

Statement of Faith

1. The Holy Scriptures, both Old and New Testament were written by holy men inspired by the Holy Spirit and are God's revealed Word to man. They are sufficient, infallible, rule of faith and conduct; and, guide to salvation and all Christian worship and service. (Hebrews 4:12; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13)
2. The Scriptures teach that there is one and only one true and living God, who is self-existent, and the eternal "I AM", the Creator of heaven and earth and only Redeemer of mankind. That He has chosen to reveal Himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the same in essence, though distinct in personality (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10-11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22). Christ taught a distinction of Persons in the Godhead, which He expressed in specific terms of relationship, as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, but that this distinction and relationship, as to its mode is inscrutable and incomprehensible, because it is unexplained. (Luke 1:35; 1 Corinthians 1:24; Matthew 11:25-27; 2 Corinthians 13:14)
3. Creation and Fall of Man
 - a. Of the World

God spoke into existence the world and all things that it contains, for His own pleasure, and the enjoyment of His creatures. (Revelation 4:11; 1 Timothy 6:17)
 - b. Of Man

God created man in His image according to Genesis 1:26 as a triune being consisting of spirit, soul and a body. (1 Thessalonians 5:23)
 - c. Primitive Man and His Fall

Our first parents, in their original state, were upright. They naturally preferred and desired to obey their Creator, and had no preference or desire to transgress His will until they were influenced and inclined by Satan to disobey God's commands. Previous to this, the only tendency of their nature was to do righteousness. In consequence of the first transgression, the state under which the posterity of Adam came into the world is so different from that of Adam that they have not that righteousness and purity which Adam had before the fall; they are not willing to obey God but are inclined to evil. Hence, none, by virtue of any natural goodness and mere work of their own, can become the children of God. (Genesis 1:26-31, 3:1-7; Ecclesiastes 7:29; Psalm 51:5; John 6:44; Romans 5:12-21; 1 Corinthians 2:14)
4. Jesus Christ

That Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Son of Man, was born miraculously of the Virgin Mary (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31,35). He lived a sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22). That He came into the world to save men from the guilt and condemnation of sin (John 3:16), offering His blood as an atonement (1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:21) and making it available to all who exercise faith in Him. That He was bodily resurrected from the dead (Matthew 28:6; 1 Corinthians 15:4) and that He was exalted to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9,11; 2:33; Hebrews 11:1-3). His Divinity is proved from His titles, His attributes, and His works (John 1:14; Luke 1:26-35; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31).
5. The Holy Spirit
 - a. The Scriptures ascribe to the Holy Spirit the acts and attributes of an intelligent being. He guides, knows, gives information, commands, forbids, sends forth, reproves, as the instrumental segment of the God Head in the liberal dispensation of spiritual gifts, and can be sinned against (John 16:13; 1 Corinthians 2:11; Genesis 1:2; Acts 10:19; Acts 13:2; Acts 16:6; Acts 13:4; John 16:8; Mark 3:29; Acts 7:51; Ephesians 4:30; 1 Corinthians 12).
 - b. The works of God are ascribed to the Holy Spirit; creation, inspiration, giving of life, and sanctification (Job 33:4; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 Peter 3:18; 1 Corinthians 6:11).
 - c. Of Sanctification: That sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we become

partakers of His Holiness; that it is begun at regeneration; and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in the continual use of the appointed means especially the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness, and prayer (Romans 8:5-14; Philippians 2:12-13; Galatians 5:22-25).

6. The Salvation of Man

Salvation is an inclusive word which gathers into itself all the redemptive acts and processes, i.e., justification, redemption, deliverance, imputation, sanctification, glorification, etc. The Hebrew and Greek words for salvation imply the ideas of deliverance, safety, preservation, healing, and soundness. Salvation is by grace through faith, is a free gift, and wholly without human works. (Romans 3:27-28, 4:1-8.6:23; Ephesians 2:8) Salvation is in three tenses:

- a. Condition of Salvation - The grace of God, which brings salvation, has appeared to all, through the preaching of repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ; Mankind is saved by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit. Being justified by grace through faith he/she becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life. (Luke 7:50; Luke 24:47; 1 Corinthians 1:18; Romans 10:13-15; Titus 2:11, 3:5-7; Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Timothy 1:9).
- b. Evidence of Salvation - The inward evidence, to the believer, of his salvation, is the direct witness of the Spirit. (Romans 8:16) The outward evidence of all men is a life of unconditional love, righteousness, and true holiness, demonstrated by the fruit of the Spirit (John 13:35; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 4:24).
- c. Final Result of Salvation - The spirit of the believer who dies in Christ immediately goes to be with the Lord (Ecclesiastes 12:7; Luke 23:42-43; 2 Corinthians 5:8).

