

Statement of Faith

1. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God written, are therefore without error, and contain all we need to know about God, to receive salvation and to live a life pleasing to God. The Scripture is now complete. Nothing can be added to it nor anything be taken from it.

Deuteronomy 12:32

Matthew 4:4

Matthew 5:18

John 10:35

Ephesians 2:20

1 Thessalonians 2:13

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Hebrews 1:1

2 Peter 1:21

2. We believe that there is only one true and living God. He has always existed and always will exist without change. He is a Spirit and therefore immaterial. His being, wisdom and power are without limit. He is without any imperfection. He is just yet merciful, full of compassion and delights in granting forgiveness.

Exodus 34:6-7

Deuteronomy 6:4

1 Kings 8:27

Psalms 90:2

Psalms 119:68

Psalms 145:3

Jeremiah 10:10

Malachi 3:6

John 4:24

Romans 11:33

1 Corinthians 8:4

1 Timothy 1:17

1 Timothy 6:15

1 John 4:8

Revelation 1:8

3. We believe that this one true God has eternally existed and will eternally exist as three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We refer to this as the Trinity. These three are equally and fully God. These three persons are distinguished but never separated. They are distinguished by their role within the Godhead.

Genesis 1:1

Genesis 1:26

Matthew 3:16-17

Matthew 28:19

John 1:1

2 Corinthians 13:14

Revelation 5:12-14

Revelation 22:12-13

4. We believe that the second person of the Trinity was joined to a human nature in the womb of Mary. This happened in way that preserved both His full divinity and full humanity. Although there are two natures, divine and human, there is only one person, God the Son.

John 1:14

John 8:58

Romans 8:3

Galatians 4:4

Philippians 2:6-8

Colossians 1:19

Colossians 2:9

1 Timothy 3:16

Hebrews 2:14

Hebrews 13:8

5. We believe that God created the universe both in its physical and non-physical parts. He did so by speaking it into existence out of nothing. He created it in the space of six days and all very good. God remains the ruler of His creation. He continues to uphold it and govern all things.

Genesis chapter 1

Exodus 20:11

Psalms 33:6, 10-11

Psalms 104:24

Psalms 135:6

Proverbs 16:9

Isaiah 46:10

Matthew 10:29-30

John 1:3

Acts 2:23

Acts 17:24-28

Romans 11:36

Ephesians 1:11

Ephesians 1:22

Ephesians 3:11

Colossians 1:16

Hebrews 1:2-3

Hebrews 11:3

6. We believe that God created Mankind special. Man was made in the image of God and according to His likeness. He was made male and female and given the position of ruler over the world under God. Man was created with a will that was free to make choices. This freedom meant that Man could choose to live under God's rule or to reject it.

Gen 1:26-28

Genesis 5:1-2

Genesis 2:15-16

7. We believe that Man, through the representation of Adam, chose to reject God's rule. This was a choice that affected the whole creation and particularly the human race. Every human descending from Adam, except Jesus Christ, comes into existence as a fallen person. This means that they are born as sinners, out of fellowship with God and deserving of physical and spiritual death. As sinners they possess a rebellious heart and continue to disobey God's commands. One day they will be called to account for both their fallen condition and their sinful behaviour.

Genesis 3:6

Psalms 51:5

Ecclesiastes 12:14

John 3:6

Romans 3:10-12

Romans 5:18-19

Romans 8:20

1 Corinthians 15:21-22

2 Corinthians 5:10

Ephesians 2:3

8. We believe that God knew what Man would choose. He planned beforehand a way to save a portion of the human race from their rebellious choice and bring them back into fellowship with Himself. He did this out of love. He revealed His saving plan gradually to certain individuals and groups. This gradual revelation is made known to us in Scripture. His saving plan was made plain in the birth, life, death, resurrection and present rule of Jesus Christ.

Genesis 3:15

John 3:16

Romans 1:1-4

Romans 16:25-26

Ephesians 1:4

2 Thessalonians 2:13

2 Timothy 1:9-10

2 Timothy 3:15

Titus 3:4

9. We believe that the Son of God took on human nature to save humans from their fallen condition and sinful behaviour. He did this by living a perfect human life of obedience to God's commands and dying on a cross. In doing this He was acting as a representative like Adam. He lived a perfect life for others and died for others to pay the debt of sin and satisfy God's justice. To show that He achieved salvation for others He was raised from the dead physically, never to die again. With this physical body He ascended into heaven to rule over all things for the good of His people and to ensure that God's saving plan is completed.

