

We Believe...

1) The Word of God

The Word of God contained in the 66 books of the Old & New Testaments is inspired by the Holy Spirit¹ and without error in the original manuscripts. Therefore, as God's written revelation to us, they are the only sufficient, & saving standard for faith and life.²

2) God

There is only one true God, the Creator & Sustainer of the Heavens & the Earth to whom all glory and honor is due.³ He is Spirit,⁴ Infinite,⁵ Eternal,⁶ All-knowing, Unchangeable in His Being.⁷ In all His attributes He is absolute and perfect:⁸ in wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, love, and truth.

3) The Trinity

The living and true God eternally exists in three persons. One in essence, co-equal in power and glory, and these three are the Father, the Son, & the Holy Spirit.⁹

4) The Father

God the Father Almighty is the true and living God,¹⁰ the giver of all that is good,¹¹ the author of life and of salvation,¹² who sent His Son to save a people for Himself¹³ and afterwards sent His Spirit.¹⁴

5) The Son

God the Son is the eternal Word, by whom all things were made, and through whom all things are held together¹⁵. The Word became a man,¹⁶ while remaining fully God¹⁷. In regards to His human nature, he was like us in every way except for sin.¹⁸ Born of a virgin, under the law,¹⁹ He came to suffer and die for the sins of all who believe in His name, was buried, raised on the third day, appeared to many witnesses,²⁰ and ascended to rule at the

¹ 2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21.

² 2 Timothy 3:16, Proverbs 30:5-6, Psalm 19.

³ Genesis 1:1, Hebrews 1: 3, Revelation 4:11, 5:13.

⁴ John 4:24.

⁵ 1 Kings 8:27

⁶ Psalm 90:2

⁷ Malachi 3:6, etc.

⁸ Deuteronomy 32:4

⁹ Matthew 3:16, Matthew 28:18-20, 2 Corinthians 13:14;

¹⁰ John 7:28

¹¹ James 1:17

¹² Acts 17:28, James 1:18

¹³ John 3:14-18

¹⁴ John 14:15-17

¹⁵ Colossians 1:15-17

¹⁶ John 1:1, 14

¹⁷ Colossians 2:9

¹⁸ 2 Corinthians 5:21, Hebrews 4:15.

¹⁹ Galatians 4:4-5

²⁰ 1 Corinthians 15:3-8

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right hand of the Father.²¹ Our Advocate, even now Christ intercedes for His people,²² and He is coming again to judge the living and the dead **and** make all things new.²³

6) The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is God and Lord²⁴ possessing all of God's attributes²⁵. Sent from the Father & the Son,²⁶ to convict the world of sin, righteousness, & judgement.²⁷ The Holy Spirit regenerates & indwells, empowers & sanctifies all who believe in Christ.²⁸ The guarantor of the believer's inheritance,²⁹ He also intercedes for believers.³⁰ The Helper,³¹ He testifies of Christ, equips, & teaches believers.³²

7) The decrees of God

The LORD God in His Providence has freely ordained everything that comes to pass. Having created all things from nothing in six days by the Word of His power,³³ He now sustains all things and works all things according to His most holy will, being free to work by various means (such as the laws that govern the world he has made) or above them.³⁴ He orders all things by the counsel of His will for His glory & the good of His people chosen in Christ before the world's beginning.³⁵ Yet He always works in such a way that He is neither the author nor the approver of sin.³⁶

8) Supernatural Beings

God created all the powers of the invisible realm of the Heavens,³⁷ and they are subject to Him to serve Him. Some having rebelled, were cast down from heaven and given a measure of freedom to terrorize and rule the kingdoms of fallen man,³⁸ until He shall cast them into the lake of fire on the

²¹ Acts 1:9-11, Hebrews 1:3, 10:12-13.

²² Hebrews 4:14-16, 1 John 2:2.

²³ Hebrews 9:28, Revelation 21-22.

