

# **CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH**

## **Statement of Faith**



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# **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

## **INSPIRATION:**

We believe that the Holy Bible, as originally written, was inspired (1) by God and is the product of Spirit controlled men and therefore is truth without any error (2) Therefore, it is and shall remain (3) to the end of the age the only complete and final revelation (4) of the will of God to man, the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard (5) by which all human conduct, creeds (6) and opinions should be tried.

By the Holy Bible we mean that collection of sixty-six books, from Genesis to Revelation, which as originally written, does not contain and convey the Word of God, but is the very Word of God.

By inspiration we mean that the books of the Bible were written by holy men of old, as they were moved by the Holy Spirit in such a definite way that their writings were divinely inspired and free from error, as no other writings have ever been or ever will be inspired.

**(1) Inspired:**

<b>2 Peter 1:19-21</b>	<b>2 Timothy 3:16</b>	<b>Revelation 1:1</b>
<b>1 Corinthians 2:13</b>	<b>Romans 15:4</b>	<b>2 Samuel 23:2</b>
<b>Hebrews 1:1, 2</b>		

**(2) Truth without error:**

<b>Psalms 119:160</b>	<b>Psalms 119:142</b>	<b>John 17:17</b>
<b>Psalms 19:8</b>	<b>Psalms 100:5</b>	

**(3) Shall remain (eternal):**

<b>Matthew 5:18</b>	<b>Psalms 100:5</b>	<b>Isaiah 40:6-8</b>
<b>1 Peter 1:25</b>		

**(4) Only complete and final revelation:**

<b>Galatians 1:8-12</b>	<b>Deuteronomy 4:2</b>
<b>Revelation 22:18-19</b>	

- (5) Supreme standard for human conduct:  
 Romans 15:4          Matthew 4:4          Titus 2:11-13  
 Deuteronomy 8:3      Isaiah 8:20
- (6) Standard by which creeds and opinions should be tried:  
 Acts 17:11          2 Thessalonians 2:15  
 Matthew 15:9

**GODHEAD:**

We believe that there is one (1) living, eternal, and true (2) God who exists as three simultaneous persons (3) Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

- (1) Deuteronomy 6:4; Ephesians 4:4-6; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Isaiah 44:6; Isaiah 42:8
- (2) 1 Thessalonians 1:9; Jeremiah 10:10; John 17:3;  
 1 John 5:20; Revelation 1:8; 1 Timothy 1:17; Genesis 1:1;  
 Exodus 3:15; Psalms 90:2
- (3) Matthew 3:16-17, 28:18-20; 1 John 5:7; Genesis 1:26;  
 John 15:26.

**GOD THE FATHER:**

We believe in God the Father, Almighty (1) Ruler, from heaven, over heaven and earth (2). He is unchanging (3) omniscient (4) omnipotent (5) omnipresent (6) Holy (7) righteous (8) and the creator (9) of all things. He revealed His love by sending His only Son to die for the sins of mankind (10). He forgives those and only those who come to Him by His Son (11).

- (1) Genesis 17:1; Revelation 1:8
- (2) Matthew 5:16, 11:25; Psalms 59:13, 66:7; Daniel 4:17, 25, 32
- (3) James 1:17; Malachi 3:6
- (4) Matthew 6:3-8
- (5) Matthew 19:26; Ephesians 1:17-20
- (6) Psalms 139:7-10; Jeremiah 23:24; Matthew 28:20
- (7) Leviticus 19:2; John 17:11

- (8) John 17:25; Ezra 9:15; Isaiah 54:17; Daniel 9:14;  
2 Corinthians 5:21
- (9) Genesis 1; Colossians 1:16; Ephesians 3:8-9; Malachi 2:10;  
Acts 14:15; Psalms 102:25; Isaiah 42:5
- (10) John 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 5:8; Matthew 20:29
- (11) John 3:36, 14:6; 1Timothy 2:5; Romans 10:13;  
1 John 5:12-13

### **GOD THE SON:**

We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary (1). He is true God and true man (2). He is creator and sustainer of the universe (3), and He was crucified. He gave Himself upon the cross (4) for our sin. The third day He arose from the dead (5). He is now our High Priest in heaven (6) appearing before the face of God as Advocate and Intercessor (7). We believe in his bodily, personal, premillennial return, and that He will come before the seven-year tribulation to catch away His church, coming only in the air. We further believe that He will come with His church at the close of the tribulation to judge the living nations and to set up His kingdom (8).

- (1) Matthew 1:20-25; Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:26-37
- (2) Hebrews 1:1-8; John 1:1-2, 14; Colossians 1:15-16;  
Philippians 2:6-8
- (3) 1 Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 3:9; John 1:3
- (4) 1 Corinthians 15:3; Galatians 1:4; Isaiah 53:5; 1 Peter 2:24
- (5) 1 Timothy 3:16; Luke 24:5-7; 1 Corinthians 15:20;  
Acts 2:24; John 20:27-28
- (6) Hebrews 4:14-16; Hebrews 8:1
- (7) 1 John 2:1; 1Timothy 2:5; Romans 8:34
- (8) See statement on Last Things for references

### **HOLY SPIRIT:**

We believe in the divine person (1) and work of the Holy Spirit, who is creator (2), who convicts (3) man of sin, brings about the new birth

(4), and baptizes believers into the body of Christ (5). He indwells (6) and eternally seals believer's (7), and also teaches (8), guide's (9), purifies (10), and empowers (11) them in life, testimony and service.

