

WHAT WE BELIEVE

About God

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three personalities: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God. (*Genesis 1:1,26,27; 3:22 Psalm 90:2 Matthew 28:19 I Peter 1:2 II Corinthians 13:14*)

About Man

Man is made in the spiritual image of God, to be like him in character. He is the supreme object of God's creation. Although man has tremendous potential for good, he is marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin." This attitude separates man from God. (*Genesis 1:27 Psalm 8:3-6 Isaiah 53:6a Romans 3:23 Isaiah 59:1-2*)

About Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus was born of a virgin, lived a sinless human life and offered himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all men by dying on a cross. He rose from the dead after three days to demonstrate his power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again to earth to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. (*Matthew 1:22-23 Isaiah 9:6 John 1:1-5 & 14:10-30 Hebrews 4:14-15 I Corinthians 15:3-4 Romans 1:3-4 Acts 1:9-11 I Timothy 6:14-15 Titus 2:13*)

About the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and the Son as God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. The Christian seeks to live under his control daily. (*II Corinthians 3:17 John 16:7-13 & 14:16-17 Acts 1:8 I Corinthians 2:12 & 3:16 Ephesians 1:13 Galatians 5:25 Ephesians 5:1*)

About the Bible

The Bible is God's Word to all men. It was written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is truth without any mixture of error. (*II Timothy 3:16-17 II Peter 1:20-21 II Timothy 1:13 Psalm 119:105,160 & 12:6 Proverbs 30:5*)

About Salvation

Salvation is a gift from God to man. Man can never make up for his sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can man be saved from sin's penalty. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith. (*Romans 6:23 Ephesians 2:8-9 John 14:6 & 1:12 Titus 3:5 Galatians 3:26 Romans 5:1*)

About Eternity

Man was created to exist forever. He will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or in union with God, through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and hell are places of eternal existence. (*John 3:16 I John 2:25 & 5:11-13 Romans 6:23 Revelation 20:15*)

Because God gives man eternal life through Jesus Christ, the Christ-follower is secure in that salvation for eternity. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. It is the grace and keeping power of God that gives this security. (*John 10:29 II Timothy 1:12 Hebrews 7:25 & 10:10-14 I Peter 1:3-5*)

About Timeless Traditions

Baptism in Water. The scripture teaches that all who repent and believe in Christ are to be baptized. Baptism is a public profession of faith in Christ and identification with the body of Christ. It is spiritually symbolic of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. It is a declaration to all that we have died to sin and have been raised with Christ to walk in newness of life. (Matthew 28:19, Romans 6:4, Galatians 3:27-28).

Communion. The Lord's Supper consists of two elements: the bread and cup. These elements are symbolic of the body and blood of Christ and when we receive these elements, we are remembering Christ's death and payment for our sin. Communion is a memorial of Christ's sufferings on the cross and a celebration of our salvation.