

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

"In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

WE BELIEVE the 66 books of the Bible to be the inspired, infallible and inerrant Word of God, our only rule for faith and practice (2 Tim.3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21). We hold to the Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy.

WE BELIEVE in the Trinity; in one God, eternally existing in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit; each equal in being, power and glory (Matt. 28:19; John 6:27; Heb. 1:8; Acts 5:3-4).

WE BELIEVE that God directly, immediately, and from nothing created the heavens and the earth by the Word of His power, including all life "after its own kind," and that macro-evolution is unbiblical and scientifically impossible (Gen. 1, 2; Col. 1:16-17; John 1:3).

WE BELIEVE in the existence and personality of Satan, a created and fallen angel. He is the "father of lies," the first source of moral evil in the universe, the deceiver and destroyer of people, and arch enemy of God. He is destined to eternal suffering in the lake of fire in accordance with the perfect justice of God (Matt. 4:1-3; 2 Cor. 4:4; Rev. 20:10).

WE BELIEVE that man was created holy, in the image and likeness of God, and that he stood as the representative of the human race in his trial of obedience in the Garden of Eden. When Adam sinned, the entire human race fell with him, inherited a sin nature, and became alienated from God. All people are born with a sinful nature and of themselves are entirely unable to remedy their lost condition (Gen. 1:26-27; Rom. 3:22-23; 5:10-19; Eph. 2:1-3, 12).

WE BELIEVE in the Lord Jesus Christ, the second person of the Trinity, who condescended from heaven to take upon Himself a human nature and body to be a sufficient substitute and sacrifice for sinful humanity. In His incarnation He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin. He led a perfect life and therefore satisfied the positive requirements of God's unchanging and strict justice, and willingly died on the cross on behalf of sinners to pay the penalty required by God's justice for their sin. He rose bodily from the dead and will return to earth in great glory to judge mankind (Matt. 25:31-46; John 1:1-3, 29; 3:16; Luke 24:36-43; John 14:1-3, 2 Cor. 5:21).

WE BELIEVE that salvation is by grace through faith alone, that the best of human works are unable to merit eternal life, and that God's justice will not grant eternal life without a perfect righteousness, the righteousness imputed to believers united to Christ by faith. United to Christ by faith, believers are declared righteous because they legally possess the perfect righteousness of Christ credited to them. Moreover, they possess new life in Christ by virtue of the Holy Spirit indwelling them and imparting His character in and through them. Believers, though imperfect and subject to indwelling sin in their earthly existence, are nonetheless delivered from the penalty and governing power of sin, and will ultimately be delivered from the very presence of sin (Rom. 3:24; Eph. 2:8-9; John 10:27-28; 1 John 5:13; Rev. 20:11-21:8).