

Christ Fellowship Church

Doctrinal Statement

August 22, 2017

GOD

There is but one God, the Maker, Preserver, and Ruler of all things; having in and of Himself all perfections and being infinite in them all; and to Him all creatures owe the highest love, reverence, and obedience. (Deut. 6:4; Ps. 145:3; John 1:3; 1 Cor. 8:4-6; 1 Tim. 1:17)

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

The Holy Scripture is given by the inspiration of God and the only sufficient, certain and infallible rule of all saving knowledge, faith and obedience. It pleased the Lord to reveal Himself, to declare His will unto His church, to preserve and proclaim the truth, protect the church from corruption of the flesh, the evil of Satan and the world through the writings of Holy Scripture. (Ps. 19:7; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:20-21)

THE TRINITY

God is revealed to us in three distinct Persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - each with distinct personal attributes and roles, but without division of nature, essence, or being. (Matt. 3:16-17; 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14)

PROVIDENCE

God, from eternity, decrees or permits all things that come to pass and perpetually upholds, directs, and governs all creatures and all events; yet not in any way as to be the author or approver of sin, nor to destroy the free will and responsibility of intelligent creatures. (Isa. 46:9-11; Prov. 16:33; Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3; Jas. 1:13-15)

ELECTION

Election is God's eternal choice of some persons unto everlasting life - not because of foreseen merit, but of His mere grace in Christ - in consequence of which choice they are called, justified, and glorified. (Rom. 8:28-30; 1 Cor. 1:27-31; Eph. 1:4, 11)

THE FALL OF MAN

God originally created man in His own image and free from sin; but through the temptation of Satan, man transgressed the command of God and fell from his original holiness and righteousness; whereby his descendants inherit a nature corrupt and wholly opposed to God and His law, and are under condemnation. (Gen. 1:26-27; 3:1-7; 6:5; Rom. 3:9-18; 5:12-19; 8:5-8; Eph. 2:1-3)

THE MEDIATOR

Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, is the divinely appointed Mediator between God and man. Having taken upon Himself human nature - yet without sin - He perfectly fulfilled the law, suffered and died upon the cross for the salvation of sinners. He was buried, rose again on the third day, and ascended to His Father, at whose right hand He lives forever to make intercession for His people. He is the only Prophet, Priest and King of the church; and Sovereign of the universe. (Isa. 53:10-12; John 1:1, 14; Acts 1:9-11; Rom. 3:21-26; 8:34; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; Gal. 3:13; 1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 1:1-3; 7:25)

REGENERATION

Regeneration is a change of heart wrought by the Holy Spirit, who makes alive those who are dead in trespasses and sins, enlightening their minds spiritually and savingly to understand the Word of God and renewing their whole nature, so that they love and practice holiness. It is a work of God's free and special grace alone. (John 3:3-8; Eph. 2:1-6; Tit. 3:5; 1 John 5:1)

REPENTANCE

Repentance is an evangelical grace wherein the Holy Spirit make a person aware of the manifold evil of sin, so that he humbles himself with godly sorrow detesting sin and hating self, with a purpose and endeavor to walk before God to please Him in all things. (Ps. 32:1-5; Isa. 6:5; 55:7; Luke 5:8; 18:9-14; Acts 2:37-38; 11:15-18; 2 Cor. 7:10-11; 2 Tim. 2:25)

FAITH

God's gift of saving faith is the belief on God's authority, of whatsoever is revealed in His Word concerning Christ, accepting and resting upon Him alone for justification and eternal life. It is wrought in the heart by the Holy Spirit, is accompanied by all other saving graces, and leads to a life of holiness. (Rom. 3:27-28; 4:1-5; 4:17-25; 10:14, 17; Phil. 1:29; Eph. 2:8; Jas. 2:14-26)

