

The following Statement of Faith is not exhaustive in its' contents or beliefs.

The Bible itself is the sole and final source of all that we believe, but present the following statements to be accurate representations of the teachings of the Bible.

THE SCRIPTURES

- A. We believe the scriptures were written by men who were divinely moved by the Holy Spirit of God, and that their writings are supernaturally and verbally inspired; free from error, and that these words are infallible and immutable.
- B. We believe that God, who gave to these men His word, has taken upon Himself the responsibility for the preservation of His word for all of mankind.
- C. We believe the incorruptible word of God, which cannot pass away, is divinely preserved, and that only the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments which comprise the Authorized King James Version (KJV) 1611 Bible, herein referred to as the Bible, to be the inspired word of God.
- D. We believe the Bible is the supreme and final authority in all matters of faith and practice.
- E. We believe that moderate dispensational teaching of the scriptures is the right dividing of the word of truth and correct for the application and interpretation of the Bible during this church age.

{Psalm 12:6-7; Psalm 119:89; II Timothy 2:15; 3:16-17; I Peter 1:23; II Peter 1:19-21}

THE GODHEAD

- A. We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Ghost), equal in essence while distinct in personality and function. They being equal in divine perfection; execute distinct but harmonious offices in agreement with each other in the great work of redemption.

{Exodus 20:2-3; Matthew 3:16-17; 28:19-20; Acts 17:29-30; Romans 1:20; II Corinthians 13:14; Colossians 2:9; I John 5:7-8}

GOD: THE FATHER

- A. We believe in God the Father, perfect in holiness, boundless in love, infinite in wisdom, and measureless in power.
- B. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men and that He hears and answers prayers.
- C. We believe that He saves all sinners from the eternal punishment of their sins when they come to Him in repentance for forgiveness of sins and redemption with faith in His Son Jesus Christ.
- D. We believe God to be the creator and sustainer of all things, visible and invisible. We believe the universe and all that is therein to be held together by the word of His power.

{Matthew 6:9; 28:19; Acts 20:21; Romans 8:15; I Corinthians 8:6; I Peter 1:2; I John 5:14}

GOD: THE SON

- A. We believe that Jesus Christ, is the eternal Son of God, and was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin, and that He is fully God and fully man.
- B. We believe that Jesus Christ lived a perfect and sinless life to fulfill and satisfy the requirements of God's law.
- C. We believe that Jesus Christ died for our sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God.
- D. We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord, on the third day according to the scriptures.
- E. We believe in His bodily ascension into Heaven, and that He is there now as the High Priest for all believers.

{Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; Mark 6:3; Luke 1:35; John 1:1,14; Acts 1:9; I Corinthians 15:1-28; Galatians 4:4; Hebrews 1:8, 8:1}

GOD: THE HOLY SPIRIT

- A. We believe that the Holy Spirit is the agent of the new birth through conviction and regeneration.
- B. We believe He seals forever and indwells everyone whom trusts Jesus Christ as his or her personal Saviour.

{John 3:5; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 1:13}

THE DEVIL

- A. We believe the Devil (Satan, the Dragon, Lucifer, etc.) to be the arch enemy of God, the father of lies, the tempter, the prince of the power of the air, who is full of all subtlety and mischief, who seeks to continually frustrate the purposes of God and ensnare men.
- B. We believe he is destined to eternal punishment in the lake of fire.

{Isaiah 14:12-15; II Corinthians 11:13-15; Revelation 20:10}

CREATION

- A. We believe in God's direct creation of the universe.
- B. We believe that it was instantaneous and miraculous and apart from any process of evolution whatsoever.
- C. We believe that creation took place with literal 24-hour days.

{Genesis 1:3-31; Exodus 20:11; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 11:3}

MANKIND

- A. We believe that man was created in the image of God to have close fellowship with Him.
- B. We believe that due to Adam and Eve's voluntary transgression, they fell from their sinless and happy state, bringing upon themselves and their descendents, not only physical death but also spiritual death and separation from God.
- C. We believe that all are born with a sin nature and are sinners in thought, word, and deed, and in need of salvation from spiritual death and eternal punishment for their sins.

