

WHAT WE BELIEVE

1. We believe the Scriptures, both Old and New testaments, to be the inspired Word of God^(a), without error in the original writing^(b), the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of all men and women^(c), and the divine and final authority for Christian faith and life^(d). The central focus of all Scripture is the redemptive work of Jesus Christ^(e).
 - a. [2 Timothy 3:16](#)
 - b. [Proverbs 30:5-6](#)
 - c. [1 Timothy 2:3-4](#), [2 Peter 3:9b](#), [Galatians 1:11-12](#), [Romans 10:17](#)
 - d. [Psalm 18:30](#), [19:7](#), [119:160](#), [Titus 1:2](#)
 - e. [John 3:16](#), [Galatians 1:4](#), [Ephesians 1:7](#)
2. We believe in one God^(a), Creator of all things^(b), infinitely perfect^(c), eternally and equally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit^(d).
 - a. [1 Corinthians 8:5-6](#), [Ephesians 4:5-6](#), [1 Timothy 2:5](#)
 - b. [Genesis 1:1](#), [John 1:3](#), [Hebrews 11:3](#)
 - c. [2 Samuel 22:31](#), [Psalm 18:30](#)
 - d. [Genesis 1:26](#) ["us"; at creation], [2 Corinthians 13:14](#) [all 3 united], [Matthew 3:16-17](#) [all 3 are united & present], [Matthew 28:19](#) [all 3 united]
3. We believe that Jesus Christ is true God and true man^(a), having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary^(b), he died on the cross for our sins^(c), arose bodily from the dead on the third day^(d), ascended into heaven^(e), and is coming again^(f).
 - a. [John 1:1](#), [1:14](#), [John 10:30](#), [Colossians 2:9](#), [Philippians 2:6-8](#)
 - b. [Matthew 1:18-23](#)
 - c. [John 3:16](#), [1 Peter 2:24](#), [Ephesians 1:7](#), [1 Corinthians 15:3-4](#)
 - d. [John 20:27-28](#) ["bodily"], [Luke 24:46](#) [Jesus' quote], [Matthew 28:2-7](#) [the story of his resurrection]
 - e. [Acts 1:8-11](#)
 - f. [John 14:3](#), [Revelation 1:7](#)

4. We Believe that the Holy Spirit indwells all believers in the Lord Jesus Christ^(a); baptizes them into the body of Christ^(b); convicts and reproves of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment^(c); enables understanding of the Scriptures^(d); empowers for Godly living; equipping and gifting for service and witness^(e).

- a. [1 Corinthians 6:19](#)
- b. [1 Corinthians 12:13](#)
- c. [John 16:8](#)
- d. [John 14:26](#), [1 Corinthians 2:10](#)
- e. [Acts 1:8](#), [1 Corinthians 2:4-5](#), [Ephesians 3:16](#), [Galatians 5:22-23](#), [1 Corinthians 12:4-7](#)

5. We believe that God directly created Adam and Eve, the parents of the entire human race. They were created in His own image^(a), distinct from all other living creatures, in a state of original righteousness. Adam and Eve, having been deceived, fell into sin, resulting in the fall of the entire human race. Consequently, all people are sinners by inheritance and choice, stand condemned before God and are in need of salvation^(b).

- a. [Genesis 1:26-27](#), [Genesis 2:7](#) [Adam specifically], [Genesis 2:20-22](#), [3:20](#) [Eve specifically]
- b. [Genesis 3:6-19](#), [John 3:16-18](#), [Romans 3:23-25](#), [5:12-21](#), [6:12-13](#)

6. We believe that salvation is a free gift bestowed by God's grace and is received by faith in Jesus Christ^(a). We believe that only those who put their faith in Jesus Christ as their personal savior are born of and sealed by the Holy Spirit and thus become children of God^(b). We believe the shed blood of Jesus Christ provides the only ground for the justification of all who believe^(c).