²⁴ 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

²⁵ Hebrews 9:14, Psalm 139:78.

²⁶ John 7:39

²⁷ John 16:8-11

²⁸ Romans 8:9, Acts 2:38-39, Titus 3:5, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

²⁹ Ephesians 1:13-14

³⁰ Romans 8:26-27

³¹ John 14:15-18, 26; 15:26-27.

³² John 15:26, 16:7, Galatians 5:16-23,

³³ Genesis 1:1, Colossians 1:15-16, John 1:1-3, Genesis 1:31-2:2, Hebrews 11:3,

³⁴ Colossians 1:17, Hebrews 1:3, Psalm 135:6.

³⁵ Ephesians 1:4-6, 11-12; Romans 8:28-30

³⁶ Hebrews 6:18, James 1:13, 1 John 1:5.

³⁷ Colossians 1:15-16,

³⁸ Revelation 12:4, Luke 10:18, Deuteronomy 32:8, Job 1:6-12, Daniel 10:13, 19-20, 1 Peter 5:8, 2 Cor. 4:4.

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day of judgement.³⁹ The rest faithfully serve Him, defending His elect children among men, and worshipping Him in the heavens.⁴⁰

9) *Man*

Mankind was created in the image of God to relate to and worship Him, and reflect His character.⁴¹ Male & Female, they were uniquely created by God to complement each other and fulfill God's commission to rule and keep the earth under God, being fruitful and multiplying.⁴²

10) *Sin*

Sin is any transgression of the will and law of God. An act of rebellion, sin is doing anything God forbids.⁴³ When Adam, the first man, disobeyed God in the garden, all mankind fell in Adam inheriting his corrupted nature.⁴⁴ Therefore, all have sinned and are guilty before God,⁴⁵ and all deserve death & eternal damnation.⁴⁶

11) *Salvation by grace through faith in Christ*

Salvation is by grace through faith in Christ, not of anything in man,⁴⁷ and is guaranteed by the Holy Spirit.⁴⁸ The Holy Spirit regenerates the person dead in sin,⁴⁹ working faith in them so that, receiving God's grace through faith, they are now a new creation.⁵⁰ The Believer is justified by Faith alone in Jesus Christ who saved us by his death on the cross and his resurrection. Then, by the Holy Spirit, the Christian is progressively sanctified, and empowered to do good works⁵¹, living a life that increasingly glorifies and pleases God.⁵² All this is completely of the LORD,⁵³ accomplished by the work of Christ alone⁵⁴ who gave His life as an atoning sacrifice for the sins of His people.⁵⁵ He suffered and died in our place to satisfy the just wrath of God paying the full penalty for our sin,⁵⁶ and on the third day He rose again, so that, in His victorious life, we too may have life through faith in Him.⁵⁷

³⁹ Matthew 25:41, 2 Peter 2:4.

⁴⁰ Hebrews 1:6-7, Matthew 18:10, Revelation 5:11-14.

⁴¹ Ephesians 4:23-24, Colossians 3:9-10.

⁴² Genesis 1:26-28, 2:7, 2:23-24.

⁴³ James 2:9-11, Romans 3:20, 1 John 3:4.

⁴⁴ Genesis 3, Psalm 51:5, Psalm 14:3, Psalm 58:3-5, Romans 5:12-14.

⁴⁵ Romans 3:1-10, 23.

⁴⁶ Genesis 2:17, Romans 5:12-14, Romans 6:23, 2 Thessalonians 1:9, Matthew 10:28, Revelation 20:14-15.

⁴⁷ Eph. 2:1-9

⁴⁸ Eph. 1:13-14

⁴⁹ Titus 3:3-8

⁵⁰ 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 2:8-10.

⁵¹ 1 Thess. 5:23, Ephesians 2:10, James 2:14-26.

⁵² Ephesians 4:15-24.

⁵³ Jonah 2:9, Romans 8:29-30.

⁵⁴ John 14:6, Acts 4:12.

