

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

## 1. God

There is one God (1) and this is the monotheistic, personal, transcendent God of the Old and New Testament (2) This is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (3). This God, the only true God (4), dwells in Heaven (5) and is therefore distinct from His creation (6).

## 2. The Trinity

God is a trinity. This means that God is a tri-personal God who exists as three distinct persons, all of whom share the same substance, nature, and essence. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are three different centers of consciousness (subsistences, hypostasis) that are co-equal, co-powerful, and co-eternal, existing one monotheistic God. Jesus is not the Father (7), the Father is not the Holy Spirit (8), but all three exist as one God, Jesus (9), Father (10), Holy Spirit (11, 11A).

## 3. The deity of Jesus

Jesus is God (12). When we say Jesus is "God", we mean that God is actually a triune Godhead that Jesus is a member/person of. Jesus existed eternally into the past alongside the Father as God from the very beginning (13) and retained full deity and the full divine nature equal to that of the Father while in the flesh (14). As God in the flesh (15), Jesus also had and has a human nature (16) and therefore is truly man and truly God. True deity and humanity are both expressed in their complete natures in the person of Jesus, which is why the death of Jesus (as man-God) was able to atone for our sins as the Bible says man alone cannot die for another man's sins (17).

**Eight marks of Messiah** 

- Virgin Birth
- Sinless Life
- Ministry and Miracles
- Inauguration of the Kingdom and Invitation into the Kingdom
- Making of Disciples
- Bodily Substitutionary Death on the Cross
- Bodily Resurrection from the Dead
- Ascended into Heaven where He awaits to come when He will judge the living and the dead

# 4. Jesus' death and resurrection for human sin

Jesus died to save sinners (18). He saved sinners from the penalty of sin and judgment of God (19) by acting as atoning sacrifice for human sin (20), thereby satisfying the righteous judgment and indignation of God (21). In addition to being forgiven of our sins through his atoning death, through the resurrection of Jesus we have been reconciled back to relationship with God (22) and have been declared righteous in his sight through the imputed righteousness of Jesus that has now been accredited to our account (23). Those who reject Jesus will die in their sins and are not forgiven by God (24).

## 5. Salvation in Christ alone

The work of Jesus on the cross is the only offer by God to mankind by which we might be saved. Apart from

the salvific death and resurrection of Jesus on the cross, salvation, relationship with God, and entrance into Heaven are not possible. There is no other way to be made right with God apart from Jesus (25).

### 6. Salvation by grace through faith alone

The Bible teaches that we are saved by faith, by believing on Jesus as our savior (26). In addition to being saved by faith, we are saved by faith APART from works, obedience and righteousness (27). This is the overwhelming testimony of Scripture. We are not saved by a pledge of service, successfully overcoming all of our willful sin, or a ceremony, but by faith. We are not saved by works. There is nothing you can do to receive the atoning benefits of Christ's death and resurrection apart from faith. Faith alone is the medium by which we have imputed the work of Christ to our lives. This is why salvation is called a free "gift (28)." In other words, faith is a sufficient condition for being saved, as the work of Christ is fully complete and does not need to be added to with human merit. Only received through faith.

### 7. Inerrancy of Scripture

Scripture is God-breathed (29) and was produced as men were moved on by the Holy Spirit (30). The Bible is therefore error-free, complete in it's revelation, and cannot be added to (31). It is the final authority on doctrine, theology, and all things pertaining to the Christian faith. It is perfectly clear in the descriptions it gives of who Jesus is, who God is, what the plan of salvation is, and awaits both saved and sinner in eternity. This means that any version of Christ that deviates from the Jesus in the Bible is not the Jesus who exists in actuality (32). Any version of God that deviates from the God of the Bible is an idol and does not exist in actuality (33). Any view that contradicts that of Scripture is false (34). We reject all structures or forms of authority that in any way add to, contradict or lessen the authority that belongs to the scripture alone (39 books of the Old Testament and 27 of the New Testament).

#### 8. The Church

The Church includes all persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit are united together in the body of Christ (35). All believers are commanded to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world and to make disciples of all nations (36).

### 9. Man

Humans are made in the image of God and all humans — despite their fallen nature and regardless of their race, creed, or capability — are worthy of dignity, respect, and love (37). A person's biological sex is a fixed part of their identity as an image bearer of God and cannot be changed (38). Life begins at the moment of conception, therefore, we repudiate human abortion, physician-assisted suicide, and other practices that end the life of a judicially innocent human being (39).

### 10. Marriage and Sexuality

From the time of creation, God instituted the covenant of marriage as the relationship between one man and one woman (40). Marriage is the rightful and exclusive context for sexual expression; any sexual activity outside of marriage is sinful. God calls everyone to live a pure life, free from sexual sin (41).

