

### **ARTICLE III. STATEMENT OF FAITH**

- A. We believe that all Scripture is inspired by God, that in its entirety, the Bible is the inerrant and Divinely authoritative Word of God containing the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of mankind, and the final Authority for all Christian life and faith.
- B. We believe that the one living and true God eternally exists in three distinct persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and that these three possess the same nature, attributes, and glory.
- C. We believe that man was created by God and in God's image, but by disobedience fell into sin. Therefore he is lost, liable to eternal punishment, and can only obtain salvation and eternal life through regeneration by the Holy Spirit.
- D. We believe that Jesus Christ is God the Son, and that through His virgin birth, true humanity and undiminished Deity were united in one person forever.
- E. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died upon the cross, shedding His precious blood as a full and perfect substitutionary sacrifice for sins, according to the Scriptures, and that His bodily resurrection from the dead and ascension to Heaven marks Him as Lord of all. He is there as our High Priest and Advocate.
- F. We believe that salvation is entirely of God's grace, through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ alone. The believer is forgiven, regenerated, given eternal life, and kept by the power of God to salvation on the sole basis of faith in Christ as personal Saviour.
- G. We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, convict men, regenerate the believing sinner, and that He has united every believer to Christ by Spirit baptism. We also believe He indwells every believer to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ by empowering and instructing the believer in Godly living and service.
- H. We believe that the true Church is composed of all true believers and that the Lord Jesus Christ is the only Head of His Church. The Church expresses itself in worship, fellowship, evangelism, and service.
- I. We believe that a local church is under the direct authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, through His Word, and only those who are members of the true Church are eligible for membership in the local church. Elders are raised up by the Chief Shepherd to shepherd God's people, and

each local church has the right under Christ to decide and govern its own affairs according to Scripture.

- J. We believe that water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be observed by the local church in obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ. They are not to be regarded however, as means of salvation.
- K. We believe in the personal and imminent return of the Lord Jesus Christ for His Church and His return in glory to judge the nations and reign upon the earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
- L. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead: of the believer to everlasting life and joy with the Lord, and of the unbeliever to judgement and everlasting conscious punishment.

This provision is unalterable. (1987)