



# STATEMENT OF FAITH

## Our Cornerstone Beliefs

### **The Scriptures**

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without error. All Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals God's character, His affections, man's origins, heavens desires and the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried.

### **God**

There is one and only one living and true God. He is an intelligent, spiritual, and personal Being, the Creator, Redeemer, Preserver, and Ruler of the universe. God is infinite in holiness and all other perfections. God is all powerful and all knowing; and His perfect knowledge extends to all things, past, present, and future. To Him we owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. The eternal triune God reveals Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature or being...

#### **God the Father**

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ.

#### **God the Son**

Christ is the eternal Son of God. In His incarnation as Jesus Christ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honored the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross He made provision for the redemption of men from sin. He was raised from the dead with a glorified body and appeared to His disciples as the person with them before His crucifixion. He who was

ascended into heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where He is the One Mediator, fully God, fully man, in whose Person is effected the reconciliation between God and man. He will return in power and glory to judge the world and to consummate His redemptive mission. He now dwells in all believers as the living and ever present Lord.

#### **God the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God, fully divine. He inspired holy men of old to write the Scriptures. Through illumination He enables men to understand truth. He exalts Christ. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment. He calls men to the Savior, and effects regeneration. He baptizes every believer into the Body of Christ. He cultivates Christian character, comforts believers, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which they serve God through His church. His presence in the Christian is the guarantee that God will bring the believer into the fullness of the stature of Christ. He enlightens and empowers the believer and the church in worship, evangelism, and service.

#### **Man**

Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. Therefore, as soon as they are capable of moral action, they become transgressors and are under condemnation. Only the grace of God can bring man into His holy fellowship and enable man to fulfill the creative purpose of God. The sacredness of human personality is evident in that God created man in His own image, and in that Christ died for man; therefore, every person of every race possesses full dignity and is worthy of respect and Christian love.



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### **The Gospel**

The just and gracious God of the universe looked upon hopelessly sinful people and sent His Son, Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, to bear His wrath against sin on the cross and to show His power over sin in the resurrection so that all who turn and trust in Him will be reconciled to God forever.

### **Salvation**

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole man, and is offered freely to all who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.

### **Evangelism & Missions**

We reveal God's grace by advancing His gospel. It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. The new birth of man's spirit by God's Holy Spirit means the birth of love for others. Missionary effort on the part of all rests upon a spiritual necessity of the regenerate life, and is expressly and repeatedly commanded in the teachings of Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty of every child of God to seek constantly to win the lost to Christ by verbal witness undergirded by a Christian lifestyle, and by other methods in harmony with the gospel of Christ.

### **Poverty Alleviation & Missions**

We show God's compassion by sharing His provision. It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ to physically serve His fellow man. Throughout the scriptures God invites, calls and commands His people to care for the materially poor both in the body of Christ and outside the body of Christ. That constant call is not to be ignored or approached as an optional invitation but an urgent command He intends mankind to obey. We believe it is our duty and privilege to serve the poor in a way that honors the inherent worth and equal value God places on all human life. We therefore seek to serve

our fellow man in a way that demonstrates respect, honor and builds dignity. When working cross-culturally we cultivate indigenous capabilities and empower brothers and sisters from poverty stricken environments as equals and essential stakeholders in our global mission.

## SCRIPTURAL SUPPORT

### The Scriptures

#### References:

- *Exodus 24:4;*
- *Deuteronomy 4:1-2; 17:19;*
- *Joshua 8:34;*
- *Psalms 19:7-10; 119:11,89,105,140;*
- *Isaiah 34:16; 40:8;*
- *Jeremiah 15:16; 36:1-32;*
- *Matthew 5:17-18; 22:29;*
- *Luke 21:33; 24:44-46;*
- *John 5:39; 16:13-15; 17:17;*
- *Acts 2:16ff.; 17:11;*
- *Romans 15:4; 16:25-26;*
- *2 Timothy 3:15-17;*
- *Hebrews 1:1-2; 4:12;*
- *1 Peter 1:25;*
- *2 Peter 1:19-21.*

## God

### God the Father

#### References:

- *Genesis 1:1; 2:7;*
- *Exodus 3:14; 6:2-3; 15:11ff.; 20:1ff.;*
- *Leviticus 22:2;*
- *Deuteronomy 6:4; 32:6;*

- *1 Chronicles 29:10;*
- *Psalms 19:1-3;*
- *Isaiah 43:3,15; 64:8;*
- *Jeremiah 10:10; 17:13;*
- *Matthew 6:9ff; 7:11; 23:9; 28:19;*
- *Mark 1:9-11;*
- *John 4:24; 5:26; 14:6-13; 17:1-8;*
- *Acts 1:7;*
- *Romans 8:14-15;*
- *1 Corinthians 8:6;*
- *Galatians 4:6;*
- *Ephesians 4:6;*
- *Colossians 1:15;*
- *1 Timothy 1:17;*
- *Hebrews 11:6; 12:9;*
- *1 Peter 1:17;*
- *1 John 5:7.*

