

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

**THE ONE TRUE GOD** – We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons, namely as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and also referred to as the Holy Trinity. We understand the words, "Trinity" and "Persons", when used of God, as expressions of our understanding of what the Scriptures teach regarding the being of God. We understand the Triune God as one being in three persons.

(Hebrews 1:1-8; Colossians 2:9; I Timothy 3:16; Acts 5:3-4; Matthew 3:16; Hebrews 9:14).

**THE SCRIPTURE INSPIRED** – The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct. (II Timothy 3:15-17; I Thessalonians 2:13; II Peter 1:21)

THE DOCTRINE OF HOLY SPIRIT – We believe that the Holy Spirit is the third person in the Holy Trinity, that He proceeds from the Father and the Son and is one substance, majesty, glory, and power with Them. We accept Him as the Executive of the Holy Trinity during this age, and we understand that the church owes its existence, its life, its growth, and its ministry to His presence in the earth. (John 14:16, 17, 26; 15:26; 16:8-121; Acts 1:8; 13:2-4; Galatians 5:21-23; Ephesians 4:30; I Thessalonians 4:8)

**THE SALVATION OF MAN** – We believe that God created man in His own image and placed him as supreme over earthly creation; That the first man and woman were real, historical persons who, through disobedience, fell into sin; That man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST** – We accept the Lord Jesus Christ as the only begotten Son of God the Father, conceived of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. We believe that He was crucified, buried, raised from the dead by the Spirit of God (Romans 8:11) the third day. He ascended to heaven, and is today at the right hand of the Father as our intercessor for His children. (Hebrews 7:25)

**THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** – The Scriptures teach that the baptism if the Holy Spirit is the endowment of power, which results from the Holy Spirit coming upon the believer after regeneration. It is promised to all believers. (Luke 24:29; Acts 1:5-8, 2:38-39; 5:32) We can distinguish the indwelling of the Spirit and the baptism in the Spirit by noting the experience of the apostles recorded in John 20:19-23 when the Lord Jesus breathed the Spirit as HE came upon them in Acts 2:1-4. This profound experience is therefore distinct from, in addition to, and subsequent to regeneration or new birth.

**SANCTIFICATION** – Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil and of dedication unto God (Romans 12:1-2; I Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:!2) Scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). By the power of the Holy Spirit we are able to obey the command, "Be ye holy, for I am Holy." (I Peter 1:15-16).

**THE CHURCH** – The word "church" comes from the Greek word "Ekklesia", which means "calling out". The beginning of the Church was found in the Old Testament when God called Abraham out of the Ur of the Chaldees and asked that Abraham travel, by faith, into a land which He would give to Abraham and his descendents (Genesis 12:1-4). In the New Testament, the word "church" refers to those who have been called out of the world by salvation through Jesus Christ and brought into a vital spiritual union with Him. The Church is a self-perpetuating spiritual organism comprised of all those who have been regenerated through the Spirit since the Church began (Ephesians 1:18-23; 4:16; Romans 8:30; Acts 15:14-18; I Peter 2:9).

**THE MINISTRY** – A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the church in evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20), worship of God (John 4:23-24), and building a body of saints who are being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11, 16).

**DIVINE HEALING** – Divine healing is an integral part of the Gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the Atonement and is the privilege of all believers (Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 8:16-17; James 5:14-16).

**THE BLESSED HOPE** – The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the imminent and blessed hope of the Church (I Thessalonians 4:16-17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; I Corinthians 15:51-52).

**THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST** – The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for one thousand years (Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27, 30; Revelation 1:7; 19:11-14; 20:1-6). This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ezekiel 37:21-22; Zephaniah 3:19-20; Romans 11:26-27) and the establishment of universal peace (Isaiah 11:6-9; Psalm 72:3-8; Micah 4:3-4).

**THE FINAL JUDGMENT** – There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matthew 24:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8).

**THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH** – "We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." (II Peter 3:13; Revelation chapters 21 and 22).