



STATEMENT OF BELIEF

SCRIPTURES

We believe the Holy Scriptures are divinely inspired in every word and inerrant in the original documents and are God's complete written revelation to man. We affirm that they are both authoritative and sufficient in all matters of faith and practice and are not to be added to or subtracted from. (John 16:12-13; 2 Peter 1:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:16; John 16:12-13; Hebrews 4:12)

THE TRIUNE GOD

We believe that there is one true living God who perfectly and eternally existing in three Persons - the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He is the loving, sovereign Creator and sustainer of all things, deserving of our worship and obedience. (Genesis 1:1-31; Deuteronomy 6:4; Psalm 103:19; Romans 11:36; Isaiah 45:5-7; 1 Corinthians 8:4-6)

JESUS CHRIST

We believe in the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is both fully God and fully man. We believe in His virgin birth, His sinless life, His miracles, His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, His bodily resurrection, His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and His future personal and bodily return to Earth in power and glory. (John 10:31; 14:9; Colossians 1:15-17; 2:9; Luke 1:35; Romans 5:8; 1 Peter 2:24; Romans 1:4; Acts 1:9-11)

THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells all believers and sanctifies, instructs, illumines, empowers, and seals each believer unto the day of redemption. (John 3:3-6; John 14:16; 1 John 4:13; Romans 8:9, 26-27; 1 Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 1:13-14)

MAN

We believe that men and women were created in the image of God. Subsequently, every person has value and dignity that is a direct result of that creation. Through Adam's sin they fell and became alienated from God. Humans are unable to remedy their own condition.

We believe that God's intention in the creation of man was that man should glorify God, enjoy God's fellowship, live his life in the will of God, and by this accomplish God's purpose for man in the world (Isaiah 43:7; Colossians 1:16; Revelation 4:11).

We believe that, as a result of Adam's sin, all mankind inherited a sinful nature that is evidenced by their own acts of sin and are subject to eternal separation from God in Hell under God's righteous and just condemnation.

SALVATION

We believe that the salvation of man, who on his own is hopelessly lost, is a free gift for all who repent of their sin and put their trust in Jesus Christ and His finished work on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. This salvation is wholly of God, by grace, on the basis of the redeeming work of Jesus Christ and the merit of His shed blood, not on the basis of human merit or works. All the redeemed are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever. (John 1:12; Ephesians 1:4-7; 2:8-10; 4:30; 1 Peter 1:18-19; 2:24; John 3:3-7; 3:36; 5:24; John 6:37-40; 44; 10:27-30; Acts 2:38; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Titus 3:4-7; 1 Peter 1:5; Hebrews 7:25)

SANCTIFICATION

We believe that sanctification is the process of becoming more like Christ that begins at salvation and is completed when the believer is face to face with Jesus. Upon belief and trust in Jesus, the believer is justified and is declared holy by God. Through the empowering of the Holy Spirit and obedience to the Word of God, the believer is enabled to live a life of increasing holiness and growing victory over sin.

MARRIAGE

We believe that marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union. This union is designed to never be separated except for reasons given by Jesus Himself (Matt. 5:31-32). We believe that all alternative forms of marital union allowed and encouraged by societal structures and ideologies fall short of God's design and His will for humanity.

SEXUALITY

We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman in the context of marriage. We believe that God has commanded that there be no intimate sexual activity outside of marriage. (1 Corinthians 6:18; 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4) John 17:17,19; Romans 6:1-22; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Galatians 5:16-25; Ephesians 4:22-24)

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bestiality, incest and use of pornography) is sin. (Matthew 15:18-20; Romans 1:26-29; 1 Corinthians 5:1; 6:9-10; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8)

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:19-21; Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 6:9-11)

GENDER

We believe men and women, equally made in the image of God, enjoy equal access to God by faith in Christ Jesus. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Genesis 1:26-27)

We believe that every person is an image-bearer of God and must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect and dignity. We believe that one's gender is God-given at birth and is irrefutable. God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female for a specific purpose that He has decided. To reject one's biological sex is to walk opposite of God's will.

******This statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. We believe that the Bible itself speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality and the proper conduct of mankind. It is the sole and final source of all that we believe. For the purpose of *Likewise Worship's* faith, doctrine, practice, policy, and discipline, our Board of Directors is our final interpretive authority on the Bible's meaning and application.