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## DOCTRINES AND BELIEFS

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### GOD

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God. As God the Father He is all-powerful, all-knowing, all-loving, and all-wise. He becomes Father to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ.

***Deut. 4:1-2; Ps. 119:11,89,105; Isa. 40:8; Mt. 22:29; Jn. 5:39; 16:13-15; 17:17; Rom. 15:4; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; Heb. 1:1-2; 4:12; 1 Pet. 1:25; 2 Pet. 3:16***

### CHRIST

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is also co-equal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all man by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He then ascended to heaven's glory and will return again to earth to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.

***Isa 7:14; 53; Mt 1:18-23; 3:17; 8:29; 14:33; 16:16; 28:5-6; Lk 22:70; 24:46-47; Jn 1:1,14; 10:30; 11:25-27; 17:1-5; Acts 1:9; 2:22-24; 7:55-56; Rom 1:3-4; 3:23-26; 8:1-3; 10:4; 1 Cor 8:6; 2 Cor 5:19-21; Gal 4:3-5; Phil 2:5-11; Col 1:15; 2:9***

### THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and the Son as God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. The follower of Christ seeks to live under His control daily.

***Gen 1:2; Ps.51:11; 139:7; Isa 61:1-3; Joel 2:28-32; Mk 1:10; Lk 1:35; 4:1; 11:13; 12:12; Jn 15:26; 16:7-14; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4; 13:2; Rom 8:9-11, 14-16, 26-27; 1 Cor 3:16; Eph 1:13-14; 2 Pet 1:21; Rev 22:17***

## **MAN**

Man is made in the spiritual image of God, to be like God in character. He is the supreme object of God's creation. Man has tremendous potential for good but he is marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin." This attitude separates men from God.

***Gen 1:26-30; 2:7,18-22; Ps 8:3-6; 32:1-5; Isa 6:5; Jer 17:5; Acts 17:26-31; Rom 1:19-32; 3:10-18, 23; 5:6; 6:6; 7:14-25; 1 Cor 1:21-31; 15:19, 21-22; Eph 2; Col 1:21-22; 3:9-11***

## **ETERNITY / ETERNAL SECURITY**

Man was created to exist forever. He will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or in union with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is hell. To be eternally in union with Him is heaven. Heaven and Hell are literal places of eternal existence. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian.

***Jn 3:16; Rom 3:23; 1 Jn 2:25, 5:11-13; Rev 20:15***

## **SIN**

Sin can be defined as anything that violates or comes short of God's glory or holiness. It can also be anything that contradicts the character or will of God. The origin of sin came from Satan who rebelled against God. Sin entered the human race through Adam and his direct disobedience to God. Because Adam was the representative of the human race, sin was passed on to all men.

***Prov 28:13; Isa 64:6; Rom 3:23, 8:1; Gal 5:19-21; 1 Cor 15:57; 1 Jn 1:7-9***

## **SALVATION**

Salvation is a gift from God to man. Man can never make up for his sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can man be saved from sin's penalty. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith.

***Isa 1:18, 53:5-6, 55:7; Mt 1:21, 27:22-66, 28:1-6; Lk 1:68-69, 2:28-32; Jn 1:12, 3:16, 36, 5:24; Acts 2:21, 4:12, 16:30-31; Rom 1:16-18, 3:23-25, 5:8-10, 6; 1 Cor 1:18; 2 Cor 5:17-20; Gal 2:20, 3:13; Eph 2:8-10***

## **THE BIBLE**

The Bible is God's word to all men. It was written under human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source for truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is truth without any mixture of error.

***Deut 4:1-2; Ps 119:11, 89, 105; Isa 40:8; Mt 22:29; Jn 5:39, 16:13-15, 17:17; Rom 15:4; 2 Tim 3:15-17; Heb 1:1-2, 4:12; 1 Pet 1:25; 2 Pet 3:16***

## THE CHURCH

The Church is a local community of baptized believers unified through faith in Christ. It is committed to the teachings of Christ and obeying all of His commands, and it seeks to bring the Gospel to the world. The Church works together in love and unity, intent on the ultimate purpose of glorifying Christ.

***Mt 16:18-19, 18:15-20; Acts 2:41-47, 5:11-14, 13:1-3, 14:23, 16:5, 10:28; 1 Cor 7:17, 9:13-14, 12; Eph 1:22-23, 2:19-22, 3:10-12, 5:22-32; Col 1:18, 3:15; 1 Tim 4:14; 1 Pet 5:1-4; Rev 21:2-3***

## BAPTISM AND COMMUNION

We believe there are two ordinances of the local church: baptism and the Lord's supper.

Scriptural baptism is immersion in water of believers, in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, administered by the authority of the New Testament church. The Lord's Supper is a memorial ordinance for the body of Christ in remembrance of the death of our Lord on the cross. It is open for all obedient believers.

***Mt 3:13-17, 26:26-28; Lk 22:19-20; Acts 8:34-38; Rom 6:3-4***