



Faith Statement

1. Concerning the Bible

Every word of all sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments is inspired by God and is without error in the original manuscripts. They are the supreme and final authority in any age.

Psalm 19:7-9; Matt. 5:18; Luke 16:17; John 10:35; 2 Tim 3:16; 2 Peter 1:19-21

2. Concerning God

There is but one true God, the Creator, Sustainer, and Ruler of the universe, eternally self-existent in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Deut. 4:39; 6:4; Isa. 9:6-7; Matt. 28:19-20; John 8:58; 10:30; 1 Cor. 8:6

3. Concerning the Son

Jesus Christ is the Eternal Son of God. While remaining fully God, He fully became man as the virgin-born son of Mary. As Messiah, He fulfilled Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah. He was rejected, condemned, crucified, buried in a tomb, but on the third day arose bodily from the dead. He ascended into heaven in a glorified body, is presently sitting at the Father's right hand interceding as High Priest on our behalf. One day He will return for His church and to reign.

Isa. 53; Matt. 1:18; John 1:1,14; 14:3; John 18-20; Acts 1:9-11; 13:27,29; Col. 2:9; Heb. 7:25; 8:1-2

4. Concerning the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is a divine person, co-equal with the Father and the Son. He was sent to glorify Christ by convicting us of sin and applying the saving work of Christ to us through regeneration and sanctification. He has come to glorify Christ through us by indwelling, sealing, guiding, teaching, protecting, empowering and gifting the believer.

Matt. 28:19; John 16:13-14; 3:5-6; Acts 5:3-4; Rom. 8:1-14; 1 Cor. 12:7-11; Eph. 1:13-14; 3:16:17; Heb. 9:14

5. Concerning Man and His Need

Man was created in the image of God to be able to fellowship with God. Because of Adam's sin, man suffered a change in his essential nature, the marring of God's image and became hostile to God. Now all human beings are born with Adam's sinful nature and are under condemnation. They are unable to secure God's favor through their own efforts and need a spiritual regeneration before they can become what God created them to be.

Gen. 1:26-27; John 3:3; Rom. 3:22-24; 7:17-18 & 23; 8:7; Eph. 4:24; Col. 3:10

6. Concerning Redemption

Jesus lived a sinless life, fulfilling God's law, thus qualifying Him to bear the sins of the world in His body on the cross and to be a substitute for sinners of all times. He became sin for sinners and experienced the punishment for their sin, His blood thus satisfying the just demands of the righteous God. Therefore, all who put their trust in Jesus alone are made righteous, are reconciled to God and are given eternal life. Salvation is by grace through faith.

Matt. 5:17; John 3:16; 14:6; Acts 4:12 Rom. 3:21-22; 5:10 & 18; 2 Cor. 5:21; Gal. 2:16; Eph. 2:8-9; Phil. 3:9; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Peter 1:18-19

7. Concerning the Church

The church consists of all who have been regenerated and united together by the Spirit into the body of Christ. The church is the expression of Christ to the world with a mission to witness Christ to the nations.

Matt. 28: 19-20; 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 1 Peter 2:4-5

8. Concerning the Future

We look for the visible, bodily return of Jesus Christ to earth. His return will bring His kingdom to completion, will bring judgment to the world and will fulfill His promises to His people. His future work on earth will conclude with the destruction of all evil and the creation of a new heaven and earth. All human beings who have died will be raised from the dead to participate either in eternal life prepared for those who have been redeemed, or to participate in eternal punishment along with the devil and his angels.

Matt. 24:30; 25:31-46; John 14:3; Acts 1:9-11; Rev. 20:10-21:4

Statement of Faith Requirement

Subscribing to the statement of faith cited above under "Absolutes of the Faith" shall be required of any person who would participate in ministry leadership, serving with ELLS International as a board member, a staff employee, or a volunteer who teaches, handles financial information or represents the ministry. All teaching and training shall likewise be in conformity with this statement of faith.