

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

We express our substantial agreement with the London Baptist Confession of faith 1689, but draw particular attention to the following truths:

1. The Bible – The Word of God

The inerrancy and infallibility of the Holy Scriptures as originally given; their verbal inspiration by God; their authority and all sufficiency, as not only containing, but being in themselves, the Word of God; the reliability of the New Testament in its testimony to the character and authorship of the Old Testament, and the need of the teaching of the Holy Spirit for a true and spiritual understanding of the whole. The Holy Scriptures constitute our only standard of faith and rule of conduct and are the sixty six books of the Old and New Testaments as contained in the index of the 1611 Authorised Version. They constitute the revelation of God written down in its fullness.

2. The Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit – one God

The Trinity of the Godhead as revealed in the Scriptures – the Father being God, the Lord Jesus Christ the Son being God, the Holy Spirit being God, these being equal in power and glory, one Lord God Almighty – sovereign in creation, providence, redemption and judgment.

3. Jesus Christ – True God – True Man

The essential, absolute and eternal Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ; His conception by the Holy Spirit; His birth of the virgin Mary; His real, but sinless, humanity; the authority of His teaching and the infallibility of all His utterances; His voluntary humiliation in life as a Man of Sorrows culminating in His substitutionary and atoning death, whereby He shed His precious blood as the sacrifice for sin, thus redeeming all those whom the Father had given Him before the foundation of the world; His bodily resurrection on the third day; His ascension into heaven as the only and eternal mediator between God and man; His present High Priestly intercession for His people at the right hand of the Father and His personal return in power and glory.

4. The Holy Spirit – Author and Giver of Life

The personality and the Deity of the Holy Spirit who inspired holy men to write the Scriptures, authenticating their writing and ministry by means of supernatural gifts which He has since withdrawn; through Him alone the soul is born again to saving repentance and faith, and by Him the saints are sanctified through the truth and assured of their adoption; the necessity for His work, and thus our dependence on Him, in ministry and worship, and in every aspect of the Christian's life.

5. Mankind – Fallen Sinners

The direct creation of mankind in the image of God; the sanctity of human life from conception; The universal and total depravity of every individual in the sight of God as a consequence of The Fall; their exposure to everlasting punishment; their inability to will any spiritual good leading to salvation, and therefore the necessity for regeneration.

6. Salvation – by grace through faith

The justification of the sinner forever by grace alone through faith, through the atoning merits of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, whose righteousness imputed to them is the only ground of acceptance before God.

7. Holiness and witness – evidence of conversion

A holy walk and life on the part of professing believers as the evidence of their conversion to God. It is the duty of every Christian and every church of Christ to seek to extend the gospel to the ends of the earth. This is to be done by personal effort and by all other methods sanctioned by the Word of God.

8. Our Lord's ordinances – Baptism and The Lord's Table

The ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Table as instituted by the Lord Jesus Christ. Baptism is the total immersion in water, in the Triune Name of God, of those who have professed repentance toward God, and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord's Table is in no sense a sacrifice for sin and involves no change in the substance of the bread and wine.

9. The future – heaven or hell

The resurrection of the body; the judgement of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, with the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the everlasting punishment of the wicked.

10. The one church – called to be pure

The spiritual unity of all who truly believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and their duty to maintain in themselves and in the church a standard of life and doctrine that is in conformity with the teaching of God's Holy Word.