

# WHAT WE BELIEVE

## The Bible

The Bible is the ultimate authority in all matters of faith, order, and morals. We believe the Bible is God's infallible written word, uniquely, verbally and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, and written without error in the original manuscripts (autographs) 2 Tim 3.16; 2 Pet 1.20-21.

## God

There is one true God, eternally existing in three persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – each of whom equally possess all the attributes of deity and the characteristics of personality. Deut 6.4; Matt 28.18; John 1.1-3, 18; Acts 5.3-4

## Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is God, the living Word, who became flesh through his miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and his virgin birth. Therefore, he is perfect deity and true humanity united in one person forever. John 1.1, 14; Matt 1.18-25; Luke 1.30-37; Col 2.9; Philippians 2.6-11

Jesus lived a sinless life and voluntarily atoned for peoples' sins by dying on the cross as their substitute, thus satisfying divine justice and accomplishing salvation for all who trust in him alone. 1Jn 3.5; 1Pe 3.18; John 1.17-18; 2Cor 5.21; 1Jn 4.10; Rom 3.24-26

Jesus rose from the dead in bodily form; he ascended bodily into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God the Father where he lives as the only mediator between God and humans and he continually makes intercession for his people. Acts 1.9-11; Eph 1.20; 1Tim 2.5; Heb 7.24-25; 1Jn 2.12

## Mankind

All people are made in the image of God. The first person, Adam, sinned by disobeying God and was alienated from his Creator. That historic fall brought all mankind under divine condemnation. Gen 1.26-27; 2.15-17; 3.1-24; Rom 5.12-21; 1Cor 15.21,22

Human nature is corrupt, and is totally unable to please God. Everyone is in need of a new nature (through regeneration and renewal through the Holy Spirit). Rom 3.9-20; Eph 2.1-7; Mark 7.20-23; John 3.1-21; Titus 3.5-7

## Salvation

Salvation is wholly of God's free grace and is not the work, in whole or in part, of humans, whether by human descent, will, effort, goodness, or religious ceremony. God justifies people by imputing his own righteousness to those who put their trust in Christ alone for their salvation. John 1.12-13; Eph 2.8-10; Rom 3.21-26; 9.15-16; Gal 3.11-14; 22-24

## The Holy Spirit

God the Holy Spirit has come into the world to reveal and glorify Christ and to apply his saving work to men. He convicts and draws sinners to Christ, imparts new life to them, continually indwells them from the time of spiritual birth and seals them until the day of redemption. His fullness, power and control are appropriated in the believer's life by faith. Every believer is called to live in the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit so that he will not fulfill the desires of the flesh but will bear fruit to the glory of God. John 16.7-15; Titus 3.5; John 3.5-8; Rom 8.2-4, 9; Eph 1.13-14; 4.30; 5.18; 1Cor 6.19; Gal 3.2,3; 5.16-25.

## **The Church**

Jesus Christ is the head of the church, which is his body, composed of all persons, living and dead, who have been joined to him through saving faith. Col 1.18; Eph 1.22, 23; 5.23-32; 1Thes 4.13-18

God admonishes his people to assemble together regularly for worship, participation in ordinances, edification through the Scriptures and mutual encouragement. Heb 10.23-25; Acts 2.41,42; 20.7; 1Cor 12.20-28; 16.1,2; Eph 4.11-16; 1Tim 4.13; 2Tim 3.16-42

## **Mission**

The Lord Jesus Christ commanded all believers to proclaim the gospel throughout the world and to disciple men of every nation. The fulfillment of the Great Commission requires that all worldly and personal ambitions be subordinated to a total commitment to him who loved us and gave himself for us. Matt 28.18-20; Mark 16.15-16; Luke 24.46-49; Acts 1.7-8; Rom 12.1-2; Gal 2.19-20; Php 3.7-21

## **Death**

At physical death the believer immediately enters into eternal conscious fellowship with the Lord and awaits the resurrection of his body to everlasting glory and blessing. 2Cor 5.8; Php 1.23-24; Luke 23.39-43; 1Cor 15.12-58; 1Thes 4.13-18; 1Jn 3.2; Php 3.20-21

At physical death the unbeliever immediately enters into eternal conscious separation from the Lord and awaits the resurrection of his body to everlasting judgment and condemnation. Luke 16.19-31; John 5.23-29; Rev 20.1-15; Matt 13.40-43

## **The Future**

Jesus Christ will come again to earth – personally, visibly, and bodily – to consummate God's eternal plan. Acts 1.9-11; 3.19-21; Matt 24.44; Rev 19.21

## **The Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689.**

We adopt as the fuller expression of our faith the Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689 as rewritten in modern English ([A Faith to Confess, 1975, Cary Publications Ltd.](#)), with the exception of Chapters 7, 19, 22.7,8 and 26.4 This historic document is an excellent summary of “the things most surely believed among us”, and we find it to be a confirmation of our faith and a means of edification in righteousness.