

Doctrinal Statement

1. The Scriptures. We believe that the original manuscripts of the Old and New Testaments comprise the full, word-for-word, truthful, inspired, inerrant Word of God and that it is the supreme and final authority in doctrine and practice. We believe that trustworthy interpretation of the Bible is best determined from careful, scholarly, exegetical study of accurate word-for-word Bible translations.

2. The Trinity. We believe in one God eternally existing in three equal persons -- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who have the same nature and attributes but who are distinct in office and activity.

3. The Father. We believe that the God of the Bible as the eternal Father is the Father of all men in the non-salvation Creator-creature sense, the Father of the nation Israel, the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the spiritual Father of all who believe in Christ.

4. The Person and Work of Christ. We believe that eternal Jesus Christ, the Son of God, became man without ceasing to be God, having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God to the world and redeem sinful man on the cross. We believe that Jesus accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a substitutionary sacrifice. We believe that our redemption and salvation are guaranteed by His literal physical resurrection from the dead. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is now in heaven, exalted to the right hand of God, where as High Priest He fulfills the ministry of intercession and advocacy for His people. He is also the Head of the Body (His Church) for which He will personally and imminently return. We believe that the sonship of Jesus is positional rather than progenitive (meaning Jesus was not created or birthed in any way by the Father). We believe that Jesus is the one intermediary between God and man. And Acts One Eight believes that a literal interpretation of the Bible favors a pre-tribulation Rapture, a 7-year Tribulation, and Christ's return for a literal 1,000-year Millennium.

5. The Holy Spirit. We believe that the eternal Holy Spirit restrains sin and convicts of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He glorifies Christ. At the moment of salvation He permanently regenerates, indwells, baptizes, and seals every believer. Experientially, He fills, gives gifts diversely to, teaches, leads, assures, and prays for believers. We believe that miraculous gifts of the Spirit (those clearly described in the Bible) are possibly available today but, if of the Spirit, function within the descriptions and limitations of the Bible's teaching. And any such gift is not the exclusive indication of someone's salvation or spirituality.

6. Angels and Satan. We believe that angels are spiritual beings who were created as sinless personalities. They presently exist in both fallen and unfallen states, the former including Satan and his demons. We believe that Satan, a personal being, by his choice the enemy of God and the people of God, is the originator of sin, and that he led Adam and Eve into sin and now rules as the god of this world. We believe that he was judged at the cross and will ultimately be cast into the Lake of Fire.

7. Creation and Man. We believe that God created all things in heaven and earth and exist by His power. We believe that the first man Adam was created out of dust, and Eve from his rib, innocent and in the image and likeness of God, but

that they sinned by acting independently of God, thereby disobeying Him, bringing both physical and spiritual death upon themselves and all mankind. We believe that man has inherited a sinful nature, is alienated from God, and is in need of salvation. We believe that, as stated in Colossians 1, Jesus was the principle agent of the Godhead in Creation. And the simplest literal interpretation of the Bible indicates that Creation occurred in 6 days and that an intelligently designed evolution was not the mechanism of Creation.

8. Salvation. We believe that any and all who receive Jesus Christ as their own personal Savior are born again of the Holy Spirit. This believing in Christ imputes Christ's righteousness to the believer. Without personal merit, man is saved on the basis of Christ's death and shed blood. We believe that anyone who has received Jesus Christ and thereby has been born again is eternally secure, has everlasting life, will not come into condemnation, has passed out of death into life, and shall never perish. We believe that there is a bodily resurrection of believers to everlasting blessedness and of unbelievers to everlasting punishment. We believe that the role of Free Will and Predestination in salvation is best understood as an antinomy meaning that both are completely true without one being subjugated to the other. God has, and does, love every individual of the world and Jesus died for every individual. And eternal security is all-inclusive. No one who was truly saved can voluntarily or involuntarily fall away or walk away from being born-again. We hold to neither the *Predestination only* nor the *Free-will only* position. Both are true and are beyond finite understanding.

9. The Christian's Walk. We believe that all believers are called with a holy calling, to walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit, and so to live in the power of the Spirit that we will not fulfill the lust of the flesh. But the flesh with its fallen Adamic nature, which in this life is never eradicated, being with us to the end of our earthly lives, needs to be kept by the Spirit constantly in subjection to Christ, or it will surely manifest its presence in our lives to the dishonor of our Lord. We believe that the qualities required of a spiritual leader are clearly revealed in the Scriptures. We believe that the moral and ethical teachings of the Old and New Testament are completely relevant and applicable today. The Bible rather than the culture defines moral and ethical right behavior. And we believe that a mature walk with God is not a good health and wealth guarantee.

10. The Church. We believe that the Church, the Body and Bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism, made up of all born-again persons in this present age. We believe that the Church began at Pentecost and that a believer is placed into the Church by the baptizing work of the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation. We believe that the universal Church consists of all believers everywhere, and the local Church consists of believers who assemble in one locality. We believe that assembling ourselves together as Church is a voluntary combination of Believers functioning in co-liability relationships, being equipped, and worshipping God ... and is not fulfilled by simply attending weekly events.

11. The Great Commission. We believe that those whom God has saved are sent into the world by Christ as He was sent by the Father. Those so sent are ambassadors, commissioned to go make disciples and make Christ known to the whole world. We also believe that everyone should have an opportunity to carefully examine the facts about Christ and have an opportunity to make an intelligent decision about Him. We believe that the Great Commission to go make disciples is more than evangelism. The Great Commission includes water baptism and the full teaching of doctrine and obedience.

(End of Doctrinal Statement)