

# Our Statement Of Faith

## The Bible:

The Bible is the inspired Word of God. It is true in all that it teaches. As our record of the inerrant Word of God, it is our ultimate authority for what we believe, for our salvation, and for instruction on how we are to live (2 Tim. 3:15-17).

## God:

There is only one God. The One God has revealed Himself to us as our Father, in His Son Jesus Christ, and through the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that is, the One God manifested in human flesh as an authentic human man. He is the fullness of the Godhead in bodily form (Deut. 6:4; John 14:9; Eph. 4:4-6; Col. 2:9; 1 Tim. 3:16)

## Sin and Salvation:

Sin is the transgression of the commandments of God (1 John 3:4). The guilt of sin has fallen upon all humanity from Adam until now (Rom. 3:23). The wages of sin is eternal death (Rom. 6:23; Rev. 20:14) to all those who refuse to accept salvation as set forth in the Word of God. So, everyone

has sinned and needs salvation. Salvation comes by grace through faith based on the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross (Rom. 3:23-25; 6:23; Eph. 2:8-9).

The gospel is the good news that Jesus died for our sins, was buried, and rose again. We express our belief in the gospel through our obedience to the gospel. We obey the gospel and apply it to our lives by repenting of our sins (death to sin), being baptized (immersed) in water in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of our sins (burial), and receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit (resurrection). This threefold experience is the consistent pattern of conversion in the early church (1 Cor. 15:1-4; 2 Thess. 1:8; 1 Pet. 4:17; Mark 1:15; Acts 15:7; Rom. 6:3-4; Acts 2:4, 37-39; 8:9-17; 10:1-48; 19:1-7). Speaking in other tongues as the Spirit of God gives utterance is the manifestation God has given as the definite, supernatural witness and initial sign of the baptism of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:4, 33; 10:45-46; 19:6).

### Living a Christian Life:

As Christians we are to love God and love others. We are to (through the Spirit), live a lifestyle of holiness and separation from sin unto the Lord. We are to worship God joyfully and seek to live a life that is pleasing to Him both inwardly and outwardly – in our thoughts, words, and actions. We are empowered to live a life pleasing to God through the Holy Spirit. We believe that the supernatural gifts of the Spirit are for the church today and are available to all Spirit-filled believers (Mark 12:28-31; 1 Cor. 12:8-10; 2 Cor. 7:1; Rom. 8:13-14; Gal. 5:19-26; Heb. 12:14).

## The Rapture and the Second Coming of Christ:

Jesus Christ is coming back to earth in bodily form, just as He went away (Acts 1:11). His Second Coming will take place at the end of a coming period of seven-years of trouble, which we sometimes call the Tribulation, or 70<sup>th</sup> Week of Daniel (Rev. 1:7). But first, prior to the beginning of this Tribulation period, He will supernaturally catch away (rapture) His holy people (His bride, His church) who have received redemption through His blood, by birth of water and of the Spirit, and who are found faithful when He comes (1 Thess. 4:16-17, 5:9; 1 Cor. 15:52; Titus 2:13; Rev. 3:10; ). At the rapture, the dead in Christ will be resurrected just prior to those living who are raptured, all receiving glorified eternal resurrection bodies (Phil. 3:20-21; 1 Thess. 4:16-18).

## The Millennial Kingdom:

After Christ's Second Coming, He will judge and defeat the wicked and establish a 1,000-year rule where He will sit on David's throne in Jerusalem. During this time, the saints will rule and reign with Him on the earth. In the end, there will be a final resurrection and final judgment. The righteous will inherit eternal life and the unrighteous will inherit eternal death (Rev. 20:1-15).

## The Eternal State:

Following the Millennial reign of Christ on earth, sin and death will finally have been defeated and Satan permanently thrown into the Lake of Fire. The righteous will live eternally with Christ in the heavenly city, the New Jerusalem, which descends out of heaven (Rev. 20:1-15; 21:1-3).