

INJILI BIBLE CHURCH

Statement of Faith – What we Believe:

We believe that God in His goodness has revealed Himself to all men both through nature (though it is not enough to bring salvation) and, especially, His particular will regarding salvation through the holy Bible. We therefore take the holy Scriptures, the 66 commonly received books of the Old and New Testaments, as our rule and standard of faith and all matters relating to our lives. Although we accept no man-made confession as finally authoritative, we receive the 1689 Baptist Confession as true to the holy Bible and regard it highly as an excellent, though uninspired, summary of the chief doctrines of God's Word. We adopt this Confession as expressing those things believed among us. We present below a summary or statement of the Christian faith to instruct and guide our members and to preserve us against false doctrine.

1. Scripture:

We believe in the wholesomeness of the holy Scriptures containing both Old and New Testaments that it is equally and in every part the Word of God, without any error whatsoever in its original form, and a sufficient and final revelation of all saving knowledge, faith and obedience. They must be received as the final authority in all matters of faith and practice. No other writings, man's revelation, opinions, or traditions are accepted as the eternal Word of God or as having any such authority.

2. God:

We believe in the one, true eternal God, who is Spirit in essence, the Maker, Preserver and Ruler of all things, whether visible or invisible. He is self-sufficient, needing nothing and having in and of Himself all perfections and being infinite in them all. He accomplishes all things according to the pleasure of His perfect will and for His own glory, and ordains all events that happen in the universe, yet He is not the author, performer or approver of sin, nor does He destroy the responsibilities of His intelligent moral creatures. This God is revealed to us in three distinct, yet equal Persons: the Father, the Son or the Word and the Holy Spirit, one God eternal and Almighty.

3. Man:

We believe that God created the first man and woman, Adam and Eve, by a definite creative act, after His own image, upright and good. Adam represented all human beings in history as their federal head. He was not able to keep his original righteousness but transgressed against God, falling into sin and exposing the entire race to sin and its consequences, even to death. The historic Fall from the original righteousness in which mankind was created is the source of all the evil in the world. The guilt of Adam's sin is reckoned to all his descendants, so that all men are conceived in a state of guilt, corruption, separation from God and condemnation to eternal death. This state is known as original sin, and from it proceeds all actual transgressions. Therefore, although completely responsible to God to perform what He has commanded, man is completely unable of himself to do any spiritual good, even to repent of sin and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ.

4. Election:

We believe that from all eternity God has planned to save for Himself out of lost and fallen humanity an innumerable multitude, not because of any foreseen faith or merit on their part, but because of His mercy in Christ, whom He appointed as the only Mediator, the Prophet, Priest and King of those whom the Father gave to Him. All whom God has thus predestined to salvation will certainly be called, justified and glorified.

5. Jesus Christ:

We believe that according to God's plan, Jesus Christ, the eternal second Person of the Godhead, united to His Divine nature a real human nature of body and soul, was born via the womb of the Virgin Mary, becoming truly God and truly man in one Person, yet without sin. For the salvation of His people, He perfectly and faithfully kept God's holy law in his life, voluntarily suffered and died as a full and sufficient substitutionary sacrifice for them reconciling them to God. He was buried, rose bodily on the third day, was afterward seen by many witnesses for 40 days on earth, ascended into heaven with the same resurrected body and finally sat down at the right hand of the Father. He now reigns over all things for the sake of the Church and makes continual intercession for His people.

6. Conversion:

The Father and the exalted Christ send forth the Holy Spirit to apply the fruits of Christ's accomplished redemption to all His people, which application is essential and effectual unto salvation. The new birth, the giving of a new heart, by which the sinner is enabled to repent and believe, is not an act of man's free will and power, but the result of the effectual and gracious working of the Holy spirit, who freely works when, where, and how and in whom He pleases without coercion or manipulation. By this work, known as regeneration, the Spirit enlightens their minds and renews their wills and affections, as God effectually calls them to fellowship with His Son through the preaching of His Word. The immediate fruits of regeneration are:

6.1 Repentance – This is a gift of God, whereby the Holy Spirit convinces a person of the wickedness of his sinfulness and his acts of rebellion against God, so that he changes his entire mindset and turns to God in sorrow in order to walk in obedience before Him and to please Him. No one is saved without genuine repentance and unreserved submission to Christ as Lord.

6.2 Faith – This is the gift of God by which a person receives and rests on Jesus Christ alone for salvation, as He is freely offered to sinners in the gospel. Faith is the only instrument by which a man can receive the eternal life and righteousness that is in Jesus Christ. Although a person is saved through faith alone, this faith never stands alone but it is accompanied by the fruit of the Holy Spirit resulting in good works which God prepares beforehand for all who are granted faith in Jesus Christ.

