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Statement of Faith

<u>God</u>

God has revealed Himself as a unified Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three distinct Persons and yet but one God. He is the Creator of all things.

"But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him." I Corinthians 8:6

The Word of God

The Bible is God's Word, written by Him. Through the inspiration and indwelling of God's Holy Spirit, men physically wrote each word according to God's direction. No one may add to or take away from God's completed Word.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." Il Timothy 3:16

The Person of Jesus Christ

Jesus is Himself God. He took our nature, being conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He died upon the cross as a substitutionary sacrifice for the sin of His people. He ascended into heaven where He intercedes for us as our High Priest. He will come again to set up His kingdom and to judge the quick and the dead (see Philippians 2:5-8, Matthew 1:18-25, I Peter 2:24, Luke 24, Hebrews 4:14-16).

Salvation

Man was created in God's image, but sinned. Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Salvation is by grace through faith in Christ, who bore our sins on the cross. We cannot earn salvation through good works; it is a gift given only by God.

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost." Titus 3:5

The Church

The Church is the elect company of believers baptized by the Holy Spirit into one body. Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church, whose mission is to preach the Gospel to all nations.

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judæa, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8

The Church is also represented by the local congregations commissioned by God to bring the gospel to the world and to edify, teach, and encourage those part of the local congregations. Ephesians 4:11-16 teaches:

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.