

We believe the Bible - in its entirety - to be the inspired Word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and conduct.

As created beings (Genesis 2:7), it is our innate desire and sacred duty to pursue an understanding of and relationship with our Creator (Isaiah 55:6-7). In order to understand a supernatural Creator, we need supernatural revelation, and the only trustworthy source we have of His revelation is the Bible (2 Timothy 3:14-17), which should be studied with all diligence and passion (2 Timothy 2:15). Although we believe that God can and does still speak to His people today (Joel 2:28-29), we also know that we are fallible and easily deceived (Jeremiah 17:9, Luke 21:8). Therefore, we again turn to the Bible to ensure that what we believe we have heard is doctrinally sound and in line with the objective source of truth that is the written Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

We believe in one God, maker of all things and being in Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Though we exist in a world bound by space and time we believe in a Creator (Genesis 1-2), existing in three parts and yet one (Deuteronomy 6:4, Matthew 3:16-17, 1 John 5:7), who stands outside of time and space, having created both but bound by neither (Psalm 139:7-12, Jeremiah 23:23-24, 2 Peter 3:8). As finite, singular beings, we cannot comprehend the omnipresent or triune nature of God (Isaiah 55:8-9), yet we seek to understand Him through His Word to us, and by His strength to become like him in thought, word, and deed (Matthew 5:48, John 17:23, Galatians 2:20, Philippians 2:5-8).

We believe that the Son of God, Jesus Christ, became incarnate, was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin and is true God and true man.

In fulfillment of prophecy (Isaiah 7:14), God ordained the birth of His Son through Mary, a virgin (Luke 1:30-38), in the line of Judah, a descendent of King David (Luke 3:23-38), by the work of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18, Luke 1:35). Being born of Mary He took on human form (Philippians 2:5-8) as prophesied (Genesis 3:15), experienced temptation (Matthew 4:1-11, Luke 4:1-13), but being found without sin (1 Peter 2:22, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Hebrew 4:15) was the perfect sacrificial Lamb of God (John 1:29, Hebrews 10:12). Though fully man, He was also fully God (Matthew 1:23, John 10:30) as He claimed (Matthew 26:63-64, Mark 14:61-62, Luke 22:70,), existing before time began (John 1:1-4) and is now at the right hand of the Father in Heaven (Acts 2:33, 7:55).

We believe in the resurrection of the dead, the eternal life of the saved, and the eternal punishment of the lost.

Just as Jesus was raised from the dead (Matthew 28:5-8, 1 Corinthians 15:20), He has promised salvation for those that accept His offer of salvation (Romans 10:9, 1 Corinthians 5:21). He has gone ahead to prepare a place for us in Heaven where we will live eternally with Him (John 11:25-26, 14:1-4). If we reject the offer of salvation, we face eternity separated from God, suffering the wrath and judgment we have stored up for ourselves with our hard and unrepentant hearts (Matthew 25:41-43, Romans 2:12-16). We believe that we face this judgment at death, at which point the opportunity to repent and turn to Christ will have expired (Luke 16:24-26, Hebrews 9:27-28).

We believe in the personal salvation of believers through the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

Knowing that every person is a sinner and is condemned under God's Law, and that the punishment for that sin is death and eternal separation from God, we know that we are powerless to save ourselves from that punishment (Romans 3:21-28, 4:1-8). The only way to be saved from eternal separation from God and to spend the life after this one with Him is to accept the free gift of grace that God extends to all who put their faith in Jesus Christ (Acts 2:21, Romans 10:9). Through His death on the cross, Jesus bore the punishment for our sins (Romans 4:23-25, 1 Peter 2:21-25), and if we will by faith accept that free gift (Ephesians 2:8-9), we will be justified in the sight of God and spend eternity with Him (John 11:25-26, 1 Peter 1:3-5).

We believe in water baptism by immersion for believers.

