



# What We Believe

## God

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three personalities: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are coequal and are one God.

(See Genesis 1:1, 26, 27; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19, 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Peter 1:2)

## God the Father

God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, all-loving, and all-wise. God is the father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men.

(See Genesis 1:1, 2:7; Exodus 3:14; 1 Chronicles 29:10; Isaiah 64:8; Jeremiah 10:10; Matthew 6:9; Mark 1:9-11; John 5:26, 14:6-13; Acts 1:7; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 4:6; 1 Timothy 1:17)

## Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is coequal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again some day to earth to reign as King of Kings and Lord of lords.

(See Isaiah 9:6, Matthew 1:22,23, John 1:1-5; John 14:10-30; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 4:14-15; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 Romans 1:3-4 Acts 1:9-11 1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

## The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and the Son of God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian giving power

for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He gives every believer a spiritual gift when they are saved. As Christians, we seek to live under His control daily.

(See 2 Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13; 14:16,17; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 5:18; 1 Corinthians 2:12, 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25)

## **The Scriptures**

The Bible is God's Word to us. It is composed of the 39 books of the Old Testament and the 27 books of the New Testament. Human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit, wrote it. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because God inspired it, it is the truth without any mixture of error. The Scriptures are entirely adequate and need no additions or alternations.

(See 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; 2 Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105,160, 12:6; Proverbs 30:5)

## **Human Beings**

Mankind was made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. People are the supreme object of God's creation. Although every person has tremendous potential for good, all of us are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin." This attitude separates people from God and causes many problems in life.

(See Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1,2)

## **Salvation**

Salvation is God's free gift to us. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty. When we turn from our self-ruled life and turn to Jesus in faith we are saved. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith.

(See Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:9; John 14:6, 1:12; Titus 3:5; Galatians 3:26; Romans 5:1)

## **Eternal Security**

Because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ, the true believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. If you have been genuinely saved, you cannot “lose” your salvation. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. It is the grace and keeping power of God that gives us this security.

(See [John 10:29](#); [2 Timothy 1:12](#); [Hebrews 7:25](#); [10:10,14](#); [1 Peter 1:3-5](#))

## **Baptism**

Baptism is the act of someone being immersed in water as a testimony of having accepted God’s free gift of salvation. Baptism symbolizes a person’s union with Jesus Christ. The act of going down into the water symbolizes the death and burial of an old way of life before salvation. The act of coming out of the water symbolizes the liberation from sin and being raised to live a new life as a disciple of Christ.

(See [Matthew 3:16](#); [28:19](#); [Mark 1:5-10](#); [Acts 2:38, 41](#); [Acts 8:12, 36-38](#); [Acts 9:18](#); [Acts 19:3-5](#); [Acts 22:16](#); [Romans 6:3-6](#); [Galatians 3:27](#); [Ephesians 4:4-5](#); [Colossians 2:12](#))