

DOCTRINAL POSITION AND STATEMENT OF FAITH

THE SCRIPTURES

I believe in the divine verbal inspiration and absolute authority of the Holy Scriptures. Both the Old and New Testaments, given by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, are inerrant in the original autographs (and the plain sense of the language structure). They are the infallible and complete final authority of God's revelation to man, sufficient to adequately equip us unto all faith, life and godliness. God has preserved His divine revelation throughout history and has made it possible by the illumination of His Holy Spirit that an individual may come to a saving faith and growing knowledge of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour. The Word of God must be applied practically and specifically to the individual's life in order for him to be fruitful and fulfilled. (II Tim. 3:15-17, Heb. 1:1, I Thess. 2:13, II Pet. 1:21, Jn. 10:35, Ps. 19:7, Mt. 24:35, I Cor. 2:12-13, Jn. 20:31, James 1:22-25)

THE GODHEAD

I believe that there is only one living and true God, having an eternal tri-personal existence as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit (the Trinity). The three are distinct and yet equal in nature, attributes, power and glory. (Deut. 6:4, Josh. 3:10, Jn. 17:3, Ps. 90:2, Mt. 28:19, Gal. 1:1, Acts 5:3-4, Jn. 20:28)

JESUS CHRIST

I believe that Jesus Christ, pre existent to His incarnation was eternally begotten of the Father. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, thus affirming the sinless perfection of Christ, who is both God and man. After His bodily resurrection from the dead, He ascended into heaven and is presently engaged in the intercessory ministry of Advocate and Great High Priest, being that He is the only mediator between God and man. (Col. 1:16-17, Heb. 4:14-15, Jn. 1:1-2, Lk. 1:35, I Jn. 3:5, I Cor. 15:4, Acts 1:9, I Jn. 2:1, I Tim. 2:5)

SALVATION

I believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, as a voluntary representative, vicarious, and substitutionary sacrifice. He became sin for us and paid in full the death penalty to satisfy the righteous and holy demands of God's wrath and judgement upon the believing sinner. On the basis of Christ's righteousness and shed blood on the cross, all who believe and trust in Him alone for their salvation are justified by grace through faith apart from works of righteousness. I believe that all who receive Jesus Christ through faith experience a new birth, being born from above (regeneration) and God's Spirit indwells them, making them children of God, once and for all, forever. Based on the work of Jesus Christ and His substitutionary atonement, the believer is regenerated because righteousness has been imputed.

Man is also justified, redeemed, reconciled, and sanctified because God has been propitiated. (I Cor. 15:3, Jn. 10:18, Is. 53:5, II Cor. 5:21, Rom. 6:23, Rom. 3:22-28, Rom. 4:4, Rom. 5:8, Eph. 2:8-9, Titus 3:5, Jn. 1:12)

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ETERNAL SECURITY AND ASSURANCE

I believe that when one becomes a child of God thru faith in Jesus Christ, he is given, as a free gift, eternal life and can never lose that privilege. God's promises remain true and faithful in spite of sinful man and his own reasonings. The believer is permanently sealed by the Holy Spirit until the day of redemption and Christ is able to keep His own. God's Word gives definite assurance of eternal life to those in Christ. (Jn. 1:12, Jn. 3:16, Rom. 6:23, 4:21, Eph. 4:30, Jn. 10:27-30, I Jn. 5:11-13)

MAN

I believe that man was created by God (no evolutionary process at all) in the image of God and after His likeness. Because of his disobedience and rebellion against noly God, he fell into a lost sinful state of death. The consequences of his sin brought about not only physical death, but also spiritual death, which is separation from God, in his present life. If he dies while yet in his sins, he experiences eternal death in the lake of fire. According to scripture all human beings are born into the state of being spiritually dead in tresspasses and sins, and because of their sinful nature and total depravity, must be born again. Man will be judged by God in his thoughts, words, and actions, thus responsible and held accountable to God. Since man is totally depraved he can only be a slave to sin, self, and Satan, and cannot seek after God or experience a relationship with Him apart from the Holy Spirit appropriating the work of Christ to him. I also believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust either to the resurrection of life or damnation. (Gen. 1:26, Rom. 5:12, Rom. 5:17, II Thess. 1:9, Rev. 20:12-15, Ps. 51:5, Rom. 3:10-19, Rom. 8:9-16, Jn. 5:29)

