

Statement of Faith

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About the Scriptures

The Bible is God's written Word, consisting of the thirty-nine books of the Old Testament and the twenty-seven books of the New Testament. Written by human authors under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, it is exactly what God intended and is therefore completely true and without error (2 Pet. 1:19–21). The Scriptures are the final and sufficient authority for faith and life, providing all that is necessary for salvation, godliness, and obedience to God (2 Tim. 3:15–17; 2 Pet. 1:3).

About God

God is the Creator and Sovereign Ruler of all things. From eternity He exists as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—three persons, equal in nature, power, and glory, yet one God. In His providence, He continually upholds, governs, and directs all things—working through every detail of creation to accomplish His wise and holy purposes. All that He does is according to His perfect will and for the praise of His glory (Ps. 115:3; Eph. 1:11–12; Col. 1:16–17; Heb. 1:3).

God the Father is all-powerful, all-knowing, all-wise, and perfectly loving. He is the Maker of heaven and earth and sovereignly upholds, governs, and directs all creation with providential care (Gen. 1:1; Isa. 46:9–10; Eph. 1:11). From eternity He has purposed redemption in Christ, sending the Son to save and the Spirit to apply that salvation, working all things for the good of His people and the glory of His name (Rom. 8:28–30; Eph. 1:3–14; Gal. 4:4–6).

God the Son, Jesus Christ, is the eternal Son of God, fully God and fully man (John 1:1, 14; Col. 2:9). Conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, He lived in perfect obedience to the Father. Through His sinless life and sacrificial death, He bore the penalty of sin and secured salvation for all who believe (2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 10:11–14). On the third day He rose bodily from the grave, conquering sin and death (1 Cor. 15:3–4, 54–57). He ascended into heaven, now reigns as Mediator and Advocate, and will return in glory to judge the living and the dead and to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords (Acts 1:9–11; Rev. 19:11–16).

God the Holy Spirit is fully God, equal with the Father and the Son. He glorifies Christ, convicts the world of sin, and brings new life through regeneration (John 3:5–8; 16:7–14). He indwells believers, producing holiness and spiritual fruit (Gal. 5:22–23), comforts and intercedes for them (Rom. 8:26), and equips them with spiritual gifts for service (1 Cor. 12:4–11). He seals believers until the day of redemption and preserves them in faith to the end (Eph. 1:13–14; Phil. 1:6).

About Humans and Sin

All people are descended from Adam and Eve, the first human couple (Gen. 3:20; Acts

17:26). Men and women are created in the image of God (Gen. 1:26–27; James 3:9) and entrusted with responsibility to rule over and care for creation (Gen. 1:28; Ps. 8). Yet through Adam’s disobedience, humanity fell into sin, and all inherit a sinful nature and are guilty by both nature and choice (Gen. 3:1–19; Rom. 5:12, 18–19). Sin separates us from God, corrupts every part of our being, and brings death as its penalty (Rom. 3:23; 6:23).

About Angels and Demons

Angels are created beings who serve God by worshiping Him, proclaiming His holiness, and ministering to His people (Isa. 6:2–3; Heb. 1:6–14). They are not to be worshiped but are fellow servants of God (Col. 2:18; Rev. 19:10).

Demons are fallen angels who rebelled against God and now oppose His purposes. Led by Satan, they seek to deceive, accuse, and destroy (Job 1:6–12; Rev. 12:7–9). Believers must remain alert to their schemes (Eph. 6:11; 1 Pet. 5:8), yet we do not fear them, for “He who is in us is greater than he who is in the world” (1 John 4:4). Christ has triumphed over the powers of darkness through His cross (Col. 2:15), and their final judgment in the lake of fire is certain (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 20:10).

About Salvation

Salvation is the free gift of God’s grace, secured through the substitutionary death and victorious resurrection of Jesus Christ (Rom. 3:21–26; 5:6–11). It is received by faith in Christ alone, who is the only way of salvation (John 14:6). As we turn to Him, sinners repent of sin and confess Jesus as Lord (Acts 20:21; Rom. 10:9).