7. Ordinances of the Gospel

Baptism in Water - Water baptism is commanded for every believer. When done in faith, it is the means whereby those who have been justified by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ are made participants in the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. The ordinance of baptism is a burial with Christ, to be observed, whenever physically possible as commanded in the Scriptures by all who have repented and truly believed in their heart on Christ as Savior and Lord. The method of baptism will be by immersion. They declare to the world that they have died with Jesus and that they have also been raised with Him to walk in newness of life. (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 10:47-48; Colossians 2:11-12).

The Lord's Supper - The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements, bread and the fruit of the vine, is a memorial of His suffering and death, and a prophecy of His Second Coming. It is enjoined on all believers "until He comes". (John 6:48,51,53-57; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-31)

Baptism in the Holy Spirit - The baptism of believers in the Holy Spirit is available to every believer. It is evidenced by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and by the subsequent manifestation of spiritual power in public testimony and service in love (Acts 1:8, 2:4, 2:42-43, 10:44-46, 11:14-16, 15:7-9, 19:6). All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, which is the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience in the early Christian Church. With it comes endowment of power for life and service and for the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4 & 8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31). This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17, 10:44-46, 11:14-16, 15:7-9). The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:4-10, 28) but different in purpose and use.

8. Sanctification

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of a dedication unto God (Romans 12:1-2; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:12). The Scriptures teach a life of "Holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." (Hebrews 12:14) By the power of the Holy Spirit we are able to obey the command: "Be ye Holy, for I am Holy." (1 Peter 1:15-16) Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection and by faith reckoning daily upon that fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit (Romans 6:1-13, 8:1-2,13; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:12-13).

9. The Church and the Ministry

The church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her great commission and purpose. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the church of the firstborn, whose name is written in heaven. As such, the Bible reveals that we are members one of another and the basis of our fellowship is in Christ in the power of the Spirit (Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 1:22-23,2:19-22,4:3-6; Colossians 3:15).

A divinely called and Scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the three-fold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) Evangelization of the world, (2) Worship of God, (3) Building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son. (1 Chronicles 16:29; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-20; John 4:23-24; Ephesians 4:11-16; Colossians 1:28)

10. Responsibility of the Believer

It is essential that each believer lay a foundation of Biblical truth and experience upon which he/she builds his/her life. These foundation stones are: repentance from dead works, faith toward God, doctrine of baptisms, laying on of hands, resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment, all of which are prerequisites to going on to perfection (spiritual maturity). (Hebrews 6:1-2)

Each Christian is called and chosen in God to be a priest unto God to offer up the sacrifice of praise (the fruit of his lips), to give of his/her time, strength, and material possessions to the service of the Lord. All believers have been purchased with the blood of Jesus Christ and are no longer their own, but belong to the Father, to be used for His glory; and as possessions of the Lord, must give themselves to serving Him, finding their place in the Church, His Body, and making themselves available by being present when the Church comes together, that they might be able to minister their gifts and talents for the building up of the Body of Christ. (John 15:16; 1 Corinthians 6:20, 12:18; Hebrews 13:15; 1 Peter 2:5,9)

11. Five-Fold Ministry

The church is to be taught and led by the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers for the purpose of every believer seeing and exercising their priestly and kingly ministry as outlined in 1 Peter 2:5,9 and Revelation 1:6. The five-fold ministry is to teach and train its people to do the work of the ministry with maturity and unity in mind. Working with these ministries will be elders, deacons, and the gifted men and women of the church. (Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11-13; 1 Timothy 3:2-12; Titus 1:5-9)

12. Ordination

The Bible relates that those who are chosen by God to a specific work should be recognized by appointment and ordination to the work. (Mark 3:13-15; 1 Chronicles 9:22; 2 Chronicles 23:18, 29; Titus 1:5; 1 Timothy 2:7) They are to be set in order in their functions as Levite and ministerial staff for the ministry of the work

and so those in the church might know and receive them.