THE HOLY SPIRIT

I believe that the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, is equally God, who carries out specific ministries in the world today. His main purpose is to testify of Jesus Christ and bear witness of the truth to the children of God. On the day of Pentecost He indwelt the apostles and early believers in a special way as a confirming sign of God's power and new program called the church. The Holy Spirit regenerates, indwells, baptizes (places into the universal Body of Christ), and seals each believer. His ministry to the world is to convict of sin, righteousness and judgement and to restrain evil. The Holy Spirit also unifies, teaches, guides, comforts and intercedes for believers. It is the Christian's responsibility to be filled or controlled by the Holy Spirit which is continual yieldedness in obedience to the Spirit's promptings from the Word of God. This is how the believer cooperates in the outworking of God's righteousness, which is practical sanctification.

The Spirit has also given gifts to all born again believers for the purpose of evangelizing the world and edifying the Body of Christ. Some gifts were only given during the Apostolic age for the foundational structure of the church to confirm and

authenticate the message of God. Now that the church is established and the Word of God complete, apostleship, prophecy, miracles, healing, tongues, and their interpretation (the sign gifts) are no longer necessary having fulfilled their purpose. The other spiritual gifts are permanent and it's the believer's responsibility to discover and develop these to function effectively during the entire church age. (Jn. 14:16-17, Jn. 16:7-15, Eph. 5:18, Eph. 4:30, II Thess. 2:7, I Cor. 12-14, Rom. 12:1-16)

### THE CHURCH

I believe that the church is the universal "called out" assembly of all Christians from the day of Pentecost till the rapture. It is related in scripture as the Body and Bride of Christ, distinct in it's purpose and program from Israel. The church consists of all elect born again believers (Jews and Gentiles) joined together as one, for the ordinances of the Lord's supper and baptism, and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, who is it's Head. The ordinances are an expression of outward testimony and witness to all, regarding the believer's union, identification and fellowship with Christ. (Acts 1:8, Acts 2:42-27, Eph. 1:20-23, Eph. 5:23-29, I Cor. 12:13, Mt. 16:16-18, Rom. 12:5, Acts 10:48, I Cor. 11:23-26)

### ANGELS

I believe before the creation of earth and man, God created an ennumerable company of sinless spirit beings, who are His ministering messengers to carry out His purposes. Lucifer, the highest positioned archangel, through defiant pride, attempted a rebellion to overthrow God and thus was cast out of heaven with one third of the angels who followed him. These who follow him are called demons who attempt to thwart the plan of God but whose end is sure eternal punishment. Satan brought through the temptation of Adam and Eve, sin into the human race. Satan has been judged and defeated at the cross and the resurrection of Christ. He will ultimately be cast into the lake of fire with His demons. The holy angels who worship God are committed to serve Him and are sent forth as ministering spirits to protect the heirs of salvation. (Is. 14:12-17, Ezek. 28:11-19, Gen. 3:1-19, Col. 2:15, Rev. 20:1-3,10, Rev. 7:11-12, Heb. 1:14)

### FUTURE THINGS TO COME

I believe in the fulfillment of prophesy according to the scriptures. I believe that the blessed hope is the personal, pretribulational, premillennial, and imminent return of the Lord Jesus Christ. Following the Tribulation (Daniel's 70th week) Christ will return to earth with all His saints to judge the nations and establish His universal, millennial kingdom of righteousness. Following this thousand year reign of Christ with His saints, Satan, his demons and all who are not in the book of life will stand accountable and guilty before the Great White Throne, and then be cast into the lake of fire forever. All of God's saints from the beginning of time will then live in the eternal state of joy and blessedness with the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Amen. (Jn. 14:1-3, Acts 1:11, Rev. 3:10, I Thess. 4:13-18, Rev. 20:1-15, Rev. 21:1-8, Rev. 22:1-5.)