



Articles of Faith

ARTICLES OF FAITH

I. Of the Scriptures

We believe that (a) the Holy Bible was given by the inspiration of God; (b) written by men controlled by the Holy Spirit; (c) therefore, free from all error; (d) in the sense that the Holy Spirit gave the very words of the Sacred Writings to holy men of old, and that this divine inspiration is not in different degrees, but extends equally and fully to all parts of the Writings found in the original manuscripts.

- A. II Timothy 3:16, 17
- B. I Corinthians 2:13; II Peter 1:21
- C. Psalm 19:7-9; Romans 15:4
- D. Acts 1:16; 28:25

II. Of the True God

We believe that the Godhead (a) eternally exists in three persons, The Father, Son and Holy Spirit; (b) and that these three are one God, having precisely the same nature, attributes, perfections, and worthy of precisely the same homage, confidence and obedience.

- A. II Corinthians 13:14; John 15:26
- B. I Corinthians 12:4-6; Ephesians 4:4-6

III. Of the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit (a) is a divine person; (b) equal with God the father, and God the Son, and of the same nature; (c) that He was active in the creation; (d) that in relation to the unbelieving world He restrains the evil one until God's purpose is fulfilled; that He convicts of sin, of judgment, and of righteousness; (e) that He bears witness to the truth of the Gospel in preaching and testimony; (f) that He is the agent in the New Birth; that He seals, baptizes, endues, guides, teaches, witnesses, sanctifies, and helps the believer; (g) and we believe in the fruit of the Spirit as found in Galatians 5:22-24.

- A. John 14:26
- B. Matthew 28:19
- C. Genesis 1:1-3
- D. II Thessalonians 2:7; John 16:8-11
- E. John 3:5-6
- F. Ephesians 4:22-24; John 16:13;
- G. Romans 8:26-27

IV. Of Sanctification

We believe that Sanctification has a two-fold meaning, (a) that in the Old Testament it was the setting apart of things, days, and persons, specifically for God, and that the believer at the time of his regeneration is so set apart by God the Father, (b) that the progressive work of the Holy Spirit, whereby the believer, obedient to the Word of God, experiences the power of the indwelling Christ for holiness of life and victory over the old nature, which work will be completed when the believer stands in Christ's presence.

A. Exodus 12:14; Hebrews 10:10-14

B. Colossians 1:26-28; I Thessalonians 5:23

V. Of the Devil or Satan

We believe that Satan was once (a) holy, and enjoyed heavenly honors, but through pride and ambition to be as the Almighty, fell and (b) drew after him a host of angels; that he is now (c) the malignant prince and the power of the air and the unholy god of this world; (d) we hold him to be man's great tempter, (e) the enemy of God and Jesus Christ, (f) the accuser of the Saints, (g) the author of all false religions, the chief power back of the apostasy, (h) the lord of the anti-Christ, (i) the author of all power of darkness, (j) and destined to final defeat at the hands of God's Son, the judgment of an eternal justice in hell, a place prepared for him and his angels.

A. Isaiah 14:12-15

B. Revelation 12:9

C. Ephesians 2:2

D. I Thessalonians 3:5

E. I John 3:8

F. Revelation 12:10

G. II Corinthians 11:13-15

H. I John 2:22

I. Revelation 13:13, 14

J. Revelation 20:10; Matthew 25:41

VI. Of the Creation

We believe in the Genesis account of creation, (a) and that it is to be accepted literally, and not allegorically or figuratively; (b) that man was created directly in God's own image, and after His own likeness; (c) that man's creation was not a matter of evolution or evolutionary change of species, or development through interminable periods of time from the lower to the higher forms; (d) that all animal and vegetable life was made directly, and God's established law was that they should bring forth only "after their kind".

A. Genesis 1:1, Colossians 1:16

C. Genesis 2:7; Genesis 2:21-23

B. Genesis 1:26, 27

D. Genesis 1:11, 24

VII. Of the Fall of Man

We believe that although man was created in innocence under the law of his Maker, (a) by voluntary transgression fell from his sinless and happy state, and, (b) lost all spiritual life, becoming dead in trespasses and sins, (c) and therefore under just condemnation without defense or excuse, (d) in consequences of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraints, but of choice.

- A. Genesis 3:1-6
- B. Ephesians 2:1-3
- C. Romans 1:20-32
- D. Romans 5:12-19

VIII. Of the Virgin Birth

We believe that (a) Jesus Christ was begotten of the Holy Spirit in a miraculous manner; (b) born of Mary, a virgin, as no other man was ever born, or can ever be born of woman; and (c) that he is both the Son of God and God the Son.

- A. Matthew 1:18, 20
- B. Luke 1:27, 35
- C. I John 5:20

IX. Of the Atonement of Sin

We believe that our redemption (justification) (a) has been accomplished solely by the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, (b) who was made to be sin, and made a curse, for us, dying in our stead; (c) and that no repentance, no feeling, no faith, no good resolutions, no sincere efforts, no submission to the rules and regulations of any church, or of all the churches that have existed since the days of the apostles, can add in the very least to the value of that precious blood, or to the merit of that finished work, wrought for us by Him who united in His person true and proper divinity with perfect and sinless humanity. (d) Therefore, the blessings of this redemption (justification) are made free to all by the Gospel (e) and nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel.

