



## Statement of Faith

**GOD:** Creator of the universe, is the only God, sovereign, all-powerful, holy, just, and full of love. He reveals himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

- I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God. (Isaiah 45:5)
- Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory. (Isaiah 6:8)
- God is love. (1 John 4:16)

**JESUS CHRIST:** is the only Son of God, the eternal Word manifested in flesh. Conceived by the Holy Spirit, he was born of the virgin Mary. He died for the sins of men and was bodily resurrected. He will come to take away his church, then establish his reign on earth and judge the living and the dead at the final resurrection.

- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1)
- And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)
- We believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification. (Romans 4:24-25)

**THE HOLY SPIRIT:** is a divine person; he gives birth to whoever believes in Jesus - Savior and Lord - to a life of service and sanctification.

- Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. (John 3:5)
- But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. (2 Thessalonians 2:13)

**THE BIBLE:** the 39 books of the Old Testament and the 27 of the New Testament are inspired by God. It constitutes the revelation of which Jesus Christ is the center; without error or contradiction in its original writings, it is the unique rule of faith and life.

- All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16)
- For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (2 Peter 1:21)

**MAN:** created in the image of God, disobeyed his Creator. Thus sin entered the world, separating from God. Man is guilty and unable to save himself by his own works. He can only escape eternal punishment through the grace that leads to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.

- So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (Genesis 1:27)
- For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)
- For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. (Ephesians 2:8)

**SATAN:** is the enemy of God; he led the first parents of humanity into the fall. He continues to seduce men for their perdition with him in eternal punishment.

- Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, ... (1 Peter 5:8-9)

**THE CHURCH:** universal, it is the assembly of all true believers in Jesus Christ; the local church is the visible expression of it, wherever they regularly gather to strengthen their faith, worship, and serve God. By His Spirit, Jesus Christ has provided each of His with one or more gifts (charismas) for service done for His glory. Thus, each believer is associated with the work that Christ pursues in the world (for the salvation of many) and in the church (for its growth, purity, and faithfulness). In every local church, elders teach, take care of, and watch over the well-being and edification of all members.

- Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her... (Ephesians 5:25)
- On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread... (Acts 20:7)

- And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ... (Ephesians 4:11-12)
- And when they had appointed elders for them in every church... (Acts 14:23)

**SPIRITUAL UNITY:** exists with all those who confess the same faith in Jesus Christ as revealed in the Holy Scriptures; it is an indispensable condition.

- There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4:4–6)

**BAPTISM:** expresses the faith of the baptized in Jesus as their Savior and Lord who died and rose again, as well as their union with him and commitment to follow him.

- Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:3-4)

**THE LORD'S SUPPER:** instituted by the Lord Jesus, commemorates his death and resurrection, in anticipation of his coming. It manifests the unity of the children of God. Therefore, only genuine believers whose lives express their faith in Jesus Christ and in his sacrifice on the cross participate.

- The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." (1 Cor 11:23-24)