

## **The following is the doctrinal statement for Faith Bible Church:**

### **The Bible**

The entire bible, in its original writings, is verbally inspired of God and is of plenary authority (2. Tim. 3:16-17, 2 Pet. 1:21).

### **The Godhead**

There is one God, eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Deut. 6:4, 1 Tim. 2:5, Eph. 4:4-6, Matt. 28:19, 2 Cor. 13:14).

### **The Person of Christ**

Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, and is true God and true man (Luke 1:35, Phil. 2:6-9, Rom. 1:3-4).

### **The Depravity of Man**

All men, by nature, are dead in trespasses and sins, and are, therefore, totally unable--by their own wisdom or strength--to do anything pleasing to God (Eph. 2:1-3, Rom. 3:9-12, 1 Cor. 1:18-31).

### **Salvation**

God justifies ungodly sinners by His grace upon the ground of the shed blood of Christ through the means of faith. This complete salvation is bestowed as a free gift apart from man's works. It is a personal matter, leaving no room for the so-called "social gospel" (Rom. 3:24-28, Rom. 5:1, 9; Eph. 2:8-9).

### **The Church**

In this present dispensation or age, there is one true Church, which is called the Body of Christ (1 Cor.12:13; 12:27; Eph. 1:22-23, 3:1-6).

### **Eternal Security**

All the saved are eternally secure in Christ (Col. 3:1-4, Phil. 1:6, Rom. 8:1, Rom. 8:29-34, Rom. 8:38-39, Eph. 1:13-14).

### **Personality and Walk of the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit is a Person, Who convicts the world of sin, and regenerates, baptizes, indwells, enlightens, and empowers believers (Titus 3:5, 1 Cor. 12:13, Eph. 1:13, 17-18, Eph. 3:16).

### **Gifts**

The gifts necessary for the ministry of the Body of Christ are those enumerated in Eph. 4:7-16. Of these, only the gifts of evangelists, pastors, and teachers are in operation today. All the sign gifts of the Acts period (tongues, prophecy, healing, etc.), being temporary in character, have ceased (1 Cor. 13:8-11).

### **Walk**

By reason of Christ's victory over sin and of His indwelling Spirit, all of the saved may—and should—experience deliverance from the power of sin by obedience to Rom. 6:11. But, we deny that man's nature of sin is ever eradicated during this life (Rom. 6:6-14, Gal. 5:16-25, Rom. 8:37, 2 Cor. 2:14, 2 Cor. 10:2-5).

As saints ("set-apart ones") and members of the true Church ("called-out ones"), we are to maintain a Christ-honoring testimony; separate from all forms of worldliness and apostasy, demonstrating obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ, and love to all men (Rom. 12:1-2, 9; 2 Cor. 6:14-18, Eph. 5:11, 1 Tim. 6:20-21, 1 John 4:19).

### **Baptism**

All saved persons have been made members of the Body of Christ by the one divine baptism (1 Cor. 12:13). By this one baptism, every member of the Body of Christ is identified with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection. In the light of the statement concerning the one baptism in Eph. 4:5, the statements concerning baptism in Col. 2:12 and Rom. 6:3-4, and Paul's statement in 1 Cor. 1:17 ("Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel"), we affirm that water baptism has no place in God's spiritual program for the Body of Christ in this day of grace.

### **The Lord's Supper**

The communion of the Lord's Supper, as revealed through the Apostle Paul in 1 Cor. 11:23-26, is for members of the Body of Christ to observe "...until He comes." There is no place in Scripture where the Lord's Supper and water baptism are linked either as ordinances or as sacraments for the Church.

### **Resurrection**

Jesus Christ was resurrected bodily from the dead (Luke 24:39-43). Therefore (1 Cor. 15:21), all men will have a bodily resurrection (Acts 24:15): the saved to everlasting glory, and the unsaved to everlasting punishment (John 5:29; Rev. 20:11-15).

### **The Second Coming of Christ**

The rapture of the Church, "which is His body," and the second coming of Christ will be pre-millennial. He will come first to receive the members of His body to Himself (1 Thes. 4:13-18, Phil. 3:20-21), and later to receive his millennial kingdom, over which He will reign (Zech. 14:4, 9; Acts 1:10-11, Rev. 19:11-16, Rev. 20:4-6). Because of the distinctive nature of the Body of Christ, the resurrection and rapture of the Church, "which is His body," will take place before the great tribulation (Jer. 30:7, Matt. 24:15-31) at his appearing in the air (1 Thes. 4:13-18, Phil. 3:20-21, Titus 2:13-14, 1 Cor. 15:51-53). The resurrection of the other saved dead will occur after the tribulation (Rev. 20:4-6).

### **State of The Dead**

Nowhere does Scripture extend the hope of salvation to the unsaved dead, but, instead, reveals that they will ever continue to exist in a state of conscious suffering (Luke 16:23-28, Rev. 14:11, Rev. 20:14-15, Col 3:6, Rom. 1:21-32, John 3:36, Phil. 3:19, 2 Thes. 1:9). The teachings of universalism, probation after death, annihilation of the unsaved dead, and of the unconscious state of the dead--saved or unsaved (Luke 16:23-28, Phil. 1:23, 2 Cor. 5:6-8), are opposed by us as being thoroughly unscriptural and dangerous doctrines.

### **Mission**

The mission and commission of the Church, "which is His body," is to proclaim the message of reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:14-21), and to preach Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the mystery (Rom. 16:25, Eph. 3:8-9) with all boldness. In this, we should follow the Apostle Paul (1 Cor. 4:16, 1 Cor. 11:1, Phil. 3:17, Phil. 4:9, 1 Tim. 1:11-16). That distinctive message which the Apostle of the Gentiles (Rom. 11:13, Rom. 15:16) calls, "my gospel" (Rom. 2:16, Rom. 16:25) is also called, "the gospel of the grace of God" (Acts 20:24). We, like Paul, must preach the entire Word of God in light of this gospel (2 Tim. 4:2, Gal. 1:8-9), and strive to reach those in the regions beyond where Christ is not yet named (Rom. 15:20, 2 Cor. 10:16).

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