"THIS WE BELIEVE"

Article VII



"THIS WE BELIEVE" - I

- 1. WE BELIEVE THE SCRIPTURES, BOTH OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS,
 - 1- TO BE THE INSPIRED INFALLIBLE WORD OF GOD, WITHOUT ERROR IN THE ORIGINAL WRITINGS,
 - 2- THE COMPLETE REVELATION OF HIS WILL FOR THE SALVATION OF MEN,
 - 3- AND THE DIVINE AND FINAL AUTHORITY FOR ALL CHRISTIAN FAITH AND LIFE.

"THIS WE BELIEVE" - II

- 2. WE BELIEVE IN ONE GOD,
 - **1- CREATOR OF ALL THINGS,**
 - **2- INFINITELY PERFECT, AND**
 - **3- ETERNALLY EXISTING AND MANIFEST AS FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT.**

3. WE BELIEVE IN THE ABSOLUTE DEITY OF JESUS CHRIST,

- 1- HIS INCARNATION BY MEANS OF HOLY SPIRIT CONCEPTION AND VIRGIN BIRTH,
- 2- HIS SINLESS LIFE AND MIRACULOUS MINISTRY ON EARTH,
- 3- HIS DEATH ON THE CROSS AS A SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONEMENT FOR THE SINS OF ALL MEN,
- 4- HIS BODILY RESURRECTION FROM AMONG THE DEAD
- 5- HIS EXALTATION TO THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER AS LORD, MEDIATOR, PRIEST, & ADVOCATE,
- 6- AND HIS IMMINENT PERSONAL RETURN TO BRING INTO CONSUMMATION HIS WORK OF REDEMPTION BY ULTIMATE TRIUMPH OVER SATAN AND HIS HOSTS.

- 4. WE BELIEVE IN THE PERSONALITY AND DEITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. 1- HE IS CO-EQUAL WITH THE FATHER AND THE SON.
 - 2- HE IS TO CONVICT THE WORLD OF SIN AND DRAW MANKIND TO SALVATION,
 - 3- THAT THROUGH HIM MEN ARE REGENERATED AND SANCTIFIED,
 - 4- THAT BY HIM THE SAINTS ARE INDWELT WITH THE DIVINE PRESENCE,
 - 5- AND BY HIM BELIEVERS ARE ENABLED TO LIVE A VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN LIFE.

6- HIS MINISTRY IS SUCH THAT THE SON IS GLORIFIED AND THUS DOES NOT DRAW ATTENTION TO HIMSELF OR HIS GIFTS.
7- HE IS THE SEAL, EARNEST, GUIDE, TEACHER,
8- AND IT IS THE NORM FOR THE BELIEVER TO BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT RESULTING IN THE BEARING OF SPIRITUAL FRUIT

5. WE BELIEVE THAT MAN

- **1- WAS CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD**
- 2- BUT FELL INTO SIN IN THE FALL OF ADAM AND IS CONSEQUENTLY TOTALLY DEPRAVED,
- 3- AND IS THEREFORE LOST FOR ETERNITY UNDER THE JUST CONDEMNATION OF A HOLY GOD,
- **4- UNABLE TO SAVE HIMSELF.**

6. WE BELIEVE A CHRISTIAN IS ONE SAVED BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH.

- 1- THIS IS THE ONLY MEANS OF SALVATION.
- 2- WE BELIEVE THAT THE SHED BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST, HIS SINGLE SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONING SACRIFICE, AND HIS SUBSEQUENT RESURRECTION PROVIDE THE ONLY GROUND FOR JUSTIFICATION AND SALVATION FOR ALL WHO BELIEVE.
- 3- TO BELIEVE IS TO REPENT OF ONE'S SIN AND TO ENTRUST ONESELF TO GOD BASED ON THE FINISHED ATONING WORK OF JESUS CHRIST ON THE CROSS.
- 4- IT IS ONLY AS ONE RECEIVES JESUS CHRIST AND IS BORN OF THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT ONE BECOMES A CHILD OF GOD AND IS THUS ETERNALLY SECURE.

7. WE BELIEVE IN THE POSITIONAL SANCTIFICATION OF EACH **BELIEVER IN CHRIST AT THE TIME OF SALVATION, 1- AND A PRACTICAL SANCTIFICATION WHICH IS PROGRESSIVE**, **2- DEPENDING UPON THE INDWELLING HOLY SPIRIT GIVING VICTORY OVER THE WORLD, THE FLESH,** AND A LITERAL DEVIL. **3- THIS CHRISTIAN LIFE IS OF NECESSITY** TO BE LIVED IN NONCONFORMITY TO THE WORLD THAT THE BELIEVER MIGHT BE THE SALT AND LIGHT GOD INTENDS HIM TO BE. **4- WHILE THERE IS FREEDOM IN CHRIST REGAR DING** PERSONAL CHOICES, CHRISTIAN LIBERTY IS NOT TO **BE USED AS AN OCCASION FOR THE FLESH.**

