

STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. THE WORD OF GOD

We teach that the Bible is the very Word of God, verbally and wholly inspired and without error as originally given, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and is our only rule for faith and practice. (*2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21; Psalm 119:160*)

2. TRINITY

We teach that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three Persons: that these are equal in every divine perfection, that They execute distinct but harmonious offices in the works of creation, providence, and redemption, and that each One is worthy of equal worship and obedience. (*Deuteronomy 6:4; 2 Corinthians 13:14*)

3. GOD THE FATHER

We teach that God the Father is an infinite, personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love, Who infallibly governs all that shall come to pass, concerns Himself with the affairs of men, and saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. (*John 4:24; 1 John 1:5; 1 Timothy 1:17; Isaiah 58:9*)

4. JESUS CHRIST

We teach that the Lord Jesus Christ is the second Person of the Trinity, the only begotten of the Father, fully God and fully man, and born of a virgin. We teach that He lived a sinless life, died a substitutionary, atoning death to redeem lost sinners, rose bodily from the grave, ascended bodily into heaven where He executes His ministry of intercession, and will return to the earth at the end of this age. (*John 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:21; John 20:26-28; Hebrews 7:25*)

5. HOLY SPIRIT

We teach that the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity, Who convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, regenerates sinners, indwells and empowers believers to live godly lives, and seals believers until they reach their eternal home. (*John 16:7-10; Titus 3:5; 1 Corinthians 6:19*)

6. MAN

We teach that man is by nature and choice a sinful and lost being. Man was created by God perfect, but then sinned by willful disobedience and is now under the wrath and judgment of God, and has within himself no possible means of salvation. (*Romans 3:10-23; Ephesians 2:1-3*)

With regard to human sexuality, we believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity should be engaged in outside of marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. All those who do not repent of and forsake these sins must be subject to the disciplinary process of the church and, if necessary,

excommunication. (*Genesis 2:24; 19:5-13; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:21-29; 1 Corinthians 5:1, 9-11; 6:9-10; Galatians 5:19-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Hebrews 13:4*)

We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion, no matter what the circumstances, constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of unborn human life. Abortion is murder. (*Job 3:16; Psalm 51:5; 139:13-16; Isaiah 44:24; Jeremiah 20:15-18; Luke 1:44*)

We also believe that because human life is a sacred gift of God, euthanasia and so-called “mercy-killing” are sin. Furthermore, because man is created in God’s image and because God alone is the Giver of life, practices such as human cloning and any research on human embryos should be outlawed.

7. SALVATION

We teach that salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Jesus Christ alone. Because of sin, man is unable and unwilling to please God, but nevertheless, God has chosen some for eternal life, not because of foreseen faith or merit in them, but because of His mercy in Christ. The first evidence of this choice is repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. All who repent, forsake their sin, and wholly trust Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and receive eternal life. (*Romans 10:9-17; Ephesians 2:8,9; Acts 3:19*)

8. CHRISTIAN CONDUCT

We teach that good works are the fruit of faith. All who have been saved will love the law of God and obey it. Those who are truly saved will persevere in the faith. (*Philippians 1:6; 2 Peter 1:3-10; 1 John 2:3*)

9. CHURCH

We teach that the Church is the universal body of true believers over which Christ alone is Head. A local church is an assembly of Christians who worship God through the ministry of the Word and the ordinances given by that Word. (*Ephesians 1:22, 23; Acts 2:42-47*)

10. LAST THINGS

We teach the personal, visible, and bodily return of our Lord Jesus Christ to the earth at a future time appointed by God the Father. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal happiness of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the wicked. (*2 Thessalonians 4:13-5:1; Matthew 25:46*)

CONFESSION

The above statements are a brief summary of what we believe. A fuller expression of our faith is contained in the 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith which is available on our website. While the Confession is not perfect, we agree with C.H. Spurgeon concerning its value,

This little volume is not issued as an authoritative rule, or code of faith, whereby you are to be fettered, but as an assistance to you in controversy, a confirmation in faith, and a means of edification in righteousness. Here the younger members of our church will have a body of divinity in small compass, and by means of Scriptural proofs, will be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in them.