- (1) Acts 5:3, 4; 1 John 5:7
- (2) Psalms 104:30; Genesis 1:26
- (3) John 16:8-11; Acts 2:37
- (4) Titus 3:5; Hebrews 9:14; 1 Peter 1:22-23
- (5) 1 Corinthians 12:13; John 4:14; Romans 12:5
- (6) 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Ezekiel 36:27; John 14:17;  
Romans 8:9
- (7) Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30; 2 Corinthians 1:22
- (8) John 14:26; Luke 12:12; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 1 John 2:27
- (9) John 16:13; Romans 8:14; Acts 8:29-39
- (10) Galatians 5:19-26; Ephesians. 5:18
- (11) Acts 10:38; Micah 3:8; Acts 1:8; Luke 24:49

### MAN AND SIN:

We believe that sin is any transgression (1) of the laws of God and originated in the heart of Satan (2). We believe that God created man innocent (3) for fellowship with Him (4). By Adam's voluntary transgression (5), sin entered into the world and death by sin (6), and so death passed upon all men (7). Consequently, everyone is born a sinner (8), is such by nature (9) and practice (10), and stands without excuse (11), condemned before God (12).

- (1) 1 John 3:4; James 2:9-10; Romans 3:20
- (2) Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:11-15; Genesis 3:1- 3
- (3) Genesis 1:26-27; Romans 5:12
- (4) Revelation 4:11; Exodus 25:22; 1 John 1:3;  
1 Corinthians 1:9
- (5) Genesis 3:16-17; Romans 5:12; 1 Corinthians 15:21
- (6) Genesis 3:19; Romans 5:12-14, 6:23
- (7) Romans 5:12, 19; Psalms. 53:3; Romans 3:9-10;  
Isaiah 53:6
- (8) Psalms 51:5; Job 5:7; Galatians 3:22

- (9) Ephesians 2:3; Romans 3:23
- (10) Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:9-23; Matthew 23:27-28
- (11) Romans 1:20-21, 5:18; John 3:19-20;
- (12) John 3:18, 36; Ephesians 2:3; Matthew 12:36-37;  
Romans 5:18

### SALVATION:

We believe salvation is the gift of God's grace by faith (1) through the shed blood of Christ (2), the only sufficient payment (3) for the sins of all mankind (4). Any who truly repent (5) of sin and receive Christ (6) as their personal Savior are born again (7), thereby saved from eternal damnation (8). The very nature of God is imparted to the believer (9), who is now justified (10), sanctified (11), eternally secure (12), and glorified (13) in Christ, and has assurance of salvation (14). We believe in righteous living and good works. Good works do not produce salvation in any case, but are the proper evidence and fruit of the new birth (15).

- (1) Acts 15:11; Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 3:22, 24
- (2) Hebrews 9:22; Ephesians 1:7; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19
- (3) 1 John 2:2; John 10:11, 14:6
- (4) Romans 5:18; 1 John 2:2; 2 Peter 3:9
- (5) Luke 13:3,5; Acts 3:19, 17:30; Isaiah 55:7
- (6) John 1:12; Romans 10:9; Acts 16:31
- (7) 1 Peter 1:23; John 3:3-7, 1:12-13
- (8) John 5:24, 3:18, 36; Romans 8:1
- (9) 2 Corinthians 5:17; 2 Peter 1:4; 1 Corinthians 6:19;  
1 John 4:15
- (10) Romans 5:9, 4:25; Titus 3:7; Galatians 2:16; Acts 13:39;
- (11) 1 Corinthians 1:2; Hebrews 10:10; Acts 20:32;  
1 Corinthians 6:11
- (12) 2 Timothy 1:12; 1 Peter 1:4-5; 1 John 5:10-13;  
Ephesians 4:30; John 6:39
- (13) 1 John 3:2; Romans 8:16-17, 29-31; 2 Thessalonians 1:10
- (14) 1 John 5:9-13; John 6:37; John 10:27-30; Romans 10:13
- (15) Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 3:5; John 15:1-17; Titus 2:14;  
Galatians 2:16; James 2:26; John 15:1-17

## **THE DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH:**

We believe the church of Jesus Christ (the body of Christ), is composed of only born again believers (1) and so the local church should also limit its membership to only those who are saved and have been baptized by immersion (2). This local assembly is to preach the gospel, baptize, teach (3), exhort (4), edify believers and glorify God (5). It exists to provide Christian fellowship (6), and make available opportunity for worship of God (7), and the observance of the Lord's Supper (8). We believe the primary purpose of the church is to evangelize the world, in its own Jerusalem and unto the utter most part (9).

We believe the teachings and the practices of the charismatic movement are not scriptural. We, therefore, will not participate in it (10).

