d) I John 5:19, Gal. 3:10, Rom.7:6, Rom.6:23

(e) Prov.14:32, Luke 16:25, Matt.25:34, 41, 46, John 8:21

17. Civil Government

We believe that civil government is (a) of divine appointment, for the order of society; (b) that magistrates are to be prayed for, honored and obeyed; (c) except only in things opposed to the will of the Lord Jesus Christ; (d) who is the only Lord of the conscience.

(a) Rom.13:13, 2 Sam.23:3, Ex.18:21, 22

(b) Acts 23:5, Matt. 22:21, Titus 3:1, I Pt. 2:13,14 I Pt. 2:17

(c) Acts 5:29, Acts 4:19, 20, Dan.3:17, 18

(d) Matt.10:28, Matt. 23:10, Rev.19:16, Phil.2:10, 11, Psa. 72: 11

18. The Resurrection and Last Days

We believe that (a) Jesus Christ rose bodily on the third day; (b) that he ascended to the right hand of the Father; (c) that He is the High Priest; (d) that He will return bodily, personally and visibly; (f) that the saved shall be changed in the twinkling of an eye; (g) that the Lord shall give to Jesus the throne of David; (h) and that Christ shall reign in a literal kingdom for a thousand years on the earth.

(a) Matt. 28:6,7, Luke 24:39, John 20:27, I Cor.15:4, Mark 16:6, Luke 24:3-6

(b) Acts 1:9,11, Luke 24:51, Mark 16:19, Rev. 3:21, Heb. 8:1, Heb.12:2

(c) Heb. 8:6, I Tim. 2:5 I John 2:1, Heb. 2:7, Heb. 5:9,10

(d) John 14:3, Acts 1:11, I Thess. 4:16, Matt. 24:27, Matt. 25:13 James 5:8, Matt. 24:42, Heb. 9:28

(e) I Thess. 4:16, I Cor. 15:42-44, I Cor. 15:5

(f) I Cor.15:51-53, I Thess. 4:17, Phil. 3:20, 21

(g) Luke 1:32, Isa. 9:6,7, Acts 2:29, 30

(h) I Cor. 15:25, Isa. 32:1, Isa. 11:4,5, Rev. 20:1-4, Rev. 20:6

19. The Priority of Missions

We believe the command to bring the Gospel into all the world is clear and unmistakable, and that this commission was given to the local church.

(Mark 16:15, Matt.28:19,20, Acts 1:8)

20. The Grace of Giving

We believe Scriptural giving is one of the fundamentals of the faith (Cor.8:7); that we are commanded to bring our gifts to the storehouse (common treasury of the church) upon the first day of the week (I Cor.16:2); that we are commanded to bring the tithe to the church (Matt. 23:23, Acts 4:34-37).

21. Human Sexuality

We believe that (a) sexual activity is between one man and one woman is ordained of God; that (b) any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, incest, bestiality, fornication, adultery and pornography are sinful perversions of God's holy gift of sex.

(a) Gen.2:24; Gen.19:5,13

(b) Gen.26:8,9; Lev.18; Rom.1:26-29; 1 Cor.5:1; 6:9; 1 Thess.4:1-8

Heb.13:4 Matt. 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, John 20:21, Acts 1:8, Acts 13:1-4, Rom.10:13-15

22. Abortion

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

(Job 3:16; Psa.51:5; 139:14-16; Isa.44:24; 49:1,,5; Jer.1:5; 20:15-18; Luke 1:44)

23. Divorce and Remarriage

We believe (a) God intends for marriage to last until one of the spouses dies and that He hates divorce; (b) Divorce and remarriage is regarded as adultery except on the grounds of fornication or desertion.

(a) Mal.2:14-17; Matt.19:3-12; Rom.7:1-3

(b) 1 Cor.7:15; Matt.19:9

24. Lawsuits between Believers

We believe that it is a disgrace for Christians to sue other Christians; rather, they are to work out their problems and not to go before the unsaved world to reconcile their differences.

(1 Cor. 6:1-8; Matt.18:15-17)