{Genesis 1:26-28; 3:1-24; Isaiah 64:6; Ezekiel 18:19-20; Romans 3:10-23; 5:12; 6:23}

SALVATION

- A. We believe that Jesus took the sinner's place, bore his sins, met the penalty, and died as mankind's substitutionary sacrifice.
- B. We believe the blood atonement He made is unlimited in its potential, effectively saving all those who call upon the name of the Lord Jesus for their salvation in repentance and faith.
- C. We believe the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from sin, instead of merely covering our sins.
- D. We believe the sacrifice made by Jesus is the only basis of salvation of the soul, the only means of reconciliation to God, and the only ground of justification from God's eternal laws.

- E. We believe salvation is a free gift, and available to all by God's grace, through faith in the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ, apart from human works or merit of any kind.
- F. We believe that all who repent and receive by faith, the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, are born again of the Holy Spirit of God, and thereby receive God's gift of eternal life and become the children of God.
- G. We believe salvation is eternal and those who receive the Lord Jesus as their personal Saviour are kept by the power of God until the day of redemption, and it is impossible for ones who are born again and placed into the body of Christ to ever be lost again.
- H. We believe once a person is saved, that they are a new creation in Christ; and should live a holy and consecrated life, separate from the outward and inner ways of this world, being holy in mind and body and placing emphasis on the inner condition in obedience to the word of God.

{Isaiah 53:6; John 3:3-7; 16-18; Acts 16:30-31; 20:21; Romans 4:24-25; 8:5; 12:1-2; I Corinthians 6:11; 12:13; II Corinthians 3:18; 5:17; 6:14-18; Ephesians 2:8,9; I Thessalonians 4:1-10; 5:23; I Timothy 4:10; 6:3-5; II Timothy 2:19; I Peter 1:3-5; I John 2:15-17}

THE BODY OF CHRIST

- A. We believe that all true believers in this church age dispensation are united in one body of which Jesus Christ is the head, and this body is also referred to as, "the church", "the body of Christ" and "the bride of Christ".

{Matthew 16:18; John 3:29; I Corinthians 12:1-31; Ephesians 1:22,23; 3:10; 5:23; Colossians 1:18}

THE LOCAL CHURCH

- A. We believe that a local church is not the body of Christ, but that it contains members of the body.
- B. We believe that a local church is the physical representation of the body of Christ and the agency through which God has chosen to accomplish His work in the world.
- C. We believe that the individual members of His body should gather together with other Christians in a Bible believing local church where they may minister one to another.

{I Corinthians 12:12,27; 16:19; Hebrews 10:25}

BAPTISM

- A. We believe that Bible baptism is the complete immersion of a believer in water, after salvation.
- B. We believe that baptism identifies the believer with the death burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- C. We believe that Bible water baptism is the physical picture of the spiritual baptism that takes place when a person is saved.
- D. We believe baptism has no part in salvation.

{Matthew 3:16; 28:18-19; Acts 8:38-39; Romans 6:4; I Corinthians 12:13; Colossians 2:12}

THE LORD'S SUPPER

- A. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Jesus that we might remember Him, and show forth His death 'till He come.
- B. We believe it is for the members of the body of Christ to partake of within a local church.
- C. We believe the Lord's Supper has no part in salvation.

{Matthew 26:20-29; I Corinthians 11:23-30}

THE LORD'S DAY

- A. We believe that the first day of the week, Sunday, is the Lord's Day, and that in a special sense, it is the divinely appointed day for worship and spiritual exercise.

{Psalm 118:24; Acts 20:7; I Corinthians 16:2; Revelations 1:10}

HEAVEN

- A. We believe that heaven is a real place where Jesus Christ is now seated at the right hand of the Father.
- B. We believe it is the place especially designed for those who God will someday take to be with Him.

{John 3:16; John 14:1-3; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Hebrews 10:12; Revelations 4:1}

HELL

- A. We believe that hell, is a literal place and that it was prepared for the Devil and his angels. Any unsaved person that dies will be confined to hell until the Great White Throne judgment, where they will receive judgment and be cast into the lake of fire.

{Psalms 9:17; Proverbs 15:11,24; Isaiah 14:9; Matthew 25:41; Luke 16:19-31; Revelation 20:12-15}

THE RAPTURE

- A. We believe in that 'blessed hope', the personal, pre-millennial, pre-tribulation, and imminent return of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- B. We believe that when He returns, though this world will not see Him, He will gather all born again believers, past and present, unto Himself in the clouds, and take them to Heaven.
- C. We believe they will stand at the judgment seat of Christ, followed by the marriage supper of the Lamb.

{I Corinthians 3:12-15; 15:42-58; II Corinthians 5:10; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelations 4:1; 19:9}

THE TRIBULATION

- A. We believe following the rapture, those left behind, will go through a seven year period called the Tribulation.

