

# What Do We Believe?

As Christian workers associated together for voluntary and cooperative fellowship in the service of our Lord, we formulate the following declaration of the things which are most surely believed among us. Our doctrine is founded not upon the doctrine and commandments of men, but solely and entirely upon the teachings of the Holy Bible. We are fully persuaded that the helps and governments spoken of by the Apostle Paul in I Corinthians 12:27-28, are needful and the church is incomplete without them. If we reject the teachings that have been set forth for our guidance, we become self-willed as the Apostle Paul said in I Peter 2:10.

We, as Ministers and the called of God, believe that it is our duty- according to Titus 1:5- to set in order the things that are wanting(left undone) and to have ordained ministers (according to Titus 1:5,6,11) to avoid undue confusion and strife caused by those teaching doctrine that are contrary to the Word of God, the Bible(Titus 1:11).

1. We believe in God, the Father, eternal and almighty, creator of all things (Ephesians 3:9, 4:6).
2. We believe in Jesus Christ, that He is the Son of God, in His virgin birth, His death, His resurrection and His ascension (John 3:16; Hebrews 1:8; Matthew 27:28-46; Acts 1:9-11).
3. We believe in the Holy Ghost, that He is the third person in the triune Godhead; and the divine Spirit through whom the Father and the Son work (John 15:25, 14:16, I John 5:7-8).
4. We believe in the new birth; that when a sinner comes to God and repents of his sins and receives forgiveness, he is made a new creature in Christ Jesus (John 3:3-8, Acts 3:19, Romans 8:19; II Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 5:17; I Peter 1:23).
5. We believe we must have a conscience void of offense toward God and man, teaching us to make all wrongs that we have committed, right, according to Matthew 5:23.
6. We believe in Sanctification, that it is both progressive and definite.
  - a. Definitions.
    - i. Sanctify- To make sacred or Holy. To set apart for religious use. To secure from violation.
    - ii. Holy- To set apart to the service of God. Sacred, pure, guiltless.
    - iii. Righteousness- Purity of heart, uprightness.
  - b. Progressive.
    - i. By His (Jesus') Blood (Hebrews 13:12; 10:10).
    - ii. By Faith (Acts 15:9, 26:18).
    - iii. By the Holy Ghost (Romans 15:16).
    - iv. By the Word(John 17; Ephesians 5:26,27; I John 1:7).
  - c. Definite:

- i. Definition: Certain, Clear, Exact (I Thessalonians 5:23; Jude 1).
7. We believe in water baptism by immersion, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost as recommended by Jesus Christ our Lord (Matthew 28:19).
  - a. Examples: Matthew 3:16; Acts 8:38,39.
  - b. Types: Romans 6:3,4; Colossians 2:12.
8. We believe in the baptism of the Holy Ghost, that it is the enduement of power from on high upon the clean sanctified life. When we receive the Holy Ghost, it is accompanied by the same signs as the disciples had on the day of Pentecost. Namely, speaking with tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:3-4; 10:44-48; 19:6).
  - a. Question: Are we saved before we receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost?
    - i. Answer: Yes, according to Acts 8:6-8, 14, 17.
  - b. Question: Do you believe that a man instructed in the way of the Lord and fervent in the Spirit is saved?
    - i. Answer: Yes, according to the scripture in Acts 18:24-28.
9. We believe that every child of God should strive to go unto perfection (Matthew 5:48; Hebrews 6:1).
10. We believe in the Divine church built by Jesus Christ. That it embraces and includes everyone whom is born into the household of faith. We believe that membership in the Divine church is obtained by the new birth and not by any other method (Matthew 16:16-18; John 1:12-14; 3:3, 7-8; I Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 2:9-22).
  - a. Question: Is the Church the Body?
    - i. Answer: Yes, according to Romans 12:5; I Corinthians 2:27; Colossians 1:18.
  - b. Question: What is the Church?
    - i. Answer: The Church includes everyone that is purchased with the Blood of Jesus Christ (Acts 20:28). Which we received through faith that Jesus is the Christ (Matthew 16:15-18). And we believe that the Lord adds to the church such as should be saved, and not man, according to Acts 2:47 and I Corinthians 12:18,27.
11. We believe in the divine healing that God has provided in Jesus Christ; complete healing of all diseases and the prayer of faith will save the sick (Mark 16:18; James 5:14, 15).
12. We believe in Bible signs, following them that believe, but in no case do we tolerate fanaticism or heresy. We believe that when God confirms His word with signs following, it will bring edification to His Church and Glory to God (Mark 16:17; John 13:35; I Corinthians 14:26; I John 1:7).
  - a. The Signs explained as we believe.

