



We Believe...

While what we fully believe is ultimately found in the Bible as revealed by the Holy Spirit, the following statements are to serve as a summary of some of our major beliefs.

The Bible | The Scriptures are true, authoritative, and sufficient (*Psalm 19:7-11; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21*).

The Triune God | There is only one God (*Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 46:9-10; Matthew 3:13-17; John 17:3, 1 Corinthians 8:4-6; 1 Timothy 2:5*). The Father is God. The Son is God. The Holy Spirit is God. The Father is neither the Son nor the Holy Spirit. The Son is neither the Father nor the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is neither the Father nor the Son (*Genesis 1:26; Psalm 45:6-7; Psalm 110:1; Matthew 3:13-17; Matthew 28: 17-20; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6*).

The Saving Work of Jesus Christ | We are, along with all humanity, a sinner. The only exception to this is the sinless, Jesus Christ. (*Genesis 6:5; Psalm 51:5; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:23; 5:8, 12-21, 7:18; 1 Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 2:1-3, Hebrews 4:15; 1 Peter 2:22*). The deserved penalty for sin is death, both physical and spiritual (*Genesis 2:15-17; Genesis 3:19, Romans 5:12; 6:23, James 1:14-15*). Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, was born of a virgin and is both fully God and fully human (*Matthew 1:20; Luke 2:52; John 1:1-4, 14; Colossians 1:15-20; Hebrews 1:1-3*). Jesus Christ died as our substitute to pay the penalty for our sin (*John 1:29; 10:1-18, Romans 5:8, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 1:4; 1 Peter 3:18*). Jesus Christ physically rose from the dead (*Matthew 28:1-20; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-53; John 1:20-21, 25; 1 Corinthians 15:12-34*). Jesus Christ physically ascended into heaven and will one day physically return (*John 14:3; Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Hebrews 9:28; 1 John 3:2; Revelation 1:7*). There will be a future physical resurrection of the dead. Those who trust in Jesus Christ alone will be raised to eternal reward. Those who have not trusted in Jesus Christ will be raised to eternal punishment (*Matthew 25:31-46; John 5:28-29; Acts 24-15; 2 Corinthians 2:1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*). Every Christian is set apart unto God in Jesus Christ at the moment of salvation (*1 Corinthians 6:11; Hebrews 10:10 1 Peter 2:9-10*). Every Christian will be completely set apart from sin and will be like Jesus Christ when he meets Him face to face (*Philippians 3:20-21; Ephesians 5:25-27; 1 John 3:2*). The resurrected life of Jesus is made available to every believer at the moment of salvation and for the rest of a believer's life. It is through the life of Jesus that a believer experiences victory over the world the flesh and the devil (*Galatians 2:20, Romans 5:17, Romans 8:2, John 20:31*).

The Church | The church is a spiritual entity, the body and bride of Jesus Christ, made up of all believers in Jesus, and manifests itself in local assemblies voluntarily joined together to exalt Jesus Christ, edify the Body of Christ, and evangelize the lost (*Colossians 1:18; Acts 2:42-47*). The Church is distinct from Israel. The Church began on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit began baptizing individuals into the Body of Christ (*Acts 1:5; 2; 11:15-16; Romans 9-11; 1 Corinthians 12:13*). The ordinances of the church are water baptism and the Lord's Supper (*Matthew 28:19; Acts 10:44-48; 1 Corinthians 11:24-26*). Although baptism is not a precondition for salvation, individuals should be baptized, after they have accepted Christ, as an outward symbol of their identification with Christ and His Body, the Church (*Matthew 10:32, 28:16-20; Romans 6:3-7, 10, 11; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4*). The Lord's Supper is a remembrance of Jesus' life, death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and return until He comes again, the bread and wine are symbols of His broken body and shed blood. It should be observed wherever believers gather. No specific frequency of observance is given in scripture (*1 Corinthians 11:23-34*).

Spiritual Gifts | The Holy Spirit sovereignly grants spiritual gifts to each Believer for the building up of the body, for the common good, and that these gifts need to be recognized, developed, and utilized, all with a view to doing the kingdom work of Jesus. We believe that all of the supernatural gifts of 1 Corinthians 12 are available to all believers and are to be earnestly desired. (*1 Corinthians 14:1, Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:-14; Ephesians 4:11-16*) We believe that the spiritual gifts must be tested against Scriptural descriptions in order to authenticate them.

Angels | Angels are spirit beings created by God originally in a sinless state but now existing in fallen and un-fallen states. One third of the angels fell into rebellion with satan when he fell into pride. Unfallen angels are simply called angels and fallen angels are called demons. (*Psalm 148:2,5; Hebrews 1:13-14; 2 Peter 2:4*) We believe that satan is a fallen angel, the originator of sin and is at war with God and mankind. His legions of demons are in allegiance with him to fight against the purposes of God being carried out by elect angels and followers of Jesus Christ. (*Isaiah 14:12-14; Genesis 3:1-19; Daniel 10:15-21; Ezekiel 28:11-19; Matthew 25:41; 2 Corinthians 11:14-15; 1 Peter 5:8; Revelation 12:9; Revelation 20:10*)

The Return of Jesus Christ | We believe in the personal return of Jesus Christ to resurrect the dead, rapture the church, save the nation of Israel and set up an earthly kingdom to last a thousand years. Although we hold specific beliefs on the timing of these events and the actors involved, we do not view these positions as essential doctrine. We therefore offer and expect in return, grace on the positions held about the end times (*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 24:21,29-30,25:46; Revelation 20:1-6,11-15*).