We also believe it is essential for believers to separate themselves from all sinful and worldly practices and alliances with unbelievers (11). Therefore, we will not participate in any unscriptural associations such as the ecumenical movement (12). The officers of this local body are pastor (elder, bishop) and deacons. Their qualifications and duties are clearly defined in scripture (13).

We hold that the local church has the absolute right of self-government, free from the interference of any hierarchy of individuals, organizations, or governments (14), and that the one and only superintendent is Christ through the Holy Spirit (15).

- (1) Ephesians 1:22-23; 1 Corinthians 12:13
- (2) Acts 2:41-47; Matthew 28:19-20
- (3) Matthew 28:19-20; Colossians 3:16; 2 Timothy 3:16
- (4) Hebrews 3:13, 10:25; Titus 1:9; 2 Timothy 4:2; Acts 11:23
- (5) Romans 14:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; Ephesians 4:11-12
- (6) Acts 2:41-47; Hebrew 3:13, 10:25; 1 John 1:7; Psalms 119:63
- (7) John 4:23; Acts 2:46-47; Revelation 14:3; Philemon 3:3;  
1 Corinthians 16:29
- (8) Matthew 26:26-30; 1 Corinthians 11:23-30; Acts 2:42

- (9) Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19-20
- (10) 1 Corinthians 14:1-40; 12:28-30, 13:8-10
- (11) 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Ephesians 5:11; Isaiah 52:11;  
Psalms 1:1-3
- (12) Acts 2:40; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 2 Thessalonians 3:6
- (13) 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; Philemon 1:1;  
1 Timothy 5:17-18
- (14) Acts 6:1-7; 5:29, Luke 20:25; Acts 15
- (15) Ephesians 1:22-23, 5:23; Colossians 1:18

### **DOCTRINE OF ANGELS:**

#### **A. HOLY ANGELS:**

We believe that angels are created beings (1), and therefore, are not to be worshipped (2,) although they are a higher order of creation than man (3), created to serve God and to worship Him (4).

#### **B. FALLEN ANGELS:**

We believe that Satan (the devil) is an angelic being (5) who rebelled against God his creator (6). He is the unholy god of this world (7), the enemy of God (8) and the author of all false doctrines (9). He attempts to keep people from trusting Christ (10), and strives to ruin the lives and testimonies of believers (11). He is a defeated foe (12), and is eternally damned (13), destined to be cast into the lake of fire with all his followers (14).

- (1) Colossians 1:16; Acts 14:15
- (2) Revelation 19:10; 22:8-9
- (3) Hebrews 2:6-7; Psalm 8:5
- (4) Hebrews 1:6-7, 14; Revelation 5:11-12; Psalms 148:2, 5;  
Nehemiah 9:6
- (5) Ezekiel 28:13-15; 2 Corinthians 11:14; Revelation 9:11
- (6) Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:15; John 1:3
- (7) 2 Corinthians 4:4; John 12:31; Ephesians 2:2; Luke 4:5-8
- (8) Genesis 3:14-15; Ephesians 2:2; Acts 26:18
- (9) John 8:44; 1 Timothy 4:1; 1 Kings 22:22-23; Genesis 3:5
- (10) 2 John 7; 2 Corinthians 4:4, 11:3; Matthew 13:3-4, 19, 37-39



- (11) Peter 5:8; 2 Corinthians 12:7; Ephesians 6:11-12;  
Job 1:6-2:10
- (12) Hebrews 2:14; Genesis 3:15; James 4:7; 1 John 3:8; Matthew  
25:41
- (13) Revelation 20:2-3, 10; Isaiah 14:15
- (14) 2 Peter 2:4; Matthew 25:41; Jude 6; Revelation 20:10, 15

### **LAST THINGS:**

We believe in the imminent, premillennial return of Christ for His Church (1). At that moment the dead in Christ shall be raised in glorified bodies. The living in Christ shall be given glorified bodies without tasting death, and all shall be caught up to meet the Lord in the air (2). We believe that the Great Tribulation, the seventieth week of Daniel, which immediately follows the Rapture of the Church (3), will be culminated by the Revelation of Christ in power and great glory to sit upon the throne of David and establish the Millennial reign (4). We believe there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; only those who are justified by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and sanctified by the Spirit of our God are truly righteous in His esteem (5), while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked and under the curse. This distinction holds among men both in and after death, in the everlasting joy of the saved and the everlasting conscious suffering of the lost in the Lake of Fire (6).

- (1) Revelation 2:10; Titus 2:13; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14;  
Luke 12:40
- (2) 1 Corinthians 15:51-53; Colossians 3:4; Philippians 3:20-21
- (3) Daniel 9:24-27; Matthew 24:3-44; 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12;  
Revelation 4-18
- (4) Zechariah 14:4; Acts 1:10-11; Matthew 25:31-34;  
Revelation 19:11-16, 20:1-2
- (5) Revelation 22:4-5, 21:3-4
- (6) Mark 9:43-48; Isaiah 66:24; Revelation 14:10-11, 20:11-15, 21:8;  
Luke 16:26; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9