- i. Casting out devils (Matthew 8:16; Mark 16:17; Luke 10:17; Acts 16:18).
  - ii. Speaking with new tongues. It has been taught that the meaning of this verse of scripture (speak with new tongues) refers to the new birth. But we are persuaded that he has been born again, continues in the faith and will pray for the baptism of the Holy Ghost shall speak with other tongues as the Spirit has given them utterance, after that the Holy Ghost has come upon them (Acts 2:4; 19:6).
  - iii. Take up serpents. We believe in taking up serpents, accidentally or in case of an emergency, but in no case do we tolerate the handling of serpents. In Acts of the Apostles chapter 28:3-6, as Paul was putting sticks on a fire, a viper came out of the fire. The viper came out of the heat and fastened on his hand. He evidently didn't wish to handle it, because he shook it off into the fire without ever having touched it, and the Bible tells that he felt no harm. Nowhere in the Bible do we find it recorded where the apostles ever practiced or taught anyone the practice of handling serpents to demonstrate their power.
  - iv. Drink any deadly thing. We believe that the power of God is sufficient to protect His people if we were to drink any deadly thing accidentally or have it forced on us, but we do not believe in tempting God by drinking poison or other such things as some people are now teaching.
  - v. Lay hands on the sick and they shall recover. We believe in divine healing and having faith to be healed (Matthew 19:2; Acts 14:9). Prayer of faith for the sick (James 5:14-15) heals all manner of sickness (Matthew 4:23). Healing is one of the gifts of the Spirit (I Corinthians 12:9).
13. We believe in the spiritual gifts for the divine church, that the operation of these gifts bring edification, and that all gifts MUST operate according to the scriptures (Romans 12:4, 19; I Corinthians 12:1). "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren I would not have you ignorant." (I Corinthians 12:1). "That there be no schism(divisions) in the body" (I Corinthians 12:25). The gifts as outlined in the Bible are as follows:
- a. Wisdom,
  - b. Knowledge,
  - c. Faith.,
  - d. Gifts of Healing,
  - e. Working of Miracles,
  - f. Prophecy (foretelling of an advent that is unseen),
  - g. Discerning of spirits (penetrating, perceiving)(I John 4:1),
  - h. Divers kind of tongues (I Corinthians 14:13, 27, 28),
  - i. Interpretation of tongues (I Corinthians 12:8-19).

