

1. We believe that the whole Bible (consisting of 39 Old Testament and 27 New Testament books) is fully inspired by God. We recognise only these 66 books (the Holy Scriptures) as the Word of God. ⁱ It contains no error and is wholly reliable in its history and all its teaching. ¹ It is the final and continually sufficient authority in all matters of faith and practice. ² The New Testament is a reliable witness to the character and authorship of the Old Testament. ⁱⁱ

¹ Exodus 24: 4; 2 Samuel 23: 1, 2; Jeremiah 1:9; 30:1-4; 36:1, 2; John 8: 26-28, 31, 32, 46, 47; 1 Corinthians 2:12, 13; 2 Corinthians 13: 3; 2 Timothy 3: 15-17; Hebrews 1: 1, 2; 2 Peter 1: 19-21.

² Psalm 19:7-11; 119:140,160; Daniel 10: 21; Matthew 5:17, 18; John 10:35; 17:17; Romans 3:1, 2; 1 Thessalonians 2:13.

³ Isaiah 8:20; Luke 16:29-31; 1 Corinthians 14:37; Revelation 22:18, 19.

⁴ Luke 24:27, 44; John 10:35; 13:18; 19:24, 28, 36, 37; Acts 1:16; Romans 4:3; Romans 9:17; 10:11; 11:11; 15:4; 1 Corinthians 15:3, 4.

2. We believe there is only one God. This one God eternally exists as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are equally God. ¹ This God is sovereign in creation, ² in His control of all events ³ and in the giving of salvation. ⁴

¹ Deuteronomy 6:4; Numbers 6:24-27; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 John 5:7; Revelation 1:4, 5

² Genesis 1:1-31; Psalm 33:9; Acts 17:24, 25; Romans 1:20; Revelation 4:11.

³ Psalm 103:19; Proverbs 19:21; Isaiah 46: 9, 10; Daniel 4:35; Matthew 10:29-31; Ephesians 1:11.

⁴ Luke 1:68-75; Ephesians 1:4-14; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 9:11, 12; 1 Peter 1:18-20; Revelation 5:9

3. We believe that as a result of Adam's sin every member of the human race is born with a totally corrupt nature. ¹ This means that the Holy Spirit's work of regeneration is necessary before any member of the human race can be saved. ²

¹ Genesis 3:1-7; 6:5; 8:21; Psalm 51:5; Jeremiah 17:9; Mark 7:21-23; Romans 3:10-19; 5:12-19; 8:7; Ephesians 2: 1-3.

² John 1:12, 13; 3:3-7; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15; Ephesians 2:1, 5, 10; Titus 3:5; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:23.

4. We believe that the Lord Jesus has two natures - He is truly God ¹ and He is a real and perfect man. ² We believe in His virgin birth, ³ His sinless and perfect life, ⁴ His death to save His people from their sin, ⁵ His bodily resurrection ⁶ and His ascension into Heaven. ⁷ We recognise the authority of His teaching, and the infallibility of all His utterances. ⁸ We believe He is now seated at the right hand of God continuously praying for His people. ⁹

¹ Isaiah 9:6; John I: 1; 5:18; 14:9-11; 16:15; 20:28; Romans 9:5; Philippians 2:6; Colossians 2:9; Hebrew 1:3, 8; 1 John 5:20.

² Hebrews 4:15; 7:26; 1 Peter 2:22.

³ Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-23; Luke 1:26-35.

⁴ John 1: 14; Philippians 2:7; 1 Timothy 2:5.

⁵ Isaiah 53:4-6; Matthew 20:28; Romans 5: 6-11; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:13; 1 Pet 3:18.

⁶ Matt 28:1-6; Luke 24:36-43; John 20:24-29; 1 Corinthians 15:4.

⁷ Mark 16:19; Acts 1:9-11; Ephesians 1:20-23; 1 Peter 3:22.

⁸ Matthew 7:29; John 7:15-17, 46; 12:47-50.

⁹ Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25; 9:24; 1 John 2: 1.

5. We believe that a sinner is justified (made right with God) solely by faith in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. ¹

¹Isaiah 45:25; 53:11; John 3:16-18, 36; Acts 13: 38, 39; 16:31; Romans 1:16, 17; 3:24-28; Romans 4:1-5; 5:1; 8:33, 34; 9:30-33; 10:1-4; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Galatians 2:16; 3: 8, 11, 24; Ephesians 2: 8, 9; Philippians 3:8, 9; 1 John 5:10.

