

CTCHE Statement of Faith

The Nature of God

God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24) There is one uncreated God, eternally self-existent in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). Each person of the Godhead is without beginning or ending and eternally maintains all characteristics of the Divine nature (Psalm 90:2, 139). This Divine nature can not be share with any other being (Isaiah 43:10, 48:11).

The Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the eternally existing second Person of the Trinity—the first and last (John 8:58, Revelation 22:13). When He came to Earth, He was born of a virgin (Luke 1:34-35) to become flesh and dwell among us (John 1:14). When He became flesh, He continued to be fully God but also become fully man. He was the Messiah prophesied in the Old Testament. He led a sinless life (1 Peter 2:22), died on the cross for our sins (2 Corinthians 5:21), was buried (Luke 23:53), and bodily rose again on the third day (Luke 24:39). He alone is our High Priest and Advocate to the Father (Hebrews 4:14, 1 Timothy 2:5).

The Word of God

The Bible is the only inspired, inerrant, infallible, and eternal Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21). As the complete written revelation of God, it is given for the redemption of mankind and is the sufficient and final authority regarding Christian life and faith. The whole Bible is inspired in the sense that holy men of God “were moved by the Holy Spirit” to write the very words of the Scripture. We believe the Scriptures are complete and closed to any new revelation of God (Revelations 22:18-19).

The Creation and fall of Man

God created man and woman in His own image, a personal and deliberate act of the sovereign God of creation (Genesis 1:26-27), and gave them a uniquely human nature, and made them without sin. As a created being, man never was nor ever can become God or God-like. The first man and woman, through disobedience, introduced sin into the world. All men and women inherit a sinful nature at conception passed to them from their parents. As a result, man is dead in sin and is by nature incapable of pleasing God. The penalty for sin is eternal death and separation from God.

The Need and Means of Salvation

Man is inherently in need of salvation from God’s Wrath (Romans 3:23). This salvation is a gift from God, exclusively found by faith alone in Jesus Christ and His shed blood (John 3:18, Acts 4:12). Man’s sinful condition makes it impossible to gain favor with God, or to be saved through good works.

Believers are justified (declared perfectly righteous) by Christ's shed blood on the cross and shall be saved from the wrath through Him. This is the only way, for Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me." (John 14:6)

Christ's death on the cross provided substitutionary atonement for our sins, completing the work of justification (the application of Christ's merit to the account of each person who repents of his or her sin and believes on Him). The blessed result of believing in him is everlasting life (John 3:16).

The Church

Christ's church is made up of all people who have understood and recognized their lost condition, have repented of their sins, and have placed their trust in the redeeming work of Christ for their salvation irrespective of denominational affiliation.

The Future

Jesus will physically and literally return to Earth in the Second Advent (Rev 22). Christ will conquer the forces of evil and judge all people both living and dead. There will be a bodily resurrection of all people (Romans 6:5); the unjust to everlasting damnation, the just to everlasting life in the place Christ has prepared for us (John 14:1-4).

Signed _____ **Date** _____