

A DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

Statement continued ...

... that baptism by immersion in water is commanded of all repentant believers. (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:38; 8:35-38; 22:16; Romans 6:3-5)

Why This is Important—The constant and compelling pattern and teaching in Scripture leads us to believe that baptism by immersion in water is an important part of someone putting their faith in Christ. Romans 6:3-5 beautifully describes that our baptism represents us dying to our old self through Christ's death and joining in the new, resurrected life of Jesus through the power of the Spirit.

... that Jesus Christ will come a second and final time for resurrecting the wicked and the righteous, judging the unsaved and rewarding the saved. (John 5:28-29; Acts 1:11; 17:31; 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10; Hebrews 9:28)

Why This is Important—The longing of every Christian is for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. When He comes again, we will be resurrected and our bodies will be transformed to be like His glorious body (Philippians 3:21). We will be personally in the presence of God forevermore and live in perfect communion with Him—Father, Son, and Spirit (Revelation 21,22).

The imminent return of Jesus Christ also encourages us to take seriously the Commission of Jesus Christ to make disciples (Matthew 28:18-20) and our role as co-ministers of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:11-21). Those who do not know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior will be destined to live all of eternity in regret—apart from true pleasure, joy and glory—for only in God can humanity be pleased and find their hearts satisfied in worship.

In addition to the doctrinal statements above, we also value the following:

- ⇒ Being a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.
- ⇒ Embodying faith, hope, and love in our community.
 - ⇒ The ministry of all believers.
 - ⇒ An open table for all who profess Christ.
- ⇒ The proclamation that Jesus Christ is Savior & Lord and offers saving grace to all who will seek it through Him!

STRENGTHENING FAITH

A REFLECTION ON SOUND DOCTRINE



Watch your life and your doctrine closely.

Persevere in them ... **1 Timothy 4:16**



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A word about unity ...

The beliefs below are a fair representation of what most orthodox Christians throughout the ages have held as true. While not everyone in our fellowship may confess all these statements, the leaders of Parkview desire that all would unite around these central teachings of the faith and work together. We hope to promote unity and not division within Christ's church.

We Believe ...

... that the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the verbally inspired word of God, the final authority for faith and life, a complete reflection of the truth God desires to be revealed, infallible and fully God-breathed. (1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21)

Why This is Important – Human creeds and systems of doctrine can be valuable, but only God's Word is absolute truth (John 17:17). It must form the basis of our faith and practice.

... that there is one Triune God, eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; John 1:1-14; 8:58; Acts 5:3-4; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

Why This is Important – Christianity alone presents God as ONE God forever in three PERSONS. From all eternity, the Triune God has existed in community and thus, He is love. He extends that love to redeem man for His glory by offering sonship and adoption.

We believe that the Son, Jesus Christ, is God's one and only Son and the only Savior of the world. He is, in essence, the one true God as are the Father and Holy Spirit. (John 1:1-14; Acts 4:12; Colossians 1:15-20; Hebrews 1:1-3)

Why This is Important – Jesus claimed if anyone had seen Him, they had seen the Father. He revealed the Father's love for mankind. He was the perfect sacrifice because He was fully human and could take our place. Also, by virtue of His eternal nature, He was able to satisfy the debt of eternal punishment we owe for sinning against the Eternal God.



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Statement continued ...

... that Jesus became a man without ceasing to be God, suffered a substitutionary death on a cross to save sinners, was buried, and on the third day was bodily resurrected and is alive forevermore. (Luke 1:26-35; Luke 2:1-7; John 20:24-29; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 1:19-20; 1 Peter 2:24)

Why This is Important – God has known those who would believe in Him and predestined them to salvation (Romans 8:29; Ephesians 1:3-10; 1 Peter 1:2). If Jesus is your Lord and Savior, He is your actual substitute and has taken your sin & punishment on Himself, and justified you. His resurrection proves His Divinity and that His sacrifice is effective and accepted.

... that the Holy Spirit convicts the world of guilt concerning sin, righteousness and judgment to point us toward our need for Jesus; He indwells the Christian to empower them for ministry, fruitful living and overcoming temptation; and seals, gifts, comforts and helps all Christians. (John 14:16-17; 16:8-11; Romans 8:9-17; 12:6-8; 2 Corinthians 3:6; Galatians 5:22-26)

Why This is Important – Only the Spirit can bring conviction to the human heart. Only through the power of the Spirit can we minister, bear fruit and overcome sin. The Spirit's presence in our life is proof that we are God's child, the seal of our inheritance in heaven, and the promise of comfort and strength and help. God personally dwells in us by the Spirit so that He can transform us and show His glory through us!

... that people are saved only by grace through faith in Jesus – the only mediator between God and man – and there is nothing one can do to earn salvation. (Acts 4:10-12; Ephesians 2:4-9; 1 Tim. 2:5; Titus 3:4-7)

Why This is Important – Hard work is valuable in many areas of life, but there is no way for anyone to improve themselves enough to be acceptable to God. We cannot take care of our moral guilt or the debt we owe. We are all guilty of sinning against an absolutely perfect God. Only His grace can save us.

This Statement Concludes on the Back Page of This Booklet ...

