



## **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

The Bible is the inspired Word of God, the product of holy men of old who spoke and wrote as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. The New Covenant, as recorded in the New Testament, we accept as our infallible guide in matters pertaining to conduct and doctrine. (2 Tim 3:16; 1 Thess 2:13; 2 Pet 1:21)

THE TRIUNE GOD consists of the Father; the Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit. They are coexistent, coeternal and coequal.

GOD THE FATHER is the Creator of Heaven and Earth and the Sustainer of all things. There is but one God, infinite, eternal and perfect in holiness, truth and love.

GOD THE SON, JESUS, was supernaturally conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin, Mary, and was without sin. He was the vicarious sacrifice for the sin of all mankind through His death on the cross. He arose from the dead in His own glorified body, appeared to many, ascended to Heaven, and will return to earth in power and glory. He now is the head of His Body, the Church.

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, unites man to Jesus Christ in faith, brings about the new birth, and dwells within the believer, enabling him to grow in sanctification and righteousness, and become a gift of God to the Church.

MAN, HIS FALL AND REDEMPTION - Man is a created being, made in the likeness and image of God, but through Adam's transgression and fall, sin came into the world. The Bible says "...all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God," and "...There is no righteous, no, not one." (Rom 3:10; 3:23). Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was manifested to undo the works of the devil and gave His life and shed His blood to redeem and restore man back to God (Rom 5:14; 1 John 3:8).

SALVATION is the gift of God through the grace and faith of Jesus Christ. There is no other Name except that of Jesus Christ by which men may be saved. By turning from sin to repentance and trusting in Christ and vicarious death, man is born again into eternal life by the Holy Spirit.

ETERNAL LIFE AND THE NEW BIRTH - Man's first step towards salvation is godly sorrow that worketh repentance. The new birth is necessary to all men, and when experienced, produces eternal life (2 Cor 7:10; John 3:3-5; 1 John 5:12).

WATER BAPTISM - Baptism in water is by immersion, is a direct commandment of our Lord, and is for believers only. The ordinance is a symbol of the Christian's identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection (Matt 28:19; Rom 6:4)



**BAPTISM IN THE HOLY GHOST** - The Baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire is a gift from God as promised by the Lord Jesus Christ to all believers in this dispensation and is received subsequent to the new birth.

This experience is accompanied by the initial evidence of speaking in other tongues as the Holy Spirit Himself gives utterance (Matt 3:11; John 14:16,17; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:38,39).

**SANCTIFICATION** - The Bible teaches that without holiness no man can see the Lord. We believe in the Doctrine of Sanctification as a definite, yet progressive work of grace, commencing at the time of regeneration and continuing until the consummation of salvation at Christ's return (Heb 12:14; 1Thess 5:23; 2 Pet 3:18).

**DIVINE HEALING** - Healing is for the physical ills of the human body and is wrought by the prayer of faith, and by the laying on of hands. It is provided for in the atonement of Christ, and is the privilege of every member of the Church today (James 5:14,15; Mark 16:18; Is 53:4,5; Matt 8:17; 1 Pet 2:24).

**THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** (word of knowledge, wisdom, or faith, healing, working of miracles, prophecy, discernment of spirits, tongues, and interpretation of tongues) are available through the Holy Spirit, and are for the Church today.

**THE CHURCH** is the Body and Bride of Christ, whose task is to take the Gospel to all men in all nations, and to make disciples of them.

**RESURRECTION OF THE JUST AND THE RETURN OF OUR LORD** - The angels said to Jesus' disciples, "...this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." His coming is imminent. When He comes, "...the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air..."(Acts 1:11; 1Thess 4:16,17) Following the Tribulation, He shall return to earth as King of kings, and Lord of lords, and together with His saints, who shall be kings and priests, He shall reign a thousand years (Rev 5:10; 20:6)

**HELL AND ETERNAL RETRIBUTION** - The one who physically dies in his sins without accepting Christ is hopelessly and eternally lost in the lake of fire and, therefore, has no further opportunity of hearing the Gospel or repenting. The lake of fire is literal. The terms "eternal" and "everlasting," used in describing the duration of the punishment of the damned in the lake of fire, carry the same thought and meaning of endless existence as used in denoting the duration of joy and ecstasy of saints in the Presence of God (Heb 9:27; Rev 19:20).