Scripture teaches that, in love, God chose in Christ to save a people by grace—so that salvation would rest on His mercy and result in His praise (Eph. 1:4–6). Repentance and faith do not arise from human goodness or merit; they are themselves gifts of God’s grace (Eph. 2:8–9; Acts 11:18). At the same time, God commands all people to repent and believe, and unbelief is the willful rejection of His truth (Acts 17:30–31; John 3:18–21). Christ bore the penalty of our sin and credits His righteousness to all who trust in Him (Isa. 53:4–6; 2 Cor. 5:21). All who are truly saved are kept by God’s power, sealed by the Spirit, and will persevere in faith to the end (John 10:27–30; Phil. 1:6; Eph. 1:13–14).

About Evangelism and Missions

It is the duty and privilege of every believer and every church to make disciples of all nations (Matt. 28:18–20). Christ commands His people to proclaim the gospel at home and abroad through the power of the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:47; Acts 1:8). Believers are called to live above reproach and display the gospel in daily life, but this never replaces the clear and personal proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ (Rom. 1:16; Col. 4:5–6). Evangelism and missions are essential to the obedience of the church until the Lord returns, so that God may be glorified among the nations (Rom. 10:13–15; Rev. 7:9–10).

About Sanctification and Good Works

Salvation is not earned by good works, yet believers are created in Christ to glorify God

through them (Eph. 2:8–10). True faith is evidenced by obedience and love expressed in action (James 2:14–26; 1 John 2:3–6). Because we are no longer slaves to sin, we are called to turn from unrighteousness and walk in holiness (Rom. 6:1–14). God’s purpose is to conform every believer to the image of His Son (Rom. 8:29). This sanctifying work is pursued as we put off sin and put on godliness, relying on God’s Spirit who works in us to will and to act according to His good pleasure (Phil. 2:12–13; Col. 3:1–14).

About the Perseverance of True Believers

Because eternal life is God’s gift through Christ, all who truly belong to Him will persevere in faith to the end (John 10:27–30; Jude 24–25). They are kept by the power of the Spirit, who seals them for the day of redemption (Eph. 1:13–14). This promise is not a license for complacency but a call to faithfulness and self-examination (Matt. 7:21–23; Col. 1:23). True believers will be marked by obedience and love, though they may at times fall into sin and experience God’s discipline until they repent (Heb. 12:3–11; 1 John 1:9).

About the Church

The New Testament church is a local body of baptized believers united by faith in Christ and committed to worship, fellowship, discipleship, and mission (Acts 2:42–47; Heb. 10:24–25). Because the church is Christ’s redeemed people, membership should be composed of those who give credible evidence of regeneration and who willingly covenant together in active, accountable discipleship. Therefore, members are to gather faithfully, pursue holiness, protect unity, and use their gifts for the building up of the body (Matt. 18:15–20; 1 Cor. 5:11–13; Heb. 10:24–25). While churches may cooperate in advancing Christ’s kingdom, Christ has entrusted authority and leadership to each local congregation (Acts 11:29; 1 Cor. 16:1–3).

Christ has given elder/pastors to shepherd, equip, and guard His people (Eph. 4:11–16; 1 Pet. 5:1–3) and deacons to serve faithfully (Acts 6:1–6; 1 Tim. 3:8–13). These offices are reserved for biblically qualified men (1 Tim. 2:12–3:13), and the whole church is called to active ministry. Every believer—men and women alike—has been gifted by the Spirit to serve, disciple others, and build up the body for the glory of Christ (Rom. 12:3–8; 1 Cor. 12:4–11; 1 Pet. 4:10–11; Eph. 2:10). We affirm the priesthood of all believers and encourage every member to use their gifts in willing, joyful service—strengthening the saints and advancing the mission of the gospel (Eph. 4:16; Matt. 28:18–20).