14. We believe in the holy communion and the washing of the Saint's feet, and feel that both should be carried out just as Jesus left us an example. (Luke 22:17-20; John 13:14-15; I Corinthians 11:23-25).
15. We believe that every Christian should adorn themselves in modest apparel which becometh people professing Godliness. We don't believe that any ladies should wear shorts, pants, pantsuits, make-up, lipstick, eye make-up, rouge, earrings, or necklaces (I Timothy 2:9, 19; I Peter 3:3-5; Deuteronomy 22:5). We believe that women should have long hair and that men should have short hair (I Corinthians 11:1-16).
16. We don't believe in Christians going to worldly places such as theatres, shows, circuses, ballgames, etc. We believe these are of the world which we are told to love not (I John 2:15,16).
17. We believe that every Christian should abstain from the filthiness of the flesh such as:
  - a. Smoking or any use of tobacco in any form,
  - b. Substance abuse,
  - c. Alcoholic beverages,
  - d. Homosexuality, lesbianism, or any sexual perversion from which we are told to cleanse ourselves. (Romans 1:26-27; Chapter 18; II Corinthians 7:1; Galatians 5:16-21; II Peter 2:6; Jude 7). We believe that God has condemned any intimate sexual activity outside a marriage between a man and a woman. We reject homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, and adultery as sinful perversions of God's gift of sex to married couples (Gen. 2:24, 19:5-13, 26:8-9, Lev. 18:1-30, Rom. 1:26-29, I Cor. 5:1, 6:9, I Thes. 4:1-8, Heb. 13:4).
  - e. Partakers of such shall not participate in our Ministerial Association or in any of our churches.
18. We believe in the support of the ministry; that they who preach the Gospel should live by the Gospel and that the laborer is worthy of his hire. We believe that every Christian should dedicate a portion of his income to the Lord as the Lord has prospered him (I Corinthians 9:6-14; I Timothy 5:17,18). We believe that it is God's plan for Christian people to put as much as one-tenth of their income into their home church (Matthew 23:23; Leviticus 27:30-32; Malachi 3:10).
  - a. Examples of Abraham and Jacob, Hebrews 7:9-10.
19. We believe that every person professing salvation should have a home church and be interested enough in that church to aid in its upkeep, financially as well as spiritually. We feel that those who fail to lend their support to their church have very little interest in the church. We feel all pastors should be supported by their church as no pastor can be engaged at public work and take the proper care of the church. We feel that a pastor's duty consists of preaching the Word, teaching the people, visiting the members, praying for the sick, and seeing to the moral and spiritual interest of the church.

20. We believe in marriages that are scriptural. (Matthew 19:9; Romans 7:1-3; I Corinthians 6:14-20, 7:1-3, I Timothy 4:12; Hebrews 13:4). We disapprove of marriages where any degree of close blood kinship is involved or marriages of the same sex (Lev. 18).
21. We believe in eternal punishment for the wicked and eternal life for the righteous (Matthew 25:33,46). The wicked shall be cast into the burning lake of fire, burning with brimstone forever and ever (Revelation 14:10, 11; 20:10, 14, 15; Luke 16:24; Mark 9:43).
22. We believe the great tribulation period is when the beast is revealed, comes into power and suffers everyone whose name is not written in the Book of Life to take a mark in their right hand or in their forehead (Matthew 24:15, 29, 30; Isaiah 26:20-21; Mark 13:19-27; Daniel 12:1; Revelation 7:14; 13th chapter).
23. We believe the coming of Christ will be just as literal and visible as was his going away (Acts 1:9-11; John 14:3). There will be two appearances. First, to catch away His waiting Bride (Matt. 24:40-44, I Thes. 4:13-18). Second, to execute judgment upon the ungodly (II Thes. 1:7-10; Jude 14,15; Zech. 14:3,4).
24. We believe that Christ's millennial reign is the one thousand years literal reign of Jesus which will be ushered in by His coming back to the earth with ten thousands of His saints (Jude 14,15; II Thes. 1:7,10; Revelation 20:4,6). During this time, which is the beginning of the millennial reign, Satan (the devil) will be bound (Revelation 20:2,3; Zech. 14th chapter). Prior to this time, the wrath of God will be poured out upon the wicked, and those who have worshipped the beast and taken the mark of the beast (Rev. 9th and 16th chapters).
25. We believe in the Great White Throne Judgment and that God will finally judge the quick and the dead according to their works (Revelation 20:11,14; Daniel 12:2; Acts 10:42).
26. We believe in the new heavens and the new earth, as taught in the Word. That this earth- that has been polluted by sin- shall pass away after the White Throne Judgment and God shall create a new heaven and a new earth in which righteousness shall dwell (Matt. 24:35; I Peter 3:12, 13; Rev. 21:1,2; Isa. 65:17; 66:22). Then Jesus shall deliver the kingdom unto the Father, when He has put all things under His feet, and then shall the Son be subject unto the Father (I Cor. 15:24-28), And then shall we ever be with Jesus and the Father and all the Saints of God forever.
27. We believe in voluntary education, but we do not believe in any compulsory educational system that may be imposed upon the Ministers of God (Acts 4:13, I Cor. 2:1-8; Gal. 1:11).
28. We believe Christians should not take other Christians to court, but should permit the church or the saints to judge whom the church or board would appoint over these matters (I Cor. 6:1-8).

Amen.