Mark 10:45

Acts 1:9

Romans 3:25

Romans 4:25

Romans 6:9

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

1 Corinthians 15:24-26

2 Corinthians 5:21

Hebrews 4:15

1 Peter 3:18

10. We believe that God achieved salvation through Jesus Christ. However, the benefits of this salvation are not enjoyed apart from the work of the Holy Spirit in an individual. This work of the Holy Spirit includes being born again, imparting faith and repentance, progressive sanctification and finally resurrection and glorification. Once the Holy Spirit begins His work in a person He will continue it to the end.

John 3:3

John 14:26

Acts 10:44

Acts 16:14

Romans 8:4

Romans 8:9

Romans 8:13-14

Romans 8:29-30

1 Corinthians 2:14

1 Corinthians 12:13

Galatians 3:3

Philippians 1:6

1 Peter 1:3-5

11. We believe that the moment a person puts their faith in Jesus Christ they are justified, or declared righteous, forever before God. This faith is a full trust in what Jesus did to save sinners. This faith places no hope in anything we are, have done or will do. Salvation comes purely by the grace of God not through our efforts. However, we do believe that when a person is justified they will change and do good deeds as a result of their new status before God and the work of the Holy Spirit within them.

Acts 16:30-31

Romans 3:22-24

Romans 6:1-2

Romans 8:33

Galatians 2:16

Ephesians 2:8-10

Philippians 3:8-9

Titus 2:11-12

Titus 2:14

Titus 3:5

12. We believe that part of God's saving plan is to gather His children together into His family, called the church. This church is one throughout history. In the Old Testament period the church was largely restricted to the nation of Israel. In the New Testament period it includes people from every people group. Although this church is one it is separated by time and space until the end of the world. During this period before the end the church is seen in smaller local gatherings. These local churches are made up of people who have professed their faith in Jesus Christ along with their children. They are organised as part of the family of God on earth. Part of this organisation involves appointing men to positions of authority, namely elders and deacons, who are themselves under the authority of the Head of the church, Jesus Christ.

Matthew 16:18

Acts 2:39, 41

Acts 6:3

Acts 7:38

Acts 16:15

1 Corinthians 7:14

Ephesians 2:19

Ephesians 6:1

Philippians 1:1

Colossians 1:18

1 Timothy 2:12

1 Timothy 3:1, 8

1 Timothy 3:15

Titus 1:5

Hebrews 12:22-23

13. We believe that Jesus Christ gave to the church two special ceremonies, commonly called sacraments, namely Baptism and the Lord's Supper. These two are to be celebrated by the church in accordance with the practice of the early church as recorded in Scripture until the end of the world.

Matthew 28:19

Acts 2:38, 42

Acts 10:47

Acts 20:7

1 Corinthians 11:23, 26

14. We believe that Jesus Christ gave His church certain tasks to fulfil in His physical absence. He sent His Spirit to enable the church to fulfil these tasks. The church is to glorify God by bearing witness to Jesus Christ. This is done through the church's worship, unified and edifying fellowship and living and speaking the truth before outsiders. The church has been given the Holy Spirit and His gifts to equip them to do these tasks.

John 13:35

John 17:21

John 20:22-23

Acts 1:4, 8

Acts 5:13-14

Philippians 2:15-16

Colossians 4:5-6

1 Thessalonians 1:6-8

15. We believe that when a Christian dies their bodies return to the earth and their souls go to be with Jesus.

Genesis 3:19

Luke 23:43

2 Corinthians 5:8

Philippians 1:23

Revelation 6:9

16. We believe that Jesus Christ will return to earth bodily at the end of the world. At that time there will be a resurrection of all who have died to be judged according to their deeds. True Christians will be acquitted by God and be welcomed into their eternal home. All hypocrites and unbelievers will receive the consequences of their rebellion and go to a place of eternal suffering.

John 5:28-29

Acts 1:11

1 Corinthians 15:23

1 Thessalonians 4:16

2 Thessalonians 1:6-9

Revelation 14:11

Revelation 20:12-15