About Baptism

Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and is commanded of every Christian (Matt. 28:19–20). It signifies union with Christ in His death and resurrection (Rom. 6:3–4; Col. 2:12). Baptism does not save, but it is the God-ordained response to salvation and a public testimony of new life in Christ.

About the Lord’s Supper

The Lord’s Supper is a central act of worship in which believers remember Christ’s death, celebrate fellowship in His body, and anticipate His return (Luke 22:15–20; 1 Cor. 10:16–

17). The bread represents Christ's body, broken for His people, and the cup represents His blood, shed for their redemption (Mark 14:22–24). In this Supper the church proclaims the gospel until He comes (1 Cor. 11:26).

About Stewardship

All things belong to God as Creator (1 Chr. 29:10–15), and we are managers—not owners—of what He entrusts to us. God calls His people to honor Him with their wealth and He delights when His people give cheerfully and gratefully from what He has provided (2 Cor. 9:6–8; Prov. 3:9–10). Believers are called and commanded to give regularly, proportionally, and generously to support the ministry of the church and meet the needs of others (1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8–9). Christian giving flows from gratitude for Christ, who “though He was rich, yet for your sake became poor” (2 Cor. 8:9). Every possession and position entrusted to us is to be used to honor Christ, not self, knowing we must give account to Him (Col. 3:17; Rom. 14:12).

About the Family

God has ordained the family as the foundation of society, composed of those related by birth, marriage, or adoption. Marriage unites one man and one woman in a covenant designed for life (Gen. 2:23–25; Matt. 19:3–9) and pictures the relationship of Christ and His church (Eph. 5:25–33). Husbands are called to love their wives sacrificially and to lead their homes with humble, Christlike responsibility—providing, protecting, and shepherding their families in the Word and prayer; and wives to respect and submit to their husbands' godly leadership, always in obedience to God above all (Eph. 5:21–24; 1 Pet. 3:1–7; 1 Tim. 5:8; Josh. 24:15). Children, from conception, are a blessing from the Lord (Ps. 127:3–5) and are to honor their parents, while parents are to raise them in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Eph. 6:1–4). Adoption is to be celebrated as a reflection of God's adoption of us in Christ (Gal. 4:4–7).

Because every human life is created in the image of God from the moment of conception, abortion is the taking of innocent human life and is contrary to God's will (Gen. 1:26–27; Ps. 139:13–16; Jer. 1:5). Followers of Christ are called to protect and value the preborn, to show compassion to those affected by abortion, and to uphold the sanctity of all human life.

About Christian Unity in Truth

Believers are called to pursue peace with all people (Rom. 12:18) and to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the church (Eph. 4:2–3). This unity is pursued with humility, patience, and love, without compromising the truth of God's Word. True Christian unity is grounded in shared gospel doctrine, and the church must guard sound teaching with clarity and conviction (Eph. 4:14–15**; 1 Tim. 1:3–5; Titus 1:9**). While unity is of great biblical importance, faithfulness to Scripture sometimes requires separation from those who deny or distort the gospel (Rom. 16:17; Gal. 1:6–9). God commands His people to put away gossip and slander and instead to speak truthfully and graciously for building up the body (Eph. 4:25–32).

About Death, Resurrection, and the World to Come

At death, each person's eternal destiny is fixed (Heb. 9:27). Believers immediately enter Christ's presence (Phil. 1:23), while unbelievers experience the beginning of eternal punishment (Luke 16:22–23). At the return of Christ, all will be raised to stand before Him in judgment (John 5:28–29). Those in Christ will inherit eternal life, and those without Christ will face eternal separation in hell (Rev. 20:11–15). Christ will return bodily and in glory to consummate His kingdom. While faithful Christians hold differing views on some details related to the millennium (Rev. 20:1–6), we affirm together the clear and central truths of Scripture: Christ will personally return, raise the dead, judge the world in righteousness, and make all things new. The present heavens and earth will pass away (2 Pet. 3:10), and God will establish a new heaven and new earth where His people will dwell with Him forever (Rev. 21:1–5).