

Ferndale Bible Chapel Statement of Belief

The church believes :

- (a) In one **God** eternally existing in three persons - **Father, Son and Holy Spirit**. (Gen 1:2, 26; John 1:1-4, 14; Col 2:9; II Cor 13:14)
- (b) In the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments in their original writings as fully inspired of **God**, and accepts them as the final authority for faith and life. (II Tim 3:16, 17; I Cor 15:3-5)
- (c) That the *Lord Jesus Christ* was begotten by the *Holy Spirit*, born of the virgin Mary, and is true **God** and true man. (Luke 1:26-35; John 1:2, 14)
- (d) That **God** created man in His own image; that man sinned and thereby incurred the penalty of death, physical and spiritual; and that all human beings inherit a sinful nature, which issues in actual transgression involving personal guilt. (Gen 1:26; Gen 3; Rom 3:23; 5:12; 6:23; Ps 51:5)
- (e) That the *Lord Jesus Christ* died for our sins, a substitutionary sacrifice, according to the Scriptures, and that all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood. (Rom 3:24; 5:6-11; Heb 9:14, 15)
- (f) In the bodily resurrection of the *Lord Jesus Christ*, His ascension into heaven, and His present ministry as our High Priest and Advocate. (I Cor 15:1-23; John 20:1-31; Luke 24:50-53; I John 2:1, 2)
- (g) In the personal return of the *Lord Jesus Christ* for His Church universal. (Acts 1:9-11; I Thes 4:13-18)
- (h) In the personality of the *Holy Spirit*, His regenerating work, and abiding presence in the true believer. (Rom 8:9-17; Col 1:27; Acts 2; Gal 5:16-26)
- (i) That all who receive the *Lord Jesus Christ* by faith are born again of the *Holy Spirit* and thereby become children of **God**. (I Pet 1:3; Gal 4:4-7; John 3:7, 8)
- (j) That all Christians are called to a life of holiness, devotion to the *Lord Jesus Christ* and service for Him. (Heb 4:14; 13:20, 21; Rom 12:1; Eph 2:10; Jude 20, 21)
- (k) In the resurrection both of the just and the unjust, the eternal blessedness of the redeemed, and the eternal banishment of those who have rejected the offer of salvation. (I Cor 15:42-44; Rev 20:11-15; John 5:28, 29)

(l) That the one true Church is the whole company of those who have accepted the *Lord Jesus Christ* as their personal *Saviour*, been redeemed by Him and regenerated by the *Holy Spirit*, and that the local church on earth should take its character from this conception of the Church spiritual and, therefore, that the new birth and personal confession of *Christ* are essentials of local church membership. (Eph 1:22, 23; 5:24-27; Col 1:18, 24)

(m) In the priesthood of all believers, the responsibility to participate actively in the worship of **God** by using openly and generously the spiritual gifts given to glorify **God**. (I Pet 2:5, 9, 10; I Cor 12:4-11; 14:26-33)

(n) That the *Lord Jesus Christ* appointed two ordinances - **Baptism** and the **Lord's Supper** - to be observed as acts of obedience and as perpetual witnesses to the cardinal facts of Christian faith; that **Baptism** is the immersion of the believer in water as a confession of identification with the *Lord Jesus Christ* in burial and resurrection, and that the **Lord's Supper** is the partaking of the bread and the wine as symbolical of the *Saviour's* body and shed blood, in remembrance of His sacrificial death till His return. (Matt 28:18, 19; Mark 16:15, 16; Rom 6; Matt 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:19, 20; Acts 2:41, 42, 46; 8:36-38; 18:8; 20:7; I Cor 11:17-34; 10:16)

(o) That "You are all sons of **God** through faith in *Christ Jesus*, for all of you who were baptised into *Christ* have clothed yourselves with *Christ*. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in *Christ Jesus*." **Galations 3:26-28**.