6. We believe that only the Holy Spirit can give us a true and spiritual understanding of the Scriptures.¹ He alone can give us new life (regeneration),² give us power to overcome our sinful nature (conversion)³ and make us holy (sanctification).⁴ He is the true source of all spiritual ministry⁵ and worship.⁶

¹Proverbs 1:23; John 6:45; 14:26; 16:13, 14; 1 Corinthians 2:9-12; Ephesians 1:17, 18; 1 John 2:20, 27.

²John 3:5-8; 6:63; Acts 11:15-18; Titus 3: 5. ³John 16:7-14; Acts 3:19; 1 Corinthians 12:3.

⁴2 Corinthians 3:18; Galatians 5: 16, 22-25; Ephesians 3:16. ⁵Acts 4:31; 1 Corinthians 2: 4, 5; 2 Corinthians 3: 6-8.

⁶John 4:24; Romans 8:26; Ephesians 2:18; 5:18-20; Philippians 3:3.

7. We believe that all true believers called by God through the gospel, given new life by the Holy Spirit and justified by faith are members of the universal church.¹ When such true believers express their unity with one another as a local church they represent in miniature the universal church.² When there is fellowship between local churches this manifests the unity of the body of Christ of which Christ is the Head.³

¹Matthew 16: 18; Acts 20: 28; Ephesians 1: 22; 3:10, 21; 5:23-32; Colossians 1:18-24; Hebrews 12: 23.

²Matthew 18: 17; Acts 11: 22; 13: 1; 15:41; 16:5; Romans 16: 1, 5, 16; 1 Corinthians 1: 2; Galatians 1:2.

³Acts 15:1-4, 22-31; 1 Corinthians 16: 1-3; 2 Corinthians 8: 19, 23; Colossians 4:15, 16.

8. We believe that the Lord Jesus commands all believers to be baptized and to unite regularly with other believers at the Lord's Table.¹ Baptism is a symbol that a believer is trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation but it does not make a person a believer.² The Lord's Supper is a regular reminder to every believer of the love of Jesus for them demonstrated by His death on the Cross. It is in no sense a sacrifice for sin, nor does it involve any change in the substance of the bread and the wine.³

¹Matthew 28: 19; 1 Corinthians 11: 23-32. ²Acts 8: 13, 20-23; 8: 36, 37; 10: 44, 47; 16: 14, 15; 18: 8; 1 Corinthians 1: 17, 21.

³Matthew 26: 29; 1 Corinthians 11: 26-28; Hebrews 7: 23, 27, 28; 9: 25-28; 10: 11-13.

9. We believe that at the end of time the Lord Jesus Christ will return to this world in glory.¹

¹Matthew 16:27; 25:31; John 14:3; Acts 1: 11; 3:20, 21; 1 Corinthians 1: 7; Philippians 3:20; Colossians 3: 4; 1 Thessalonians 1: 10; 2: 19; 3: 13; 4: 16, 17; 5: 23; 2 Thessalonians 1: 7-10; 1 Timothy 6:14; Titus 2: 13; Hebrews 9: 28; Jude 14; Revelation 22: 7, 12, 20.

10. We believe that at the end of time there will be a physical resurrection of every person who has ever lived.¹ This will be followed by the judgment of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,² with the eternal blessedness of the righteous³ and the eternal punishment of the wicked.⁴

¹Job 19: 26; Isaiah 26: 19; John 5: 28, 29; 6: 39, 40; Acts 4: 2; 24:15; Romans 8:11; 1 Corinthians 15: 20-23; 1 Corinthians 15: 42-45; 48-54; Philippians 3:21.

²Matthew 25: 31-34; John 5: 22; Acts 10:42; 17: 31; Romans 2:16; 14:10-12; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 2 Timothy 4:1; Revelation 20:11, 12.

³Matthew 25: 46; John 10: 28; 1 Corinthians 15:53; 1 Thessalonians 4:17; 2 Timothy 2:10; 1 Peter 1:4; 2 Peter 1: 11; Revelation 22:3-5.

⁴Matthew 25: 41, 46; Mark 9: 44; 2 Thessalonians 1: 9; Jude 13; Revelation 14:9-11.