⁵⁵ 1 John 2:1-2, Luke 22:19-20, Romans 3:24-25.

⁵⁶ John 19:30, Isaiah 53:4-6,

⁵⁷ 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Romans 5:17, Romans 6:3-5.

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12) *The Church*

The Church of God, described by many metaphors (a body, a flock, a bride⁵⁸), is the assembly of all those who are united with Christ by the Holy Spirit⁵⁹ and consists of all those who put their faith in Christ.⁶⁰ Christ's people, empowered and indwelt by His Spirit,⁶¹ are called to gather together locally and conduct themselves according to the precepts in the Word of God. Christ ordained this for the mutual edification of the saints and the advancement of the kingdom of God, to bring light into a dark world.⁶² Therefore, Christ's church must be on guard against compromise with **all those** who deny the fundamentals of the faith,⁶³ since the church is called to be faithful to Her Husband and Lord Jesus Christ.⁶⁴

13) *The Eschaton (Last things)*

After death the souls of the saints shall go to be with the Lord, while the wicked will suffer in Hades until Judgement Day.⁶⁵ Then at the end of days, appointed by God, Christ shall return bodily & visibly.⁶⁶ Upon his return the dead shall arise and all shall be judged according to their deeds,⁶⁷ the righteous in Christ raised to eternal life in the presence of God,⁶⁸ while the wicked shall be consigned to eternal condemnation in the lake of fire⁶⁹.

14) *The Church and State*

God, the supreme Lord and King of all the world, has ordained civil magistrates to be under Him, over the people, for His own glory and the public good and to this end has armed them with the power of the sword, for the defense and encouragement of those that do good and for the punishment of evil doers.⁷⁰ It is lawful for believers to accept the office of a magistrate when called upon, and in such a role they ought to maintain justice and peace,⁷¹ according to the laws of the nation (provided they are in accord with the law of Christ).⁷² Since Civil magistrates are set up by God; submission, in all lawful things commanded by them⁷³, ought to be yielded

⁵⁸ Respectively: "1 Corinthians 12, John 10, Ephesians 5:23-32)

⁵⁹ 1 Corinthians 12:27-31, Eph. 2:14-22, Acts 2:1-13

⁶⁰ Galatians 3:26-29.

⁶¹ Ephesians 1:22-23

⁶² Matthew 24:14, Matthew 28:18-20, Luke 24:47, Ephesians 3:10-12, Matthew 5:14-16.

⁶³ 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

⁶⁴ 2 John 7-11; Galatians 1:6-9; 2 Corinthians 11:3-4.

⁶⁵ Luke 23:43, Luke 16:22-23.

⁶⁶ Matthew 24:30-31, Acts 1:9-11, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Mark 13:22.

⁶⁷ John 5:25-29

⁶⁸ 1 Corinthians 15:12-23, Revelation 21:22.

⁶⁹ John 5:25-29, Revelation 20:4-6, 11-15, Daniel 12:3.

⁷⁰ Romans 13:1-4

⁷¹ 2 Samuel 23:31; Psalm 82:3-4.

⁷² Luke 3:14, Galatians 6:1

⁷³ E.G. Anything that does not go against God's commands. The only grounds for disregarding civil authority being when the government commands one to do what God commands one NOT to do, or when the government forbids what God commands us to do. Acts 5:29.

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by us in the Lord, for conscience' sake;⁷⁴ and we ought to pray for rulers and all that are in authority, that under them we may live a quiet and peaceable life, in all godliness and honesty.⁷⁵

15) *Marriage & Holy Sexuality*

God created humans male and female,⁷⁶ made them suitable for each other,⁷⁷ and ordained that they live chaste before marriage and faithful within marriage.⁷⁸ Marriage was instituted by God for the mutual help of husband and wife,⁷⁹ for the increase of mankind,⁸⁰ and the prevention of immorality.⁸¹ Therefore, Marriage and sexual relations are to be between one man and one woman only,⁸² and the believer is to marry in the Lord.⁸³

