

## Doctrinal Statement

The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are verbally inspired by God and are of supreme and final authority in faith, life, and standards of education. (Isaiah 40:8; II Timothy 3:16, 17; II Peter 1:21).

The Scriptures teach that:

- There is one God who eternally exists in three equal Persons ... Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 12:29; John 1:1, 14; 10:30; II Corinthians 13:14).
- God is the Creator and Sustainer of all things. He created the universe and all that is in it out of nothing. (Genesis 1:1).
- Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, is the Eternal Word manifested in flesh; He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born to the Virgin Mary; He is true God and true man. (Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; John 1:1-2, 14, 18; 3:16; Luke 1:30-35; Philippians 2:5-8).
- Christ died for our sins and all who repent and believe in Him as Lord and Savior become children of God. (John 1:29; Romans 3:25-26, II Corinthians 5:14 Hebrews 10:5-19; I Peter 2:24; 3:18; I John 1:7).
- Christ rose from the dead; He lives on high as Head of the Church, and shall return to earth to judge the world and reign over all. At the second coming of Christ, all humanity will be physically resurrected: the saved to eternal life, and the lost to the eternal condemnation and separation from God. (Luke 24:36-43; John 20:20; Acts 2:32; I Corinthians 15; Luke 16:19-31; II Corinthians 5:8-10; I Corinthians 3:11-15).
- The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the God-Head; He convicts men of sin, and regenerates believers unto a holy life; He is the Teacher of the Word of God; He is the Light of our minds, our affections, and our morals. (John 16:7-11; 3:6, 14, 17).
- Man was originally created in the image and likeness of God, man fell through disobedience and, as a consequence, lost his spiritual life, became dead in sin, and subject to the power of the devil. This spiritual death has been transmitted to the entire human race so that every man needs regeneration of soul, body, and mind. The renewed man in Christ is enabled to worship and serve God to enjoy Him forever. (Genesis 1:1, Genesis 1:26; 2:17; 6:5; Psalms 14:1-3; 51:5; Jeremiah 17:9; John 3:6; 5:30; John 6:53; Romans 3:10-19; 8:6, 7; Ephesians 2:1-3, I Timothy 5:6; I John 3:5, 3:8).
- God has acted to save people who have rebelled against Him, not because of anything external compelling Him, but it is "according to His great mercy" that "He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (I Peter 1:3).
- Salvation is by grace through faith alone. This saving faith is in the sacrificial and atoning life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. (Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 2:8; Romans 5:1; Romans 5:8-10, 19; John 11:25).
- The Church, both universally and locally, is the spiritual body of which Christ is the Head. The church exercises Christ's authority until His return. It is the Church which is entrusted with the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's supper. (Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:11-16; 5:22-23; Colossians 1:18).
- The family is God's agency for populating the earth with people who would love God and be loved by Him. Marriage and the family are God's ideas and as such, they are not open to human renegotiation or revision. (Genesis 1:26-28; Genesis 2:18-24; Isaiah 54:5; Jeremiah 3:20; Ephesians 5:23).
- Those whom God has saved are sent into the world by Christ as He was by the Father. Those so sent are ambassadors, commissioned to go make disciples and make Christ known to the whole world. (Matthew 28:18-20; John 15:8; 17:18; 20:21; Acts 1; Romans 10:14-15; II Corinthians 5:18-20; Colossians 4:2-6; II Timothy 2:14-26).