- A. Leviticus 17:11; Matthew 26:28
- B. II Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:13; Romans 5:6, 9
- C. I Peter 1:18, 19
- D. Romans 10:13; Revelation 22:17
- E. John 3:15, 16; John 5:40

X. Of Grace in the New Creation

We believe (a) that in order to be saved, sinners must be born again; (b) that the new birth is a new creation in Christ Jesus; (c) that it is instantaneous and not a process; (d) that in the new birth the one dead in trespasses and in sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life, the free gift of God; (e) that the new creation is brought about in a manner above our comprehension, not by culture, not by character, nor by the will of man, but wholly and solely by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with the divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; (f) that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

- A. John 3:3,7
- B. II Corinthians 5:17
- C. I John 5:1
- D. Romans 6:23; II Peter 1:4
- E. John 3:8; John 1:12, 13
- F. Galatians 5:22, 23; Ephesians 5:9

XI. Of Repentance and Faith

We believe that repentance and faith are (a) solemn obligations, and (b) also inseparable graces, (c) wrought in our souls by the quickening Spirit of God; (d) thereby, being deeply convicted of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy, (e) at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ and openly confessing Him as our only and all-sufficient Savior.

- A. Acts 20:20
- B. Mark 1:15; Acts 20:21
- C. John 6:63
- D. Luke 18:13; II Corinthians 7:10; II Peter 3:9
- E. Luke 12:8; Romans 10: 9, 10

XII. Of the church

We believe (a) that the Church is composed of all who are united by the Holy Spirit to the risen and ascended Son of God; (b) that by the same Spirit we are all baptized into one body whether we be Jews or Gentiles, (c) and thus being members one of another, we are responsible to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace, rising above all sectarian prejudices and denominational bigotry, and loving one another with a pure heart, fervently.

- A. Matthew 16:16-18; Acts 2:41
- B. Romans 12:5; I Corinthians 12:12-27
- C. Ephesians 4:3-10; Colossians 3:14, 15

XIII. Of the Lord's Supper

We believe that (a) Lord's Supper is a memorial service in which the elements of bread and wine remind us of the love of God in Christ Jesus, "who spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all," that the ordinance is to be observed in anticipation of His Coming and preceded by self-examination, and is to be observed the second Sunday of every month and on special occasions such as Christmas Eve, etc.

A. I Corinthians 11:23- 28; Romans 8:32

XIV. Of Baptism

We believe that baptism: (a) is commanded by the Lord; (b) is to be carried out by the Church; (c) is to be by immersion in water; (d) is an open testimony of a believer's faith in and commitment to the Lord Jesus; (e) and by immersion we give testimony to our identification with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. We recognize that Baptism is not essential to one's Salvation, and we do not make it a requirement for membership in the church.

A. Matthew 28:19, 20

B. Acts 2:41, 42

C. Romans 6:1-6

D. Acts 18:8, Galatians 3:27

E. Romans 6:1-6; Ephesians 2:8, 9

XV. Of the Security of the Saints

We believe that all who are truly born again are kept by God the Father for Jesus Christ.

A. Philippians 1:6; John 10:28, 29; Romans 8:35-39; Jude 1

XVI. Of the Righteous and Wicked

We believe that (a) there is radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; (b) that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in His esteem; (c) while all who continue impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked, and under the curse; (d) and this distinction holds among men both in and after death, in the everlasting felicity of the saved and the everlasting conscious suffering of the lost.

A. Malachi 3:18; I Peter 4:18

B. Romans 1:17; Romans 3:22

C. Galatians 3:10; Romans 6:23a

D. Luke 16:25; Matthew 25:34, 41

XVII. On Civil Government

We believe that civil government is (a) of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; (b) that magistrates are to be prayed for conscientiously, honored and obeyed; (c) except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ; (d) who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the coming Prince of the kings of the earth.

- A. Romans 13:7
- B. I Timothy 2:1-3; Titus 3:1, 2
- C. Acts 5:29
- D. Matthew 10:28; Philippians 2:10, 11

XVIII. Of the Resurrection, Return of Christ and Related Events

We believe in (a) the bodily resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ; (b) that He ascended “to the right hand of the Throne of God”; (c) that He alone is our “merciful and faithful High Priest in the things pertaining to God”; and (d) we believe that the world will not be converted during the present dispensation but is fast ripening for judgment, while there will be a fearful apostasy in the professing Christian body; (e) and hence that the Lord Jesus will come in person to introduce the Millennial age, when Israel shall be restored to their own land, and the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord; (f) and that this personal and pre-millennial advent is the blessed hope set before us in the Gospel for which we shall be constantly looking.

- A. Matthew 28:6,7; I Corinthians 15:4
- B. Acts 1:9-11; Mark 16:19
- C. I Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 5:9-10
- D. Luke 17:26-31; II Timothy 3:1-5
- E. John 14:3; Acts 15:14-17
- F. I Thessalonians 4:13-18