

Bethany Church on the Hill Statement of Faith

THE WORD OF GOD:

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct. (Romans 10:17; 1 Corinthians 2:10; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21; Hebrews 4:12)

THE TRINITY:

We believe there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons; that these are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence and redemption. (Matthew 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 1 John 5:7)

GOD THE FATHER:

We believe in the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. (Is. 45:21,22; Exodus 15:11; Ps. 18:30; Proverbs 15:3; Exodus 15:6, John 3:16; 1 John 4:7-16)

JESUS CHRIST:

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible return to earth. (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:20-23; Hebrews 4:15; John 1:1-14; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Acts 2:22; 1 Corinthians 15:3,4; Mark 15; Luke 14; Acts 1:9,10; Titus 2:13)

THE HOLY SPIRIT:

We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ, and that He is an abiding helper, teacher and guide. (John 16:8-11; Romans 8:16-27)

REGENERATION:

We believe that all are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, under condemnation. We believe that those who repent of their sins and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

THE CHURCH:

We believe in the universal Church, a living spiritual body, of which Christ is the head and all regenerated persons are members. We believe in the local church, consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ, baptized on a credible profession of faith, and associated for worship, work and fellowship. We believe that God has laid upon the members of the local church the primary task of giving the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world. (Ephesians 5:20-32; Matthew 28:19; Ephesians 1:22)

CHRISTIAN CONDUCT:

We believe that Christians should live for the glory of God and the well-being of others; that our conduct should be blameless before the world; that we should be faithful stewards of our possessions; and that we should seek to realize for ourselves and others the full stature of maturity in Christ. (Luke 16:1-17; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 Corinthians 6:17; Ephesians 5:9-11; Romans 6:1-13; 1 Corinthians 4:2)

THE ORDINANCES:

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church, baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water into the name of the triune God. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 6:14; Col. 2:12; 1 Corinthians 11:26)

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY:

We believe that every human being can have a direct relationship with God, and is responsible to God alone in matters of faith. We believe that each church is independent and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority. Therefore, Church and State must be kept separate as having different functions, each fulfilling its duties free from dictation or patronage of the other. (Romans 5:1,2)

CHURCH COOPERATION:

We believe that local churches can best promote the cause of Jesus Christ by cooperating with one another in a denominational organization. Such an organization, whether a regional or district conference, exists and functions by the will of the churches. Cooperation in the conference is voluntary and may be terminated at any time. Churches may likewise cooperate with interdenominational fellowships on a voluntary independent basis.

THE LAST THINGS:

We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal felicity of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the wicked. (John 5:28,29; Romans 6:4,5; Romans 14:10; Hebrews 9:27; 1 Thessalonians 1:7-9)