JUSTIFICATION

Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal of sinners, from all sin, who repent and believe in Christ, through the satisfaction that Christ has made. It is given not for anything wrought in them or done by them; rather, it is given on account of the obedience and satisfaction of Christ, as they receive and rest on Him and His righteousness by faith. (Rom. 3:21-26; 4:4-9, 23-25; 5:1-2, 9, 17-21; 8:28-34; 10:3-4; 2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 3:7-9; Titus 3:5-7)

SANCTIFICATION

Those who have been regenerated are also made holy by God's Word and Spirit dwelling in them. This sanctification is progressive through the supply of divine strength, which all saints seek to obtain, pressing after a heavenly life in willing obedience to all Christ's commands. (Jer. 31:31-34; Ezek. 36:27; Rom. 8:1-17; Gal. 5:13-25; Eph. 3:14-21; Phil. 2:12-13; Col. 3:1-17; 2 Pet. 1:3-11)

PERSERVERANCE OF THE SAINTS

Those whom God has accepted in the Beloved and sanctified by His Spirit will never totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace, but they shall certainly persevere to the end. And though they may fall through neglect and temptation into sin, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach on the church and temporal judgments on themselves; yet they shall be renewed again unto repentance and be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation. (John 6:37-40; 10:28-29; Rom. 8:28-39; 1 Cor. 1:8-9; Phil. 1:6; 1 Thess. 5:23-24)

THE CHURCH

The Lord Jesus is the Head of the church, which is composed of all His true disciples, and in Him is invested supremely all power for its government. According to his commandment, Christians are to associate themselves into particular churches; and to each of these churches He has given needful authority for administering the order, discipline, and worship which He has appointed. The regular officers of a church are elders and deacons. (Matt. 28:18-20; John 10:16; Acts 20:17, 28; Eph. 1:22; 5:23; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; 5:17-18; Tit. 1:5-9; Heb. 10:25)

BAPTISM

Baptism is an ordinance of the Lord Jesus, obligatory upon every believer, wherein he is immersed in water in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, as a sign of His fellowship with the death and resurrection of Christ, of remission of sins, and of his giving himself up to God to live and walk in the newness of life. (Matt. 28:19; Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3-5; 1 Cor. 12:13)

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is an ordinance of Jesus Christ to be administered with bread and wine and to be observed by His churches till the end of the world. It is in no sense a sacrifice. It is designed to commemorate His death; to confirm the faith of Christians; and to be a bond, pledge, and renewal of their communion with Him and of their church fellowship. (Matt. 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; 11:23-34)

THE LORD'S DAY

The Scriptures and the New Testament church give the example of assembling on the Lord's day, Sunday, for the reading and teaching of the Word of God, worship, prayer and mutual encouragement-stimulating one another to love and good deeds. It is fitting to view the Lord's Day as a celebration of Christ's resurrection and the redemption of His people. (1 Tim 4:13; 2 Tim 4:2; Luke 8:18; Col 3:16; Eph 5:19; John 14:13-14; 1 John 5:14; 1 Cor 14:16-17)

LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE

God alone is Lord of the conscience, and He has left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are in anything contrary to His Word or not contained in it. All human authority is ordained by God's decree and also limited by God's authority, however, if human authority calls us to disobey God then with a clear conscience we must obey God rather than man. (Matt. 15:9; Rom. 13:1-7; 14:4; Acts 5:29; Col. 2:20-23)

THE RESURRECTION

The bodies of men after death return to dust, but their spirits return immediately to God-the righteous to rest with Him, and the wicked to be reserved under darkness to judgment. At the last day, the bodies of all the dead, both just and unjust, will be raised. (Gen. 3:19; Luke 16:22-26; 23:43; John 5:28-29; 1 Cor. 15:12-28; 2 Cor. 5:1-10; Phil. 1:23)

THE JUDGMENT

God has appointed a day wherein He will judge the world by Jesus Christ, when everyone shall receive according to his deeds; the wicked shall go into everlasting punishment, and the righteous shall go into everlasting life. (Matt. 25:46; John 5:22, 27-29; Acts 17:31; 2 Cor. 5:10; 2 Thess. 1:7-10)