Believing that we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, and not of our own works (Romans 3:27-30, Galatians 2:19-21), we recognize that baptism is a symbol, and only a symbol, of our faith in Jesus Christ (Matthew 3:13-17, Luke 23:40-43). We submit to the process of baptism as a picture of dying to our self and our sinful way of life and, in coming up out of the water, stepping into a new life in relationship with Christ and in submission to Him as Lord (Romans 6:3-6, Colossians 2:11-14). Because we believe this to be a symbol of the conscious choice we have made to follow Christ, we believe that it should only be done by one who is mature enough to and capable of making that decision, and can express their reasoning for being baptized.

We believe that the work of the Holy Spirit as taught and experienced in the New Testament is available today to all believers. This work includes divine healing and the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

In His Word, Jesus told us that He would send His Spirit to guide us into all truth (John 16:13-15). We believe this promise, though spoken to the Apostles, was meant for all believers for all time (Matthew 28:20, Hebrews 13:8). Knowing that God is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8), we trust that the same working of the Spirit that was evidenced in the New Testament can be seen today when and where God wills it to be so (1 Corinthians 12:4-11). This includes the individual indwelling of the Spirit in the believer (what we call baptism) (Joel 2:28-29, Acts 2:38), and the outward manifestation of the gifts of the Spirit including, but not limited to, healing, prophecy, and tongues (Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, Ephesians 4:11-16).

We believe in the Christians' hope – the imminent personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ, having already fulfilled prophecy by coming to earth and walking among us as a man (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 2:1), has promised that He has gone ahead of us to prepare a place for us (John 14:1-2). Furthermore, He promised that He will come back and receive us to Himself, and take us to dwell with Him in eternity (John 14:3-4). He also told us that we do not know the time or day that He will return, but that He is coming soon (Matthew 24:36-44, Revelation 22:7,12,20). Knowing that we do not perceive or understand time as He does (2 Peter 3:8-9), we believe that this could come at any moment. Therefore, we strive to live ready, that He may find us to be “good and faithful servants” whenever He may return (Matthew 25:14-30). In essence, we live as if Jesus will come back today, but prepare for tomorrow as if we have a lifetime left.

We believe in Biblical tithing as taught throughout Scripture.

Recognizing that all we have comes from God and that we are merely stewards of these gifts (Matthew 6:25-34, 25:14-30), we follow the example set forth in Scripture to give back to God a portion of what we have been given (Genesis 4:1-4, 14:18-20, Exodus 35:20-29, 2 Samuel 24:24, Luke 12:48). We follow the instructions set forth in Malachi to give a tenth of our finances to the church in order to further the work that God is doing through the local body of believers (Malachi 3:8-10). Although this is the guidelines we follow in handling our finances, we also acknowledge that it is our responsibility and privilege to also give of our time and our gifts in the service of His church.

We believe that sexual purity is the necessary expression for all of God's children, and that He requires that we abstain from adultery, fornication, incest, homosexuality, and all other sexual relationships and practices that are forbidden by scripture.

By accepting the entire Word of God as true and the moral standard for living right before God, we adhere to the guidelines provided therein regarding His design for marriage, sex, and sexuality (Genesis 2:18-24, Leviticus 18, Acts 15:20, Romans 1:18-32, 8:5-8, 1 Corinthians 5:9-12). It is clear that God's design for marriage and family is found in a monogamous marriage between one man and one woman and that sex should take place only within the bounds of that marriage.

We believe that marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime, and a sacred institution established by God.

In the Creation account we read that God created the perfect helper suitable for the man in Eve, a complement and partner, formed from the rib of Adam himself (Genesis 2:18-24). By His design, we believe that a man will leave his father and mother and be united with his wife as one flesh (Genesis 2:24, Mark 10:2-12, . God created this unity to last their lifetime, a three-fold cord with Christ as the center of the relationship (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12). It is this relationship that God chose as a picture of the relationship between Christ and the Church, and so we strive to model our marriages after the image of Christ and His Church (Ephesians 5:22-33).