### God the Son

#### References:

- *Genesis 18:1ff;*
- *Psalms 2:7ff; 110:1ff;*
- *Isaiah 7:14; 53;*
- *Matthew 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 11:27; 14:33; 16:16,27; 17:5; 27; 28:1-6,19;*
- *Mark 1:1; 3:11;*
- *Luke 1:35; 4:41; 22:70; 24:46;*
- *John 1:1-18,29; 10:30,38; 11:25-27; 12:44-50; 14:7-11; 16:15-16,28; 17:1-5, 21-22; 20:1-20,28;*
- *Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; 9:4-5,20;*
- *Romans 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 5:6-21; 8:1-3,34; 10:4;*
- *1 Corinthians 1:30; 2:2; 8:6; 15:1-8,24-28;*
- *2 Corinthians 5:19-21; 8:9;*
- *Galatians 4:4-5;*
- *Ephesians 1:20; 3:11; 4:7-10;*
- *Philippians 2:5-11;*
- *Colossians 1:13-22; 2:9;*
- *1 Thessalonians 4:14-18;*
- *1 Timothy 2:5-6; 3:16;*
- *Titus 2:13-14;*
- *Hebrews 1:1-3; 4:14-15; 7:14-28; 9:12-15,24-28; 12:2; 13:8;*
- *1 Peter 2:21-25; 3:22;*
- *1 John 1:7-9; 3:2; 4:14-15; 5:9;*
- *2 John 7-9;*
- *Revelation 1:13-16; 5:9-14; 12:10-11; 13:8; 19:16.*

## God the Holy Spirit

### References:

- *Genesis* 1:2;
- *Judges* 14:6;
- *Job* 26:13;
- *Psalms* 51:11; 139:7
- *Isaiah* 61:1-3;
- *Joel* 2:28-32;
- *Matthew* 1:18; 3:16; 4:1; 12:28-32; 28:19.
- *Mark* 1:10,12;
- *Luke* 1:35; 4:1,18-19; 11:13; 12:12; 24:49;
- *John* 4:24; 14:16-17,26; 15:26; 16:7-14;
- *Acts* 1:8; 2:1-4,38; 4:31; 5:3; 6:3; 7:55; 8:17,39; 10:44; 13:2; 15:28; 16:6; 19:1-6;
- *Romans* 8:9-11,14-16,26-27;
- *1 Corinthians* 2:10-14; 3:16; 12:3-11,13;
- *Galatians* 4:6;
- *Ephesians* 1:13-14; 4:30; 5:18;
- *1 Thessalonians* 5:19;
- *1 Timothy* 3:16; 4:1;
- *2 Timothy* 1:14; 3:16;
- *Hebrews* 9:8,14;
- *2 Peter* 1:21;
- *1 John* 4:13; 5:6-7;
- *Revelation* 1:10; 22:17.

## Man

### References:

- *Genesis* 1:26-30; 2:5,7,18-22; 3; 9:6;
- *Psalms* 1; 8:3-6; 32:1-5; 51:5;
- *Isaiah* 6:5;
- *Jeremiah* 17:5;
- *Matthew* 16:26;
- *Acts* 17:26-31;
- *Romans* 1:19-32; 3:10-18,23; 5:6,12,19; 6:6; 7:14-25; 8:14-18,29;
- *1 Corinthians* 1:21-31; 15:19,21-22;
- *Ephesians* 2:1-22;
- *Colossians* 1:21-22; 3:9-11.

## The Gospel

### References:

- *Romans 1:17-25; 2:1-16, 3:9; 3:20-31; 4:22-25; 5:6-10, 6:11-14; 18; 8:1-4; 8:10-11; 10:9-13;*
- *John 3:14-16, 36; John 10:27-30, 17:3;*
- *1 Timothy 1:16-17;*
- *Hebrews 9:12;*
- *Isaiah 43:6-7;*
- *1 John 5:11-13.*

## Salvation

### References:

- *Genesis 3:15;*
- *Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8;*
- *Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6;*
- *Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32;*
- *John 1:11-14,29; 3:3-21,36; 5:24; 10:9,28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17;*
- *Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32;*
- *Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff.; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18,29-39; 10:9-10,13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18,30; 6:19-20; 15:10;*
- *2 Corinthians 5:17-20;*
- *Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15;*
- *Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16;*
- *Philippians 2:12-13;*
- *Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff.;*
- *1 Thessalonians 5:23-24;*
- *2 Timothy 1:12;*
- *Titus 2:11-14;*
- *Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8,14;*
- *James 2:14-26;*
- *1 Peter 1:2-23;*
- *1 John 1:6-2:11;*
- *Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:5.*

## Evangelism & Missions

### References:

- *Genesis 12:1-3;*
- *Exodus 19:5-6;*
- *Isaiah 6:1-8;*
- *Matthew 9:37-38; 10:5-15; 13:18-30, 37-43; 16:19; 22:9-10; 24:14; 28:18-20;*
- *Luke 10:1-18; 24:46-53;*
- *John 14:11-12; 15:7-8,16; 17:15; 20:21;*
- *Acts 1:8; 2; 8:26-40; 10:42-48; 13:2-3;*
- *Romans 10:13-15;*
- *Ephesians 3:1-11;*
- *1 Thessalonians 1:8;*
- *2 Timothy 4:5;*
- *Hebrews 2:1-3; 11:39-12:2;*
- *1 Peter 2:4-10;*
- *Revelation 22:17.*

## Poverty Alleviation & Missions

- *Proverbs 14:31; 19:20; 21:13;*
- *Psalms 12:5; 68:5; 17:5; 19:17; 10:16-18; 14:6; 34:6; 35:10; 40:17; 41:1,17; 68:5,10; 72:4, 12-14; 103:6; 109:31; 146:7;*
- *Exodus 22:21-22;*
- *Ezekiel 16:49;*
- *Matthew 5:16; 25:31-46;*
- *James 1:27;*
- *Luke 10: 25-37; 18:7-8a;*
- *Isaiah 19:20; 25:4; 41:17; 61:1, 3-4;*
- *1 Timothy 5:3,9,16;*
- *Isaiah 58: 5-8; 10-11;*
- *1 John 3:16-18;*
- *Deuteronomy 10:18;*
- *Jeremiah 20:13; 22:16;*
- *1 Samuel 2:8.*