16) *Church Governance*

A particular church, gathered and organized according to the mind of Christ, consists of officers and members. The officers are to be chosen and set apart by the church. Two offices are to be continued until the end of the world, the office of elder (sometimes called bishops, overseers, or pastors) and deacon.⁸⁴ In order to be called to the office of elder in a church, Christ appointed that: 1) a man be recognized as being gifted by the Spirit, meeting the qualifications set forth by the Apostle Paul,⁸⁵ 2) the man be chosen by the common vote of the church,⁸⁶ and 3) set apart by prayer with the laying on of hands of the eldership of the church.⁸⁷ A deacon also shall be chosen by vote, set apart by prayer, and the laying on of hands.⁸⁸

17) *Baptism and the Lord's Supper.*

Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances appointed by the Lord Jesus, the only lawgiver, to be continued in His church to the end of the world.⁸⁹ Baptism is an ordinance of the New Testament, ordained by Jesus Christ, as a sign of the believer's fellowship with Christ in His death and resurrection; being engrafted into Christ;⁹⁰ cleansed of sins;⁹¹ and surrendered to God, to live and walk in newness of life.⁹² The first act of obedience to the LORD,

⁷⁴ Romans 13:5-7; 1 Peter 2:17.

⁷⁵ 2 Timothy 2:1-2

⁷⁶ Genesis 1:28

⁷⁷ Genesis 2:18

⁷⁸ Genesis 2:24.

⁷⁹ Genesis 2:18

⁸⁰ Genesis 1:28

⁸¹ 1 Corinthians 7:2 & 9.

⁸² Genesis 2:24; Malachi 2:15; Matthew 19:5-6.

⁸³ 1 Corinthians 7:39, 2 Corinthians 6:14, Nehemiah 13:25-27.

⁸⁴ Acts 20:17, 28; Philemon 1:1.

⁸⁵ 1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9

⁸⁶ Acts 14:23

⁸⁷ 1 Timothy 4:14

⁸⁸ Acts 6:3, 5-6.

⁸⁹ Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:26.

⁹⁰ Romans 6:3-5; Colossians 2:12; Galatians 3:27.

⁹¹ Mark 1:4; Acts 22:16, Jeremiah 31:31-34.c

⁹² Romans 6:

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those who profess repentance towards God, faith in and obedience to, our Lord Jesus Christ, are the only proper subjects of this ordinance⁹³ and should be baptized with water in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.⁹⁴⁻⁹⁵

The Supper of the Lord Jesus was instituted by Him on the night He was betrayed, to be observed in His churches to the end of the world, 1) for the remembrance and proclamation of His sacrificial death until He returns,⁹⁶ 2) to be a sign of their communion with Him and with each other.⁹⁷

Those who partake of the visible elements of this ordinance with faith also inwardly share in Christ crucified and all the benefits of his death, for Christ communicates Himself to those who have faith in Him.⁹⁸ This ordinance is only for those who believe in Christ.⁹⁹ And since it is a sign of our union with Christ, one should not partake without love for all the brothers, which is the evidence of our faith.¹⁰⁰

Appendix: Helpful Resources

- The Nicene Creed ([The Full Text of the Nicene Creed - Bibles.net](http://www.bibles.net/nicene Creed))
- The Heidelberg Catechism: A Baptist Version
(http://www.vor.org/rbdisk/pdf/an_orthodox_catechism_collins.pdf)

⁹³ Mark 16:16; Acts 8:36-37; 2:41; 8:12; 18:8.

⁹⁴ Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 8:38.

⁹⁵ Matthew 3:16; John 3:23.

⁹⁶ 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

⁹⁷ 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, 21.

⁹⁸ 1 Corinthians 10:16.

⁹⁹ 2 Corinthians 6:14-15, Matthew 7:6

¹⁰⁰ 1 Corinthians 11:27-32