

The Holy Scriptures

We believe the Scriptures – both the Old and New Testaments – to be the verbally inspired Word of God, written by men in God’s control, inerrant and infallible in the original manuscripts and the final authority in faith and life. We accept the grammatical-historical system of the interpretation of the Scriptures, and accept the historical record of the Bible as accurate. *2 Timothy 3:13-15; 2 Peter 1:20-21*

The Godhead

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – who are identical in essence, equal in power and glory, and possess precisely the same attributes and perfection. *Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14*

The Person and Work of Christ

We believe that the Lord, Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man without ceasing to be God; that He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin in order that He might redeem sinful man. He accomplished this redemption by voluntarily giving Himself as a sinless substitutionary sacrifice on the cross thereby satisfying God’s righteous judgment against the sin of the elect. He gave proof that He accomplished that redemption by His bodily resurrection from the grave. He then ascended to the right hand of His Father where He intercedes on behalf of His people. *Matthew 1:21; John 1:1, 2, 14, 18; 10:15; Luke 1:34; Romans 3:24, 25; 5:8; 1 Peter 2:2-4*

The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the Divine Person who convicts the world of sin; that He alone brings new life to those who are spiritually dead; that He places all believers into the one true church, which is the Body of Christ, that He indwells them permanently, seals them unto the day of redemption, and bestows spiritual gifts upon them. *John 3:3-8; 14:16-17; 16:7-11; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; Ephesians 4:30; 5:18*

The Condition of Man

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, in innocence and without sin. But in Adam’s sin the race fell, inherited the guilt of his sin, a sinful nature and choice. Man, of himself, is incapable of remedying his lost and depraved condition. *Genesis 1:26; 3:1-24; Romans 3:10-18; 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3*

Salvation

We believe that salvation is the gift of God’s grace given to all whom God has elected to salvation. It includes all that God does in saving the elect from the penalty, power and presence of sin and in restoring them to a right relationship with God. As such, it is solely the work of God from initiation to completion. The regenerating work of the Holy Spirit is the cause not the result of the believer’s saving faith. It cannot be gained by good works, but is a free gift for all who put their trust in Jesus Christ and His finished work on the cross. All who trust in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are forgiven and saved from their sins and made righteous before God and are born into the family of God. God’s purpose for saving His elect is so that they bring glory to Him by their lives. *John 1:12; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-9; Philippians 1:6; Titus 2:11-14*

Security, Assurance and Responsibility

We believe that all the saved – those in whom God has accomplished His transforming work of grace – are kept by His power and thus, are secure in Christ forever. This assurance, however, is not the occasion for sin, for God in holiness cannot tolerate persistent sin in His children, and in infinite love He corrects them. True faith in Christ is expressed by a fruitful, God-pleasing life that endures until death.

Matthew 7:20; John 10:27-29; Romans 8:29-39; Hebrews 12:6; James 2:20; 1 John 5:13

Sanctification

We believe that God, in the Scriptures, has given us everything pertaining to life and godliness. This includes the salvation from the penalty of sin and just as surely the provision of sanctification (separation) from sin. Sanctification from sin affects both the positional and practical aspects. Positional sanctification as a work of the Holy Spirit is complete and absolute; however, practical sanctification is a result of the continuing work of the Spirit using the Word of God to provide nourishment for growth into maturity in Christ. While the process of practical sanctification is assured by the Word and the Spirit, it is yet imperfect in this life. There is some element of corruption in every part of the fallen nature which is the source for the war between the flesh and the Spirit. Spiritual growth occurs as believers feed on the Word and are in fellowship with other believers for encouragement and service. *John 17:17; 1 Corinthians 1:30; Romans 6:19, 22; Hebrews 10:25; 1 Peter 2:2; 2 Peter 1:3*

The Church

We believe the true Church called in Scripture the Body of Christ, is a spiritual organism. Every person who has trusted Jesus Christ for salvation is a part of the church. The local church, as established in Scripture, is made up of redeemed individuals who have joined together for worship, instruction, fellowship and service. *Acts 2:42; 13:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 1:22*

Ordinances

We believe that our Lord Jesus Christ instituted two ordinances to be observed by all believers as a matter of obedience, not as a condition for salvation – water baptism subsequent to the believer's profession of faith, and the Lord's Supper. *Matthew 28:19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

The Eternal State

We believe that at death the souls of those who have trusted Christ for salvation pass immediately into his presence and remain there in conscious bliss until the resurrection of the body at Christ's coming for the Church, when soul and body will be reunited. We then shall be with him forever in glory. We also believe that at death the souls of unbelievers remain in conscious misery until the final judgment when the soul and body will be reunited and cast into the lake of fire – not to be annihilated, but to be separated from God forever in conscious punishment. *Luke 16:19-26; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9*

Eschatology

We believe, according to His promise, that Jesus will physically return for His people. This truth has been revealed to provide the believer comfort and encouragement in this life. *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*