

What We Believe . . .

. . . About the Bible

The Bible is the complete, inspired, and infallible word of God. It is our only source of truth, our only rule of faith and practice. Everything that we base our system of belief on comes from this book. (**Psalm 119:105; 2 Timothy 3:16,17**)

. . . About Jesus

Jesus is the only begotten Son of God. He was a real, historical person, who was also deity. He came to live among us, lived a perfect, sinless life, and allowed Himself to be crucified to redeem mankind. Three days later, He rose from the dead, and now sits at the right hand of God. (**I Corinthians 15:1-4**) Faith in and obedience to Him is the only way to salvation. (**John 14:6**) Jesus reigns as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and will one day return to end this present world and bring all of mankind into their final, eternal states, either in Heaven or Hell. (**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 20:11-15**)

. . . About Mankind

Every human being has intrinsic worth as a creation of God, but every person has sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. As a result, we have separated ourselves from Him, and caused ourselves to stand as guilty before Him. (**Isaiah 59:2; Romans 3:23**) As sinners, our deserved fate is eternal, spiritual death. (**Romans 6:23**) Humanity does not possess within itself the ability to remedy that problem, and so we must look to God for our solution.

. . . About Salvation

Because we cannot save ourselves, it is necessary for us to look to God for our salvation. He provides that salvation by a free gift of grace, because of His love, not because of anything we have done to deserve it. (**John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9**) Faith in and obedience to Christ will result in several steps that lead to our salvation. We are saved by:

- Belief that Christ is the Son of God and in His atoning sacrifice (**Matthew 16:15-18; John 3:36**)
- Repentance of our former sinful lives, and a re-focus on Him and His desires rather than our own. (**Matthew 4:17; Romans 6:11-14**)
- Public Confession of our belief and our dedication to Christ as Lord of our lives (**Luke 9:23-26; Romans 10:8-11**)
- Baptism into Christ in obedience to His commands. (**Matthew 28:19,20; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21**)

As we follow the plan that is laid out in the Bible, we are promised the gift of salvation from our sins and a guarantee of a home in Heaven as long as we stay faithful to His Lordship.

... About the Church

The church is called the body of Christ. It exists to seek out those who are not saved, and bring them to a knowledge of what it takes to have a relationship with Christ. It exists to strengthen the relationships between fellow Christians. It exists to teach the true gospel. Locally, the church is designed to provide a place for Christians to gather and worship by the example of Scripture, devoting themselves to the apostle • fs doctrine, fellowship, the breaking of bread (communion), and prayer. We offer the Lord • fs Supper as a weekly observance. The Bible teaches that when a person is saved, they are added to the Lord • fs church. We believe that personal membership in a local church body is important and allows for a better ability to grow. (**Acts 2:42; Ephesians 4:1-16**)