

STATEMENT OF 16 FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS



1. Scriptures Inspired

We believe the Scriptures are inspired by God. The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct.

(2 Tim 3:15 -17; 1 Thes 2:13; 2 Pet 1:21)

2. The One True God

We believe there is One True God revealed in three persons. The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

(Deut 6:4; Isa 43:10-11; Mt 28:19; Lk 3:22)

3. The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

We believe in the Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:

- i. His virgin birth (Mt 1:13; Lk 1: 31, 35)
- ii. His sinless life (Heb 7:26; 1Pet 2:22)
- iii. His miracles (Ac 2:22; 10:38)
- iv. His substitution work on the Cross (1Cor 15:3; 2Cor 5:21)
- v. His bodily resurrection from the Dead (Mt 28:6; Lk 24:39; 1Cor 15:4)
- vi. His Exaltation to the right hand of God (Acts 1:9, 11; 2:33; Phil 2:9-11; Heb. 1-3)

4. The Fall of Man

We believe humankind willingly fell into sin – ushering in evil and death, both physical and spiritual, into the world. Man was created good and upright for God said: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God.

(Gen 1:26 -27, 2:17, 3:6; Rom 5:12 -19).

5. The Salvation of Man

We believe every person can be restored to fellowship with God through accepting Christ's offer of forgiveness and salvation.

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

- i. Conditions to Salvation: Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life (Lk 24:47; Jn 3:3; Rom 10:13-15; Eph 2:8; Tit 2:11; 3:5-7).
- ii. The Evidences of Salvation: The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Rom 8:16). The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Eph 4:24; Tit 2:12).

6. The Ordinances of the Church

We believe in Water Baptism by full immersion after salvation, and Holy Communion as a symbolic remembrance of Christ's suffering and death for our salvation.

- i. Baptism in Water: The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Saviour and Lord are to be baptized. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life (Mt 28:19; Mk 16:16; Ac 10:47-48; Rom 6:4).
- ii. Holy Communion: The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements: bread and the fruit of the vine, is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Pet 1:4), a memorial of His suffering and death, and a prophecy of His second coming (1Cor 11:26), and is enjoined on all believers "till He comes!"

7. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit

We believe the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a special experience following salvation that empowers believers for witnessing and effective service.

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect, and should earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry

(Lk 24:49; Ac 1:4, 8; 1Cor 12:1-31)

This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Ac 8:12 -17; 10:44 -46; 11:14 -16; 15:7-9). With the Baptism in the Holy Spirit come such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (Jn 7:37 -39; Ac 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Ac 2:43; Heb. 12:28), an intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work (Ac 2:42), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word, and for the lost (Mk 16:20).

8. The Initial Physical Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The baptism of believers in the Holy Spirit is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance (Acts 2:4).

The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues, but is different in purpose and use.

(1 Cor 12:4-10, 1 Cor 12:28)

9. Sanctification

We believe sanctification initially occurs at salvation, but is also a progressive lifelong process.

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil and of dedication unto God (Rom 12:1-2; 1Thes 5:23; Heb 13:12). The Scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord" (Heb 12:14). By the power of the Holy Spirit we are able to obey the command: "Be ye holy, for I am holy" (1Pet 1:15 -16).

Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, and by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit.

(Rom 6:1-11, 13; 8:1-2,13; Gal 2:20; Phil 2:12-13; 1Pet 1:5).

10. The Church and Its Mission

We believe the church has a mission to seek and save all who are lost in sin.

The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfilment of her Great Commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit is an integral part of the General Assembly and Church of the first-born, which are written in heaven.

(Eph 1:22-23; 2:22; Heb 12:23)

Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshiped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, the priority reason for being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

- i. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Ac 1:8; Mt 28:19-20; Mk 6:15 -16).
- ii. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1Cor 12:13).
- iii. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Eph 4:11 -16; 1Cor 12:28; 1Cor 14:12).

11. The Ministry

We believe a divinely called and biblically ordained leadership ministry serves the church. A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for a three-fold purpose of leading the Church in:

- i. Evangelization of the world (Mk 16:15 -20)
- ii. Worship of God (Jn 4:23 -24)
- iii. Building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Eph 4:11 -16)

12. Divine Healing

We believe divine healing of the sick is a privilege for Christians today and is provided for in Christ's atonement. Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement and is the privilege of all believers

(Isa 53:4-5; Mt 8:16-17; Jam. 5:14-16).

13. The Blessed Hope

We believe in the Blessed Hope - when Jesus raptures his church prior to his return to Earth.

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the imminent and blessed hope of the Church.

(1 Thes 4:16-17; Rom 8:23; 1 Cor 15: 51-52).

14. The Millennial Reign of Christ

We believe in the millennial reign of Christ when Jesus returns with his saints at his second coming and begins his rule over earth for 1,000 years.

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for one thousand years (Zec 14:5; Mt 24:27, 30; Rev 1:7; 19:11-14; 20:1-6). This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ez 37:21-22; Zep 3:19 -20; Rom 11:26 -27) and the establishment of universal peace (Isa 11:6-9; Ps 72:3-8; Mic 4:3-4).

15. The Final Judgement

We believe in a final judgment for those who have rejected Christ. There will be a final judgment in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.

(Matt. 25:46; Mk 9:43-48; Rev 19:20; 20:11-15; 21:8).

16. The New Heavens and New Earth

We believe in a new heavens and a new earth that Christ is preparing for all people who have accepted Him. "We according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness" (2 Pet 3:13; Rev 21-22).