{Revelations 5:1-18:4}

THE MILLENIAL KINGDOM

- A. We believe that after the tribulation period, Christ Himself shall return to the earth visibly in body with His saints to set up His Kingdom of one thousand years of righteous rule, during which Satan shall be bound.
- B. We believe at the close of the millenium, Satan is again loosed for a short season, but is afterward banished forever to the Lake of Fire.
- C. We believe after this, the unbelievers of all ages will stand at the Great White Throne to be judged and cast into the Lake of Fire, separated from God forever.

{Daniel 2:31-35; Revelation 19:1-20; 20:1-15}

HUMAN SEXUALITY

- A. We believe the scriptures teach that God has clearly commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of marriage which is only between a man and a woman.
- B. We believe that any form of sodomy, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, polygamy, adultery, and pornography are sinful, and perversions of God's command of procreation.

{Genesis 1:28; 2:24; 19:1-7,13; 26:8-11; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; I Corinthians 5:1; 6:9; 7:1-2; I Thessalonians 4:3-6; Hebrews 13:4}

LAWSUITS BETWEEN BELIEVERS

- A. We believe that Christians are prohibited from bringing civil lawsuits against other Christians or the church to resolve personal disputes.
- B. We believe the church possesses all the resources necessary to resolve personal disputes between members.
- C. We believe however, that a Christian may seek compensation for injuries from another Christian's insurance company as long as the claim is pursued without malice or slander.

{I Corinthians 6:1-8; Ephesians 4:31-32}

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

- A. We believe that all people have the right to practice and propagate their belief.

{Mat 28:19-20, Mark 16:15-16}

CHURCH AND GOVERNMENT

- A. We believe that civil government is of divine appointment for the interests and good order of human society.
- B. We believe in the separation of church and government.
- C. We believe that the government is to be prayed for, conscientiously honoured, and obeyed.

{Matthew 22:21; Acts 5:29; Romans 13:1-7}

PRESENT TRENDS

We believe that the church is called to glorify God through the preaching and teaching of the whole council of God from the Bible. Herein, the church is exhorted to earnestly contend for the faith, which was once delivered unto the saints, and accordingly, we take the following positions of these matters.

- A. **Contemporary Christian Music (CCM):** We believe that worshipful music must be centered on Jesus Christ and what He accomplished for mankind, and that should be objective and didactic in nature. We reject new style music that would tend to focus on self or declared contemporary manifestations of the Holy Spirit, or sung in a repetitious manner. We believe that rock style music is of the world, and that it is the natural musical expression of rebellion. We further believe that the use of this style of music opens doors to both Neo-evangelicalism and Charismaticism, all of which detracts from the polity, practice and doctrine of Bible believing Baptist churches.
- B. **Ecumenical Movement:** We believe that the attempt to unite the different faiths of today on the basis of the least common denomination of doctrine is a betrayal of the unity of Bible believers based upon sound doctrine of the historic Christian faith. Its dialogue with other religions is dialectic. Its method of operation is subversive and shows a tendency to totalitarianism. Its' concept of an ecclesiastical kingdom is not supported by the Bible, and we reject all cooperation with this movement.
- C. **Neo-Evangelicalism:** We believe his movement while claiming to be fundamental in theology has actually compromised the underlying principals of the Christian faith. It questions the inspiration and literal interpretation of the Bible, while it accepts liberals as Christians, accepts the ecumenical movement, promotes ecumenical evangelism, denies both ethical and ecclesiastical separation, restructures eschatology and over stresses the social aspects of the gospel. We hold this stand to disagree with the Bible.
- D. **Neo-Orthodoxy:** We believe this theological persuasion is a futile attempt to reconcile, "the higher scientific Biblical criticism with the true Biblical interpretation". Such an appeal to Biblical revelation is based on half-truths and as such are false and deceptive. We utterly reject this method and position.
- E. **The Tongues Movement:** We believe that the gift of tongues was given as a sign to Israel, and like the gifts of apostleship and prophecy which were for the founding of the church, it is therefore not given today. While we recognize that God may give any gift to the church at any time, we believe that the current resurgence of the practice of tongues, which is not scripturally regulated, and which is usually divisive, is not the scriptural gift.

{I Corinthians 1:22, 14:1-40; Jude 1-4}

Bible Believers Baptist Church | Toronto Ontario

<http://bbbc.ca>