13. Divine Healing

Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the Atonement and is the privilege of all believers. The ministration of the laying on of hands which may be accompanied with the anointing of oil for the healing of the sick shall be granted as request is made and the need may require. (Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 8:16-17; Mark 16:17-18; James 5:14-15)

14. The Total Prosperity of God

The Gospel of the Kingdom is God's absolute answer to man's total need and total prosperity now:

- (a) Spiritually - John 3:3; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Romans 10:9-10
- (b) Mentally - 2 Timothy 1:7; Romans 12:2; Isaiah 26:3
- (c) Physically - Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 8:17; 1 Peter 2:24
- (d) Financially - 3 John 2; Malachi 3:10-11; Luke 6:38; 2 Corinthians 9:6-10; Deuteronomy 28:1-14
- (e) Socially - Proverbs 3:4; 1 Samuel 2:26; Romans 14:18

15. Laying on of Hands

Laying on of hands is a simple belief that power or anointing or any other necessary quality can be transmitted from one person touching another. It has been used by Jesus and others for healing (Mark 5:22-23, 28-31,41), impartation of spiritual gifts (1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6), and impartation of the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:17-18).

16. Deliverance

The need for deliverance is manifested by an inability to be free from a bondage: e.g., mental (emotional), physical or spiritual normally associated with demon activity. It is God's desire to bring deliverance to his people. We have been granted the authority in the name of Jesus to bring deliverance to others. (Mark 16:17; John 14:12; 1 Corinthians 12:8-11) We must understand that our warfare is with the forces of evil, our weapon is the Word of God, our authority and power is from Jesus himself and that the battlefield is first of all in the spiritual realms (Ephesians 6:12; Mark 16:17; Acts 1:8)

17. Gifts of the Spirit

The nine gifts of the Spirit set forth in 1 Corinthians 12 enable the Church to enjoy the fullness of God. These gifts are imparted by the sovereignty of the Holy Spirit and only work or are operated by this one and self-same Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:11).

18. Tithing, Offerings and Alms

Both the Old and New Testament Scriptures teach tithing, offerings and alms as God's financial plan for the support of His work. These are to be practiced continually by all believers and are outward expressions of the unity of the Church, the Body of Christ, as it joins together in support of the work of the Lord. (Malachi 3:8-10; 1 Corinthians 16:2; Genesis 28:22; Deuteronomy 26; Numbers 18:8-11; Proverbs 14:21, 29:7; Luke 11:41, 12:33).

19. Help for the Poor

It is the intent of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to feed the hungry (Matthew 25:34-40; Isaiah 58:7-8); to care for the poor (Matthew 19:21; Psalms 112:9; 2 Corinthians 9:6-9); and to care for the widows and orphans (James 1:27). We further believe that such ministry should be toward His name to both saints and unbelievers (Hebrews 6:10).

20. Death

As a result of original sin, all mankind is subject to the death of the body. The soul does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery according to the character here possessed either by rejection or acceptance of the Savior (Romans 5:12; Ecclesiastes 12:7; Philippians 1:23; 2 Corinthians 5:8; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14, 5:9-10)

21. The Blessed Hope

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the imminent and blessed hope of the church. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:51)

22. The Millennial Reign of Christ

The Second Coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for one thousand years (Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27,30; Revelation 1:7, 19:11-14,20:1-6). This millennial reign will bring the salvation of the believing remnant of the nation of Israel (Ezekiel 37:21-22; Zephaniah 3:19-20; Romans 11:26-27) and the establishment of universal peace (Isaiah 11:6-9; Psalm 72:3-8).

23. Of the World to Come

The end of this age is rapidly approaching (1 Peter 4:7) and the personal return of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is imminent (Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

The bodily resurrection of the just and of the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the everlasting punishment of the lost without Christ will come at the end of the age (Acts 24:15; Matthew 24:31-46; Revelation 22:11).

24. The Final Judgment

There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. "Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." (Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20, 20:11-15, 21:8)

25. The New Heaven and the New Earth

According to His promise, there will be new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." (2 Peter 3:13; Isaiah 65:17, 66:22)