

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

THE SCRIPTURES

I believe the King James Bible to be the inspired, infallible, inerrant and preserved word of God in the English language. Inspiration of the Word of God is proved in 2 Timothy 3:16, "*All scripture is given by inspiration of God....*" The Greek word for inspiration is *Theopneustos*, which literally means "God-breathed." God gave His word to the writers personally by inspiration. Inspiration comes in two parts: verbal and plenary (meaning complete, full, or perfect). Verbal inspiration was that each word was inspired and plenary was that all words were fully inspired. The inerrancy of the scriptures means it was free from error. (Psalms 12:6). The infallibility of the Scriptures means it was not capable of error since being inspired by God though it was written by man. (John 10:35). God's Word is forever and will be preserved for each generation. His Word was before forever and will always be forever and will never cease. (1 Peter 1:23-25).

GOD

1. GOD, THE FATHER

There is only but one true God. He who has always been and always will be. God is the truth, holy, a righteous judge, and eternal. God is faithful to us, and He will never fail. God will never leave us or forsake us. God is omnipotent [all-powerful], omniscient [all-knowing], and omnipresent [existing everywhere]. (Psalms 90:1-2) (Deuteronomy 4:31; 6:4-5) (Matthew 28:18; Isaiah 46:10; Jeremiah 23:23-24) (John 14:6) (Leviticus 11:45; 1 Peter 1:15-16) (Isaiah 11:4; Revelation 16:7) (Lamentations 3:22-23)

2. GOD, THE SON

The Deity of Christ means that Christ is one hundred percent God and one hundred percent man. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, *deity* is defined as the quality, character or nature of God. Jesus Christ was man, so combining these we can see that God became Christ in the flesh, so Christ was one hundred percent both God and man. The Bible shows us in many passages that we can prove the Deity of Christ, but I will show you three examples of proving the Deity of Christ.

First, Jesus identifies himself with God. John 8:58, says, "*Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, before Abraham was, I am.*" Referring back to Exodus 3:14, God is speaking to Moses, and He says for the children of Israel to call him the *I AM*. Jesus is proving to us that He is the *I AM* as God is also the *AM*. Second, Jesus is worshipped by angels. God was the only one worthy of angelic worship, but in Luke 2:13-14, God commanded the angels to worship Christ at his birth. Lastly, the Deity of Christ is shown in John 1:1, where John refers to Christ as the Word, and the Word being made by God was God and Christ.

The Virgin Birth of Christ was prophesied before it ever happened. In Genesis 3:15, we see the first mention of the virgin birth. In Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah was prophesied to show a sign to Israel that they would be saved and that this child would be born of a virgin. The virgin birth was very specified in John 1:14, where God became flesh. The virgin birth was very unique in its own nature. That is why the importance of his birth supports his deity of being one hundred percent God and one hundred percent man.

The Blood Atonement of Christ was his death on the cross providing a propitiation for our sins. The blood atonement could not have been fulfilled unless the shedding of blood occurred as said in the last part of Hebrews 9:22. Jesus, a pure and spotless Lamb, provided a way for us on the cross for us to take our sins away. He was the only one that could do that because of his deity. (1 John 2:2)

The Bodily Resurrection of Christ is essential because of the importance of it in salvation (Romans 10:9). It is not just an essential part of salvation but also a part of our faith. (1 Cor. 15:17)

3. GOD, THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is the third member of the Trinity. The Holy Spirit dwells within us. Once we are saved, accepting Jesus Christ as our Savior, we have the Holy Spirit within us. The Holy Spirit has a three part personality: Intellect, Will and Emotion. The Holy Spirit was involved in many works. First, the Holy Spirit was involved in Creation. Secondly, the Holy Spirit was involved in restraining sin. Lastly, the Holy Spirit was involved in the inspiration of the Scriptures. (Romans 8:9) (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21) (Genesis 1:2) (Genesis 6:3; 1 Thessalonians 2:7) (1 Corinthians 2:10; Acts 13:2; Ephesians 4:30)

SALVATION

God's plan for salvation was because of his love for his people. God loved us so much he sent His only son to die for us and to take away our sins. We first have to recognize we are a sinner. Because we sin, we fall short of the glory of God. Because of our sin, there is a penalty that has to be paid. God loved us so we let his son die for us. All we have to do is ask and receive Christ as our saviour. It is not by the works that we do that saves us, but by the faith we have in Christ. There is only one way to Heaven and that is through Jesus Christ. (John 3:16) (Romans 3:10,23; 6:23; 5:8; 10:13) (Ephesians 2:8-9) (John 14:6)

ETERNAL SECURITY

Once a person is saved they are always saved. Salvation was perfected by Christ dying on the cross. His blood atonement for our sins creates the security that we can rest assured that our salvation can not be taken away. The abiding of the Holy Spirit seals our hope in eternal security. As believers, we can be sure of our soul in eternity. (John 10:27-28) (Romans 5:9; Hebrews 10:14) (Ephesians 4:30)

SIN/FALLEN MAN

Man's sinful nature was bred in the Garden of Eden when Eve decided to disobey God's command of not eating the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Sin can be described as an act against God. Sin is used in many different meanings in the Bible: unbelief, ignorance, unrighteousness, disobedience, iniquity [evil conscience] Sin is the reason why we can not get to Heaven. We have missed the mark because of the sin in our life. Sin was established when Lucifer became too proud and was cast out of Heaven unto the earth. Satan's temptation on man can cause man to fall. (Genesis 3:6; Romans 5:12) (Psalms 51:1) (John 3:17-18) (Matthew 22:29) (1 John 5:17) (Romans 5:19) (Matthew 24:12) (Isaiah 14:12)

