

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Of the Scriptures

We believe that the Holy Bible, comprised of 39 books of the Old Testament and 27 books of the New Testament, beginning with Genesis 1:1 and concluding with Revelation 22:21, is the verbally inspired **WORD OF GOD**: truth without any admixture of error; the only complete and final revelation of the **WILL OF GOD** to man and the final authority in all matters pertaining to faith and life.

II Tim. 3:16, 17; II Peter 1:19-21; Luke 24:25-27, 44, 45; John 5:39, 46, 47; Psalms 119:9, 11; 41, 50, 65, 81, 89, 105.

Of the True God

We believe that there is ONE, and ONLY ONE, LIVING and TRUE **GOD**: the CREATOR of all things, WHO exists eternally as the HOLY TRI-UNITY, or TRINITY, manifesting Himself as **FATHER, SON** and **HOLY SPIRIT** with each equal in every divine perfection and with each executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

Gen. 1:1; Ex. 3:13-14; Deut. 6:4; Isaiah 43:10-11, 44:6, 45:18; Isaiah 45:21-22; Heb. 1:1-3; Matt. 3:16-17, 28:18-20.

Of the Person and Work of JESUS CHRIST

We believe that Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary; God manifest in flesh that He might redeem mankind from sin. We believe that in the person of JESUS was deity and perfect humanity; with both full and complete in Him.

Isaiah 7:14, 9:6; Matt. 1:20-23; John 1:14, 10:30, 14:8-11; I Tim. 3:16; Heb. 1:1-3, 1:6-8.

We believe that **JESUS CHRIST** accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross, making a full and vicarious atonement for all the sins of all mankind according to the plan and purpose of Almighty God, completing all that is necessary for the forgiveness of sins and the salvation of souls.

Heb. 1:3, 2:9, 9:12-14, 10:10-14; I Peter 1:18-21.

We believe that **JESUS CHRIST** literally and bodily resurrected from the dead according to the Scriptures; was alive then and is alive now and forevermore.

Luke 24:1-7, 36:43; I Cor. 15:3-4, 20; Rev. 1:17-18.

Of the HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that the **HOLY SPIRIT** is the third person of the HOLY TRINITY: equal with God the Father and God the Son and of the same nature; that He is the agent of the new birth by which He baptizes every true believer into **JESUS CHRIST**; that He indwells and seals every true believer until the day of redemption; that He is sovereign in the bestowal of spiritual gifts to equip all believers; particularly evangelists and pastor-teachers, to do the work of the ministry.

Matt. 28:19; John 3:3-5, 14:16-17, 16:13-14; Romans 8:14-17; I Cor. 6:19, 12:4-13; II Cor. 13:14; Eph. 1:12-14.

Of the Devil, or Satan

We believe that Lucifer, and the archangel, was once holy, but through pride and ambition to be as God, fell and became Satan the Devil; drawing after him a third of the host of heaven; that he is now the prince of the power of the air and the unholy god of this present world system. He is the root cause of all sin, the enemy of the one true God and our Lord Jesus Christ and the author of all false religions; the arch-deceiver of mankind who is ultimately destined to defeat by our Lord Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:12-19; Matt. 4:1-11; II Cor. 4:3-4, 11:13-15; Rev. 12:3-4, 7-9, 20:10.

Of Creation

We believe in the GENESIS account of creation and that it is to be accepted literally and not allegorically nor figuratively; that man was created directly by **GOD** in God's own image and likeness and that all things that exist were originally created by God and that nothing has ever come into existence by and process of evolution.

John 1:1-14; Gen. 1:1-27, 2:7; Isaiah 45:18; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:1-3.

Of the Fall of Man

We believe that man was created in innocence, by voluntary transgression fell from his sinless state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners by nature, by choice, and by practice; therefore under just condemnation without excuse.

Gen. 3:1-19; Romans 3:9-10, 23, 5:12; Eph. 2:1-3.

Of the Atonement for Sin

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace through the redemptive work of **JESUS CHRIST**, who by the appointment of god the Father, freely took upon himself our humanity, yet without sin, becoming obedient unto death as the Lamb of God, even the death of the cross, shedding his **BLOOD** for the remission of our sins; and by doing so made **FULL** and **COMPLETE VICARIOUS ATONEMENT** for the sins of all mankind; hat absolutely no other nor further work is necessary for the forgiveness of sins; making salvation the **GIFT** of **GOD** which can only be received by **FAITH IN JESUS CHIRST** as **SAVIOUR** and **LORD**.

Lev. 17:11; Matt.26:28; Acts 13:38-39; Rom. 3:21-26, 5:8-9; Eph. 1:7; Heb. 1:3, 12, 9:25-26; Heb. 10:10-14.

Of the New Birth

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be born again; that the new birth is a new creation in Christ Jesus; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that while it does not eliminate the “old nature”, it does impart a “new nature” which is born of God’s Holy Spirit living in the true believer in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. The “old nature” which continues in the believer until death will always be in conflict with the “new nature”.

Gal. 5:17, 17; John 3:3-6; Rom. 8:9-11; II Cor. 5:17; I Peter 1:23; I John 3:9, 5:1-5.

Of the Freeness of Salvation

We believe that in God’s grace that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel and that it is the immediate duty of all to receive this wonderful gift of God through personal faith in **JESUS CHRIST** as SAVIOUR and LORD without any human effort, merit, sacrifice, or works of any kind being involved.

John 3:16-18, 36, 6:47, 10:9; Romans 4:1-8, 6:23; Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5-7.

