



WHAT WE BELIEVE

THE WORD OF GOD. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, complete as the revelation of God's will for salvation, and the supreme and final authority in all matters to which they speak.

(Jn. 10:35; Jn. 17:17; II Tim. 3:16-17; II Pet. 1:19-21)

THE GODHEAD. We believe in one God, Creator and Sustainer of all things, eternally existing in three persons -- Father, Son and Holy Spirit; that these are equal in their divinity and that they execute distinct and harmonious functions.

(Deut. 6:4; Ps. 90:1-2; Matt. 28:19; Jn. 1:1-4)

GOD THE FATHER. We believe in God the Father, an infinite, personal being, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men and women, hears and answers prayer, and saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

(Jn. 3:16-17; Jn. 4:24; Eph. 2:4-5; Rev. 3:20)

JESUS CHRIST. We believe in the deity of Jesus Christ, God the Son. We believe that He was preexistent and is eternal; that He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, and is fully God and fully man. We believe that His death on the cross was substitutionary and representative and the only payment for sin which meets the demands of divine justice. We believe that He arose bodily from the dead and ascended to the right hand of the Father, where he now carries on a ministry as advocate and intercessor for the saints.

(Matt. 1:20; Lk. 24:39; Jn. 1:1-14; Acts 1:11; Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 2:9; Heb. 4:14-16; 1 Jn. 1:7; 1 Cor. 15:17)

THE HOLY SPIRIT. We believe in the deity and personality of God the Holy Spirit. We believe that the Holy Spirit was the agent in the revelation and inspiration of the Scriptures and is the One who bears witness to the Scriptures, assuring believers of the truthfulness of God's written Word. We believe that it is the Holy Spirit who performs the work of salvation in the hearts of individual believers, baptizing them into the body of Christ, sealing, indwelling, filling and teaching them. He intercedes for believers. He also bestows spiritual gifts upon them, empowering them for the works of service.

(Jn. 14:26; Jn. 16:7-8, 13-14; Rom. 8:14-17, 26; I Cor. 2:10-16; I Cor. 6; I Cor. 12:13; I Cor. 12:1-31; II Cor. 1:21-22; Eph. 1:13-14; Eph. 4:30; Eph. 5:18; Tit. 3:5-6; II Pet. 1:20-21; 1 Jn. 2:27)

HUMANITY. We believe God created humanity, male and female, in the image of God and free from sin. Because of Adam's sinful fall, we further believe all persons are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, spiritually dead and can only be made alive through Christ.

(Gen. 1:26-27; Rom. 1:18-23; Rom. 3:23; Rom. 6:23; Rom. 5:12; Eph. 2:1-5)

SALVATION. We believe in salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone. This salvation is based upon the sovereign grace of God, and was accomplished by Christ's death on the cross, and is received through faith apart from any human merit, works, or ritual. We believe salvation is eternal and results in a personal relationship with God, righteous living, good works and proper social concern. Because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ, the true believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. If you have been genuinely saved, you cannot "lose" it. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. It is the grace and keeping power of God that gives us this security.

(Jn. 3:1-7; Jn. 10:28-29; Rom. 3:24-28; Rom. 8:28-39; Rom. 10:9-10; I Cor. 15:1-4; Eph. 2:8-9; Eph. 3:11-12; Eph. 4:11-16; Phil. 2:14-16; Col. 3:12-17; Tit. 2:11-12; Heb. 7:25-27; 2 Tim. 1:12; Heb. 10:10; Heb. 10:14; I Pet. 1:3-5)

THE CHURCH. We believe that the Church is the spiritual body of which Christ is the Head, and is composed of all persons who have professed faith in Christ for salvation and have been baptized into the unity of one body by the Holy Spirit. This body expresses itself in local assemblies for worship, service, instruction and evangelism. The ordinances of the local church are believers' baptism by immersion and the observance of the Lord's Supper, which is a memorial of what Christ has done on the cross, and which anticipates His return.

(Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 14:25; Acts 2:4; Acts 20:17-18; Rom. 6:3-5; I Cor. 11:23-29; I Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:22-23; Eph. 4:15; Col. 2:12)

THE LAST THINGS. We believe in the personal, visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the saved and unsaved, the final judgment, the eternal happiness of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the wicked.

(Matt. 25:31-36; Jn. 5:28-29; Acts 1:11; II Cor. 5:10; I Thes. 4:16-18; Rev. 20:1-15)