

## What We Believe<sup>i</sup>

### Statement of Faith

The Bible is the infallible Word of God (the supreme rule for faith and practice), inspired by the Holy Spirit, and contains every answer to man's problems.

The sixty-six (66) books of the Old and New Testament came from the very mouth of God and are without error in the originals. Scripture is therefore the unique and supreme guide for all it affirms, including both belief and behaviour.

[2 Timothy 3:16,17](#); [2 Peter 1:20,21](#)

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There is one God, existing eternally in three persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit - equal in essence and divine perfection, all three uncreated, executing distinct but harmonious offices.

God the Son is fully God and fully human, without confusion or mixture, the unique and only Son. He existed before time, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, died on the cross as the sacrifice for our sins, was physically raised from the dead as prophesied, ascended into heaven, and is now exalted, sitting at the right hand of God the Father, interceding for the saints as the sole mediator. He will return to earth, and ultimately every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

[John 10:30](#); [John 14:26](#); [Philippians 2:5-7](#)

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God is Love and He loves all people. It is His desire to reach out to those who are poor, oppressed, widowed or orphaned, and to heal the broken-hearted.

[Psalm 68:5,6](#); [1 John 4:16](#)

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Man is created in the image of God but separated from God by sin. Without Jesus we cannot have a relationship with God. In conversion, the believer is drawn by God to Himself, repents and turns from his sins, is redeemed, declared wholly righteous, born again, made alive in Christ as a new creature, reconciled to God, becomes a child of God, and is filled with the fullness of the Holy Spirit through whom he is empowered for a life of obedience. The cross is sufficient to cover the sins of all who believe.

[Genesis 1:26](#); [1 Timothy 2:5](#)

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We can have a personal relationship with God through salvation, God's free gift to man. It is not a result of what we do, but it is only available through God's unearned favour. By admitting we have sinned and believing in the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, and accepting Him as Lord, we can spend eternity with God.

[Ephesians 2:8,9](#); [Romans 5:1](#); [Romans 3:24](#)

We believe in water baptism, as taught and demonstrated by Jesus, as the way for believers to identify with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.

[Matthew 28:19](#); [Romans 6:4](#); [Matthew 3:13-17](#)

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The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a gift from God. God the Spirit is sent to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He fully indwells every true believer as a guarantee of his inheritance, guides and empowers them, gifts them for ministry, interceding in accordance with the will of God, witnessing to Jesus.

[Matthew 3:11](#); [Acts 2:4](#)

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God gives all believers spiritual gifts. They are for the strengthening of God's people (the Church) and proof of God's existence and power to unbelievers. The gifts of the Spirit are active and relevant today.

[1 Corinthians 12:4-11](#); [1 Peter 4:10](#)

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Sanctification is the ongoing process of allowing God's character to be developed in us.

Through the work of the Spirit, believers are called and enabled to live lives of holiness, "in" but not "of" the world (being different) being fully dedicated disciples of Jesus Christ, persevering to the end.

The teachings of the Bible are sufficient for salvation and sanctification. While there are questions of meaning and application over which we may agree to disagree, there is nothing for which we are responsible to God in terms of our salvation and sanctification that is not expressed in Scripture, either in precept or principle.

[Romans 6:19](#); [Galatians 5:22-25](#)

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Divine healing is active in the lives of people today through Jesus, who is the Healer. Healing includes physical, mental, emotional and spiritual restoration.

[Luke 9:11](#); [Matthew 9:35](#); [Acts 10:38](#); [Matthew 10:1](#)

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The Bible describes hell as a real place. It is a place of suffering and a place of permanent separation from God for those who die without accepting Christ. God's desire is that no one be separated from Him for eternity, which is why He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to earth.

[Hebrews 9:27](#); [Revelation 20:12-15](#); [John 3:16-18](#)

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The church consists of all true disciples of Jesus Christ. All things exist under the supremacy of Christ, and therefore Christ and Christ alone is the head of the church.

Jesus will return (Personally, visibly to all, suddenly — and all disciples living and dead will be bodily caught up to meet Him) and take all those who have accepted Him as Saviour (his church) to be with Him for eternity. This is the hope for which we long, which helps to motivate us now toward godly living.

[Acts 1:11](#); [1 Thessalonians 4:13-17](#); [Hebrews 9:28](#)

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<sup>i</sup> Elements of this statement of faith built from the following:

<https://joycemeyer.org/about/what-we-believe>

<https://www.biblicaltraining.org/library/statement-faith/new-testament/william-mounce>