- a. [Ephesians 2:8-9](#)
- b. [John 1:12-13](#) [personally, received: child of God; born of the Spirit], [John 3:3](#), [3:16](#) [born again; by Jesus], [Galatians 3:26](#) [children through faith], [Ephesians 1:13](#) [sealed by the Spirit], [Galatians 2:16](#) [not justified by the law, but by faith in Christ]
- c. [Romans 5:9](#), [Ephesians 1:7](#), [Romans 3:24-25](#) [justified, redeemed, forgiven by grace through faith]

7. We believe a New Testament church is a local body of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel^(a); observing the two ordinances^(b) of Christ, governed by His laws^(b.i), exercising the gifts^(b.ii), rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word^(b.iii), and seeking to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth^(b.iv). Each church operates under the Lordship of Christ^(c). In such a church each member is responsible and accountable to Christ as Lord^(d). Its scriptural leaders are elders^(e) and deacons^(f). The New Testament speaks also of the church as the Body of Christ^(g) which includes all of the redeemed of all the ages^(h), believers from every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation⁽ⁱ⁾.

- a. [Acts 2:1, 2:41-44](#) [local body, believers, faith & fellowship, together; all things in common], [John 3:3](#) [believers], [1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 12:27](#) [one body, many parts, through the Holy Spirit], [Hebrews 9:15](#) [Christ is the mediator of the new covenant]
- b. [Matthew 28:19, Acts 8:36-39a](#) [believer's baptism by immersion], [Luke 22:19](#) [communion/the Lord's Supper]
 - i. [Acts 5:29](#)
 - ii. [1 Peter 4:10](#)
 - iii. [Romans 12:1, 1 Corinthians 10:31](#)
 - iv. [Matthew 28:19](#)
- c. [Acts 20:28, Colossians 1:18, 2:6-7, Ephesians 4:11-13](#)
- d. [Galatians 2:20, Romans 14:12](#)
- e. [Acts 14:23, 1 Timothy 3:1-7, 5:17](#)
- f. [1 Timothy 3:8-10, Philippians 1:1](#)
- g. [Ephesians 1:22-23](#)
- h. [Galatians 1:4, Philippians 1:6](#) [past present, future]
- i. [Revelation 5:9](#)

8. We believe in two biblical ordinances for the church. The Lord's Supper is when all true believers reflect on and remember together the sacrificial death of Christ^(a). Water baptism is by immersion soon after salvation and is a testimony of identification with Jesus Christ^(b). ^(c)

- a. [1 Corinthians 11:26, Luke 22:19](#)
- b. [Matthew 28:19, Acts 2:41, Romans 6:4, Acts 8:36-39a](#) [believer's baptism by immersion]
- c. All 9 examples of baptism in Acts are by immersion ["baptizo"], never by pouring ["ekkeo"] or sprinkling ["rantizo"]

9. We believe it is our duty and privilege to make disciples of all nations. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations^(a). It is the duty of every believer to seek to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle^(b).

- a. [Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 1:8](#)
- b. [Romans 12:1, Ephesians 2:10, Hebrews 12:15-16](#)

10. We believe in the blessed hope^(a) that Jesus Christ will soon return^(b) to this earth, personally^(c), visibly^(d) and unexpectedly^(e), in power and great glory^(f), to gather His Church^(g), to raise the dead^(h), to judge the nations⁽ⁱ⁾, and to bring His kingdom to fulfillment^(j). This blessed hope should have a vital bearing on the personal life and service of the believer^(k).

- a. [Titus 2:13](#)
- b. [Revelation 22:7](#)
- c. [Acts 1:11](#), [Luke 24:39](#) [post-resurrection, pre-ascension]
- d. [Revelation 1:7](#)
- e. [1 Thessalonians 5:2](#) [thief in the night], [Matthew 25:13](#), [Mark 13:32](#) [only the Father knows when]
- f. [Matthew 24:27](#), [24:30](#), [24:36](#)
- g. [1 Thessalonians 4:16-17](#)
- h. [John 6:40](#)
- i. [Matthew 25:31-46](#)
- j. [Revelation 11:15](#)
- k. [Titus 2:13-14](#), [Colossians 2:6-7](#)