

STATEMENT OF FAITH

THE BIBLE - THE WORD OF GOD

The Bible is the inspired Word of God which accurately communicates God's nature, character, laws, and actions in human history. The Scriptures are the standard for our faith, the guidebook for our daily life, and the source for all truth and wisdom.

THE TRIUNE GOD

The triune God, revealed in the Bible as the only true, eternal, and living God, is all-loving, omniscient, omnipresent, and omnipotent. He reveals Himself to man as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three distinct persons with distinct personal attributes, but without division of nature, essence, or being. Therefore, it is the triune God who originates and demonstrates relationship.

God the Father is Creator of heaven and earth Who demonstrates His Fatherly love for all who become His children through Jesus Christ by caring for them, instructing them, and disciplining them. His purpose is to bring forth a family of redeemed people on the earth who show forth His glory.

God the Son is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the incarnate Word of God, Who perfectly revealed and did the will of the Father on the earth as a sinless man. Through His death and resurrection, in perfect obedience, He provided redemption and reconciliation with God the Father for all men. He ascended to heaven where He sits at the right hand of His Father. All things were created through Him and for Him and all fullness dwells in Him. He is Lord over all things and heir of all things. The Father appointed Him as head of the church as perfect Prophet, Priest, and King. He will return in power and glory at the end of the present age to judge the living and the dead; rewarding the righteous with eternal life, but punishing the wicked with eternal damnation. He will reign with His people and reconcile all things to Himself by establishing in full the Kingdom and Reign of God - that God may be "all in all."

God the Holy Spirit causes Christ to dwell in the heart of every believer. He is the dynamic power of God Who brings the Word of God into being. He exalts Christ, convicts of sin, and effects regeneration. He reveals God's mind to men and illuminates God's truth to them. He comforts, teaches, and guides God's children. He empowers them to obey Him; cultivate a Christ-like character; and be witnesses of the Lord Jesus. He bestows gifts on the believers to equip them for works of service.

<u>MAN</u>

Man was created in the image of God, for the purpose of living in unhindered relationship with Him, thus bringing Him pleasure and glory. He was commissioned to rule the earth under God's headship. By disobeying God's command, man was separated from God and defiled by sin. All of mankind has inherited a nature and an environment twisted by sin.

SALVATION

Salvation involves the redemption of the whole person, and is only available in and through Jesus Christ. It is apprehended by those who, by faith, repent of their sin, are washed by His blood, and submit to Jesus as Lord and Savior.

THE CHURCH

The church is the Body of Christ on earth, the family of God, whose goal is to reflect His glory and make disciples of all nations.

THE FAMILY

The family is the fundamental societal unit and is the primary place of common worship, work, life, and relationship. The parents are responsible to lead, train, and discipline their children.