THE CHURCH

Jesus Christ established the local New Testament Church. (Matthew 16:18) The greek word of church means *ekklesia*, or a called-out assembly. The church is an organized body composed of one pastor and deacons. The qualifications of a pastor and a deacon are found in 1 Timothy 3:1-13. The church has two ordinances: Baptism (Mark 16:16) and the Lord's Supper. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). The purpose of the church is the Great Commission. (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15) Christ is the head of the church. (Ephesians 5:23; Colossians 1:18)

MISSIONS

Biblical missions is an authorized/ordained individual going from a gospel-preaching church, going to a place beyond the boundary to reach those who do not have a gospel-preaching church, and establishing a local New Testament church. In Matthew and Mark, we find the instruction of Biblical missions. In Acts, Paul shows us the meaning of Biblical missions by his example, and in Acts 26 we see the focus of Biblical missions. The focus on Biblical missions is found in Acts 26:17-18. Paul is giving the story of him when God spoke to him on the way to Damascus. Our focus is to reach the people with the gospel and to establish a local New Testament church. The real focus is on reaching the people. In verse 17 and continues in verse 18, God says to Saul (Paul), *"Delivering thee from the people...to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me."* This focus on the people does not only help us see what we need to do but also what the people are doing. The focus on Biblical missions is to open their eyes, turn them from darkness and Satan but to the light and God, so that they may receive the gift that is free because of Jesus Christ our Lord. When we take the focus off ourselves and put it on the mission that is set before us we will not only gain the reward but also have the confidence that we are doing what God has defined for us to do. *Biblical missions starts with the church, and it must end with the church.* God's intended design for the church was to train his followers and to go and do likewise. Already attributed to that our main focus is the people, we still need to bring a focus upon the church. We can not just win the people to Christ. The purpose of the church is to complete the Great Commission. (Matthew 28:19-20) (Acts 1:8) (Mark 16:15)

SEPARATION

Biblical Separation gives us the example of the separation of the believer from the unbeliever, the separation of the believer unto God, and the separation of the believer to the work of God. We as believers of God and Jesus Christ have no business with the world. Our goal is to be God-pleasing and Christ honoring. We are to not conform but to transform. Separation in 2 Cor. 6:14, talks about the believer and the unbeliever. As a Christian, our lifestyle should be committed and righteous, separated from the world. When we defile ourselves with the world, that second we become unclean and we defile the temple of God. Secondly, our separation unto God is what helps prove and preserve yourself. You have to decide in yourself who you will be by God's will. The purpose of us separating unto God was to be with Him and not away or half-way with Him. Romans 12:2 says to prove that which is good and acceptable and perfect will of God. We can't find His will if we don't prove we can live it. Separation is what will keep ourselves accountable to God. Though we may fall into temptation, separation will help drive away the temptation and replace it with a stand that can not be penetrated. (Romans 12:1) (1 Cor. 3:16-17) (Romans 12:2)

THE UNSEEN WORLD

1. HEAVEN/HELL

Heaven is the dwelling place of God and for all those who believe in Christ. Christ referred to Heaven as his Father's house. (John 14:2) Heaven's attributes can be found in Revelation 21. Heaven is the place for all those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. (Revelation 21:27) Hell was made by God as a punishment place for those who reject Christ. Hell is a very literal place and was made because of the consequence of man's sin. Every unbeliever has a place in hell along with the Devil and his angels. (Revelation 20:15; Matthew 25:41)

2. SATAN

The work of Satan is to deceive the human race and to destroy God's Creation. He was cast out for his pride in trying to overthrow God on His own throne. Satan has the power to mislead and tempt which many of this world have fallen into. Satan uses false doctrine to infiltrate the church and religious institutions in order to corrupt their beliefs. Satan's defeat will come near the end of the Tribulation and will be cast into the Lake of Fire. (Isa. 14:12-14; 1 Peter 5:8; Acts 20:29-30; Rev. 20:2-3)

CREATION

Creation declares and proves that there is a God. Biblical Creation was created by God and spoken into existence. God's Creation lasted six days, and then He rested on the seventh. It did not take millions of years to create. God created man and woman for one purpose: so that He could have a relationship with Him and for His pleasure. God's creation was made for Christ - all things were created by him, all things were created for him, and all things consist of him. (Genesis 1-2; Hebrews 11:3) (Colossians 1:16-17) (Revelations 4:11)

THE LAST DAYS

The timing of the rapture is unknown to man. Revelations and the references in the bible give events that will take place prior to the rapture, but a specific time is not known. (Revelations 3:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:17)

The pre-tribulation futurist view is what Daniel explained in the Seventy Weeks' Prophecy. This view first sees that the first sixty-nine weeks cover from the commandment to rebuild Jerusalem during Nehemiah's time to when the Messiah is cut off (the Triumphal Entry).

The tribulation after the rapture has a time event of about seven years. During that time there will be three types of judgments. First, there will be the judgment of the Seven Seals. The Seven Trumpets are the second type of Judgment. Lastly, the final judgment is the Seven Bowls of Wrath. These are the three types of judgments during the tribulation. (Revelations 5)

The millennial reign of Christ will come after Satan, the Beast, and false prophets are thrown into the bottomless pit for one thousand years. At the end of the thousand year reign of God, Satan will be released to deceive followers of Christ and make an army to fight Christ. After the revolt, the Lord destroys the earth and locks away Satan. After the Great White Throne of Judgment, God sets up a New Jerusalem. (Revelations 20:6)



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