- 8. WE BELIEVE THAT THE CHURCH, THE BODY OF CHRIST, IS A SPIRITUAL ORGANISM
 - 1- MADE UP OF ALL BORN-AGAIN BELIEVERS OF THIS PRESENT AGE
 - 2- AND THAT IT WAS BIRTHED AND EMPOWERED BY THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST.
 - 3- THIS INVISIBLE UNIVERSAL CHURCH IS MANIFESTED THROUGH LOCAL CHURCHES OF WHICH CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH IS BUT ONE SUCH BODY SEEKING TO LIVE OUT ITS BIBLICAL CALLING WITH JESUS AS IT'S HEAD.
 4- WE ARE CALLED TO FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHERS OF LIKE PRECIOUS FAITH.

9. WE BELIEVE THAT "BELIEVER'S BAPTISM" AND "THE LORD'S SUPPER" ARE ORDINANCES TO BE OBSERVED BY THE CHURCH DURING THE PRESENT AGE.

THEY ARE NOT TO BE REGARDED AS MEANS OF SALVATION.

10. WE BELIEVE THAT GOD'S DESIGN FOR THE FAMILY BEGINS WITH THE SANCTITY OF MARRIAGE AS ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN **COMMIT THEMSELVES TO EACH OTHER FOR LIFE. 1- THE HUSBAND AND WIFE HAVE EACH BEEN GIVEN SPECIAL ROLES DESIGNED BY GOD TO COMPLEMENT EACH OTHER.** WHILE INDIVIDUAL GIFTS AND PERSONALITIES VARY, THE MARRIAGE WILL ONLY BE AS HE DESIGNED AND PLEASING IN **GOD'S SIGHT WHEN IT FUNCTIONS ACCORDING TO THESE ROLES.** 2- BECAUSE TWO CAN NOT BE UNITED AND FOLLOW DIFFERENT MASTERS, BELIEVERS ARE NOT TO MARRY UNBELIEVERS. 3- GOD HATES DIVORCE. BECAUSE OF MAN'S SIN, THE BIBLE APPEARS TO ALLOW BUT NOT MANDATE DIVORCE IN SPECIFIC INSTANCES. HOWEVER, GOD'S DESIGN STILL REMAINS FOR **REPENTANCE AND RECONCILIATION.** 4- WHILE MARRIAGE IS FOR MOST, TO SOME GOD HAS GRANTED THE GIFT OF SINGLENESS.

11. WE BELIEVE IN THE

- 1- PERSONAL, PREMILLENNIAL AND IMMINENT COMING OF OUR LORD **JESUS CHRIST, AND**
- 2- THAT THIS "BLESSED HOPE" HAS A VITAL BEARING ON THE PERSONAL LIFE AND SERVICE OF THE BELIEVER.
- 3- THE KINGDOM OF GOD, FORESHADOWED AND PREDICTED IN THE OLD **TESTAMENT AND VISIBLY MANIFEST IN THE INCARNATION, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST, CONTINUES TODAY AS CHRIST REIGNS IN HEAVEN.**
 - 1) WHILE THE KINGDOM OF GOD WILL ONE DAY BE SEEN PHYSICALLY "WITH POWER AND GREAT GLORY" WHEN CHRIST RETURNS TO **REIGN**,
 - 2) THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NOT NOW PRIMARILY PHYSICAL, BUT **SPIRITUAL IN NATURE.**
 - 3) APART FROM THE NEW BIRTH, THERE IS NO PARTICIPATION IN THE **KINGDOM**
 - 4) AS A RESULT, THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH TO THE OUTSIDE
 - WORLD LIES PRIMARILY WITH SPREADING THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST 5) AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO HIS RETURN.

I. It Is Personal 1. He hasn't forgotten His own

He hasn't forgotten His own
 He is coming for His own

He hasn't forgotten His own
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 II. It Is Premillennial

I. It Is Personal He hasn't forgotten His own He is coming for His own II. It Is Premillennial Three views of Millennial Period

He hasn't forgotten His own
 He is coming for His own
 II. It Is Premillennial

 Three views of Millennial Period
 The Millennial Kingdom

He hasn't forgotten His own
 He is coming for His own
 II. It Is Premillennial

 Three views of Millennial Period
 The Millennial Kingdom

 III. It Is Imminent

He hasn't forgotten His own
 He is coming for His own
 II. It Is Premillennial

 Three views of Millennial Period
 The Millennial Kingdom

 III. It Is Imminent

 It could occur at any time

1. He hasn't forgotten His own 2. He is coming for His own II. It Is Premillennial 1. Three views of Millennial Period 2. The Millennial Kingdom III. It Is Imminent 1. It could occur at any time 2. Thus we have the many warnings to be ready

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