#### Footnotes

1 (Jn. 17:3, Rom. 3:30, 1 Tim. 2:5) 2 (2 Sam. 7:22, 1 Kgs. 8:60 1 Chr. 17:20, Isa. 44:6 Isa. 45:14 Isa. 45:22, Rom. 15:6, 2 Cor. 1:3, Eph. 1:3, 1 Peter 1:3). 3. (Luk. 13:28, 20:37, Jn. 8:54) 4 (Jn. 5:44, Jn. 17:3, 1 Thes. 1:9) 5 (Mat 6:9, Mat. 10:33, Mat 12:50, Mat. 18:14) 6 (Gen. 1:1, Rom. 1:19-23). 7(Jn. 6:38, Jn. 8:16-18, Jn. 10:36) 8 (Mat. 28:19, Jn. 14:16-17, Jn. 15:26) 9 Jn. 1:1-18, 8:54, Heb. 1:8 10 Jn. 20:10, Rom. 15:6, 1 Cor. 8:6 11 Act. 5:1-4, 2 Cor. 3:17, Heb. 10:15-17) 11A While they all differ in role and economy, they are all equal in nature and ontology. Yahweh, the proper name of God in the Old Testament, refers to the Trinity which consists of three co-equal divine persons. While there is no one single verse that alone establishes all three persons are God, but this is what the Bible teaches and expresses in the complete revelation of Scripture. 12 (Jn. 8:56, Jn. 10:30, Rom. 9:5, Col. 1:15, Tit. 2:13, Hebrews 1:8, 2 Peter 1:1) 13 (John 1:1-3, Phil. 2:5-7) 14 (Col 1:19, Col 2:9). 15 (Jn. 1:1-14) 16 (Heb. 2:9, 1 Timothy 2:5) 17 (Eze. 18:10, Psa. 49:7) 18 (Lk. 19:10, Jn. 3:17, Rom. 5:6, 8, 1 Tim. 1:15, 1 Jn. 3:5) 19 (Jn. 3:36, Rom. 5:9. Eph. 2:3) 20 (1 Cor. 15:3, Gal. 1:4, Eph. 5:2, Heb. 7:27, Heb. 9:6, Heb. 10:12, Rev. 9:5) 21 (Isaiah 53:4-5,11, Rom. 3:25, Heb. 2:17, 1 Jn. 2:2, 1 Jn. 4:10) 22 (Rom. 5:10-11, 2 Cor. 18:19, Eph. 2:16, Col 1:20, 22) 23 (Rom 1:17, Rom. 3:22, Rom. 4:6, 9, 4:25, 2 Cor. 5:21, Gal. 3:6, Phil 3:9, Jas 2:23) 24 (Mrk. 16:16, Jn. 3:18, 36, Jn. 5:4, Rom. 2:8, 2 Thes. 1:8, Heb. 2:3, Heb. 3:12, Heb. 12:25, 1 Pet. 4:17, 1 Jn. 5:10, Rev. 21:8) 25 (Jn. 14:6, Act. 4:12, 1 Cor. 3:11, Gal. 1:7, 1 Tim 2:5) 26 (Jn. 3:16, 18, Jn. 6:29, 40, 47, Act. 10:43, Acts 16:31, Act. 26:18, Rom. 1:17, Rom. 3:33, Rom. 5:1, Rom. 10:9, Gal. 3:8, 2 Timothy 3:15, Heb. 11:7) 27 (Rom. 3:21-28, Rom. 4:3-5, Rom. 9:30-32, Rom 11:6, Gal. 2:16, Gal. 2:21, Gal. 3:1-3, Gal 3:8, 9-14, 21-25, Eph 2:8-10, Phil. 3:9, Tit. 3:5) 28 (Rom. 3:24, Rom. 5:15, 16, 17, Rom 6:23, Eph. 2:8, Heb. 6:4) 29 (2 Tim. 2:16) 30 (2 Pet. 1:20) 31 (Jud. 1:3, Rom. 2:16, 1 Cor. 4:6) 32 (Gal 1:6-9, 2 Cor. 11:4, 2 Pet. 2:1, 1 Jn. 4:2-3) 33 (Exo. 20:3-4, Psl. 96:5, Jn. 5:44, Jn. 17:3, 1 Thes. 1:9, 1 Jn. 5:10) 34 (Isa. 28:13, Jn. 17:17, 2 Tim. 4:3-4, 2 Pet. 3:16) 35 (Rom. 12:5, 1 Cor. 10:17, 1 Cor 12:27) 36 (Matt. 28:19, Rom. 1:16) 37 (Gen. 1:26, Psa. 139:14) 38 (Gen. 1:27) 39 (Ex. 20:13, Deut. 5:17, Rev. 21:8) 40 (Gen. 2:23-24, Matt. 19:4-6) 41 (1 Cor. 6:18, 1 Thess. 4:3-5, Gal. 5:19)