

# *Our Beliefs*

## **The Scriptures**

We believe that every word in its original form of both the Old and New Testaments was God-breathed, and that these Scriptures are inerrant, the supreme and final authority for faith and life (II Peter 1:20-21, II Timothy 3:16-17).

## **The Godhead**

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Deuteronomy 6:4, Matthew 28:19).

## **The Person and Work of Christ**

We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin, Mary (Matthew 1:20, 23). We believe that Jesus Christ died as a sacrifice for the sins of all men (John 1:29, Hebrews 9:26), was buried (I Corinthians 15:4), was raised from the dead in a physical body, (Luke 24:39, John 20:27), that He ascended into heaven (Luke 24:51, Acts 1:11).

## **The Holy Spirit**

We believe in the deity and personality of the Holy Spirit (Acts 5:3-4, John 14:16), who presently distributes speaking and serving gifts to the church (I Corinthians 12:4). We believe, however, that sign gifts including miracles, healing, tongues, and the interpretation of tongues have ceased for the remainder of this dispensation.

## **The Depravity of Man**

We believe that all men are sinners by nature and practice (Jeremiah 17:9, Psalm 51:5, Mark 7:21-23, Romans 3:23). We believe that the penalty for sin is spiritual death (Ephesians 2:1), physical death (Hebrews 9:27), and eternal death, that is, everlasting punishment in the lake of fire (Revelation 20:14-25).

## **Salvation**

We believe that all those who receive Jesus Christ as their personal Savior are cleansed, through His shed blood, of all their sin and given eternal life at the moment they receive Him (I John 1:7, I John 5:12). We believe that every believer is eternally secure (Philippians 1:6).

## **The Church**

We believe that the universal Church of Jesus Christ is comprised of all believers in this dispensation, and that every believer is placed into this Church at the moment of his conversion by baptism of the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 12:13).

## **Ordinances**

We believe in baptism by immersion in water as a testimony of the believer's identification with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection (Matthew 28:19, Romans 6:3-4). We believe in observing the Lord's Supper as a means of commemorating the death of our Savior, and that only those who have been saved through His atoning blood and are walking in obedient fellowship with Him should partake of it (I Corinthians 11:23-26).

## **Eschatology**

We believe that the church will be taken out of the world before the Tribulation Period (I Thessalonians 4:16-18, II Thessalonians 2:7, Revelation 3:10). We believe in the visible, personal, and premillennial return of Christ with His saints after the Tribulation Period (Zechariah 14:4-11). We believe at this time, the nation Israel will be restored to favor with God (Daniel 9:27, Romans 11:26), and that our Lord will rule upon this earth for 1000 years (Revelation 20:3-5, Acts 1:6, Matthew 24:29-31), after which the world will be destroyed by fire (Revelation 20:9, II Peter 3:10) and a new world created in which there will be no more pain, sorrow, or death (Revelation 21:1-4). We believe in the physical resurrection of the saved unto eternal life and the unsaved unto eternal punishment (Philippians 3:21, I John 3:2, Daniel 12:2).

## **Satan**

We believe that Satan is a person, (Matthew 4:1), and that he is the spiritual father of all who do not believe in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior (John 8:44, Ephesians 2:2,3).

## **Separation**

We believe that all saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord, and that separation from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices, and associations is commanded of God (II Timothy 3:1-5, Romans 12:1,2, Romans 14:13, II Corinthians 6:14-7:1, I John 2:15-17, II John 9-11).