Of Eternal Security

We believe that all who are born again of the SPRIT of GOD are in present possession of ETERNAL LIFE and are eternally secure **IN JESUS CHRIST** and can never become lost again, even though all still have their sinful human nature which is still subject to temptation and sin; with such being chastened of the Lord when necessary that we be not condemned with the world. Eternal security is NEVER liberty nor license to sin.

John 5:24, 10:27-28; Romans 5:8-10, 8:29-39; I Cor. 3:11-15, 11:30-32; Eph. 1:3-6, 12-14; I John 3:1-2, 9, 5:11-13.

Of the Resurrections

We believe in the resurrection of both the SAVED and the LOST: the saved unto the RESURRECTION OF LIFE and the lost unto the RESURRECTION OF DAMNATION. We believe that the FIRST RESURRECTION OF LIFE will occur when **JESUS CHRIST** comes in the air for His own before the Tribulation with those believers who will be martyred during the Tribulation being resurrected at the end of the Tribulation. The second resurrection of all unbelievers will occur at the close of the millennial reign of Christ on the earth at the great white throne judgment of all unbelievers.

John 5:28, 29; I Cor. 15:20-23, 42-47; Matt.24:37-44; I Thess. 4:15-14; I John 3:2; Rev. 20:4-6, 11-15; Job 19:25-27.

Of Heaven and Hell

We believe that HEAVEN IS A REAL PLACE and that everyone who is born again of the Spirit of god will be there in the Presence of God the very moment they die. We also believe that hell is a real place, existing now as HADES where the souls of the unbelieving dead are presently kept until the second resurrection of damnation when they will be cast into GEHENNA, the lake of fire.

Matt. 3:16-17, 6:9-10, 10:28, 25:41, 46; Luke 16:22-26; Acts 7:55-56; Rev. 4:1-3, 7:9-17, 19:1,2, 20:13-14, 21:1-4.

Of the Church

We believe that the true New Testament CHURCH is an organized body of scripturally baptized believers in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord who practice the scriptural ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper, teaching every member to observe all things commanded by our Lord Jesus Christ in His Holy Word, the Bible, with every member actively engaged in fulfilling our LORD'S GREAT COMMISSION through SOUL WINNING MISSIONS to establish other New Testament churches both at home and around the world.

Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 2:41, 47, 5:11, 11:22-26, 13:1-4, 14:23-27; I Cor. 1:2, 11:18-22, 16:1-2; I Tim. 3:15; Rev. 1:11, 20, 2:1, 7, 8, 11-12, 17-18, 29, 3:1, 6, 7, 13-14, 22, 22:16.

Of Baptism and our Lord's Supper

We believe that scriptural baptism is the IMMERSION IN WATER of a saved person in the LIKENESS of the DEATH, BURIAL, and RESURRECTION OF **JESUS CHRIST** in the NAME of the **FATHER, SON,** and **HOLY SPIRIT:** and that it is to be ADMINISTERED BY THE AUTHORITY OF A SCRIPTURAL LOCAL NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH and that scriptural baptism is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership. We believe that our LORD'S SUPPER is a CHURCH ORDINANCE in which the members of the church, by the sacred use of bread and fruit of the vine are to commemorate together the death of our Lord Jesus for us; with the observance always preceded by solemn self-examination discerning the Lord's body.

Matt. 3:13-17, 28:18-19; Acts 2:38-41, 10:47-48, 16:30-31; Romans 6:3-5; Matt. 26:17-30; Exodus 12:42-48; I Cor. 10:16-21, 11:2, 17-34.

Of the Second Coming of Christ

We believe in the pre-millennial second coming of Jesus Christ to this earth; the first phase of which will be His coming in the air for His own before the Tribulation period, at which time the first resurrection and rapture of the saints will occur: then at the end of the Tribulation **JESUS CHRIST** will literally return to earth in great power and glory to establish His kingdom on this earth for one thousand years.

Matt. 24:27-42; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:9-11; I Cor. 15:51-52; I Thess. 2:19, 3:13, 4:16-17; Jude 14-15; Rev. 1:7, 4:1-2, 5:9-10, 19:11-16, 20:4-6.

Of the Grace of Giving

Giving of our tithes and offerings to the Lord was the common practice of both Old and New Testament saints with the first record of the TITHE GIVEN by Abram in Genesis 14:20. Jacob continued this practice as recorded in Genesis 28:19-22, associating it with Bethel, the house of God. Leviticus 27:30-34 declares tithing a requirement under God's law. Malachi 3:7-12 declares both a curse and a blessing upon Israel concerning the tithe. I Cor. 16:1, 2 is an order to the CHURCHES for all of God's people to give as God has prospered them. Again in II Cor. 8:1-7 GIVING is clearly a CHURCH matter with the clear message that every Christian whom God has prospered is to GIVE WILLINGLY and CHEERFULLY TO THE LORD THROUGH HIS CHURCH, with the TITHE being the minimum according to the biblical pattern. All giving at Temple Baptist Church is completely voluntary.

Of Sexual Purity

We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between one naturally-born man and one naturally-born woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance.

Gen. 2:24; Gen. 19:5,13; Gen 26:8-9; Lev. 18:1-30; Rom. 1:26-29; 1 Cor. 5:1; 6:9; 1 Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4.

We believe that the only Scriptural marriage is the joining of one naturally-born man and one naturally-born woman for life.

Gen.2:24; Rom. 7:2; 1Cor. 7:10; Eph. 5:22-23