6.3 Justification and Adoption – Justification is an act of God's free grace by which He pardons all the sins of His people, past, present and future, and reckons them as righteous in His sight on account of the righteousness

of Christ imputed to them as received by faith alone. All those who are justified in Christ receive the promised Holy Spirit of adoption so that they are truly sons of God.

7. Sanctification and Perseverance:

We believe that every believer who has been justified will persevere in his faith to the end. In line with this, God continues to set all His people apart from the world and sin in a process known as sanctification. This sanctification is twofold:

7.1 Definitive – at conversion believers are mysteriously united to Christ in His death to sin and resurrection to new life. They are thereby termed clean, righteous, saints. Since the rule of sin in their lives is broken, they willingly seek to be ruled by the Word of God.

7.2 Progressive – this sanctification, which is the process of being entirely conformed to the image of Jesus Christ, will be perfectly completed only on the final day. It is the continuing work of the Holy Spirit in us whereby we mortify our sin and faithfully obey the commands of God. Because of indwelling sin, all believers experience a constant warfare between their old nature, i.e., the flesh, and their spiritual new nature. However, the indwelling of the Spirit who preserves all God's people is the seal and guarantee that every true believer will persevere in the faith until the end.

8. The Church:

We believe that God has called all His people to a visible representation known as the Church. The Lord Jesus Christ is the only Head of the universal Church, His body, which is made up of all the people of God of all ages. Christians ought to gather together in local churches, to each of which Christ has given the necessary authority to administer order, discipline and worship. A true local church is recognized by the true preaching of the Word of God, public prayer, administration of the ordinances, and the exercise of spiritual discipline. The only officers of a local church are its Elders and Deacons. Elders are given spiritual authority to oversee the local Church in accordance with Christ's Word.

9. Ordinances:

We believe that Jesus Christ instituted and gave to His church two ordinances, i.e., Baptism and the Lord's Supper:

9.1 Baptism – this is an ordinance of Christ in which a believer is immersed in water upon profession of faith as a sign of His union with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Baptism does not make a person a Christian, nor is it essential to salvation, but it is a means of grace to believers who are being baptized. It is a sin to neglect this ordinance because Christ has commanded that believers should be baptized.

9.2 The Lord's Supper – this is an ordinance of Christ in which the assembled believers eat the bread and drink the cup. These are signs or symbols of the broken body and shed blood of Christ on the cross. This ordinance should be observed repeatedly and solemnly by the Church until Christ returns. It is in no sense a sacrifice but

is designed as a proclamation of Christ's death, and it is a means of grace by which believers draw near to Him by faith. It is also an affirmation of the unity amongst all true believers.

10. Evangelism and Missions:

We believe that it is the duty of every Church and even every Christian to extend the gospel to all men everywhere, in recognition of the insufficiency of natural revelation unto salvation proclaiming that there is salvation only in the name of Jesus Christ. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God, and so the principal means for discipling the nations is the preaching of the Word of God, both at home and abroad. The goal of such work is the establishing of other local churches, under the sovereign Headship of Christ, with their own officers directly responsible to Christ so that teaching of His commands may be possible.

11. The Christian Life:

We believe that the Christian has been set apart to lead a holy and godly life as demonstration of the power of the gospel to mankind. Thus, he is to set an example to the world, being obedient to God's laws, secular rulers, and all authorities set up by God, be it in the family or in his workplace.

11.1 The Law of God – God's revealed will is summarized in the Ten Commandments which, although they cannot justify the sinner, are binding on all men and form the continuing rule of life for every believer. This includes a regard for the sanctity of the Lord's Day, Sunday, which is the day set apart for believers unto the Lord in the New Testament in fulfillment of the fourth commandment.

11.2 The State – Civil government is ordained of God, and it is the duty of every Christian to submit to the civil authorities in all matters consistent with the teaching of Scripture. Christians are especially commanded to pray for their rulers.

11.3 Christian Liberty – The Christian must always seek to have a conscience void of offence towards God and man, thus fulfilling the royal law. However, God alone is the Lord of the conscience, and the believer is not held subject to the doctrines and commandments of men which are in any way contrary to or not contained in His Word.

12. The Last Things:

We believe that one day this present world will be consumed by heat and pass away. Afterward, all things will be made subject to the Father as they are made new.

12.1 Death – The bodies of men at death return to dust, but the souls of the righteous go to rest with Christ, and the souls of the wicked are reserved in torment until the Judgement.

12.2 *Return of Christ* – At an appointed day and hour which no man or angel knows, Christ will return to this earth personally, bodily and in all glory.

12.3 *Resurrection and Judgement* – on that appointed Day, God will judge all men by Christ Jesus. The bodies of all who have died, both the just and the unjust, will be raised and united with their souls. The resurrected dead together with all those who are alive at His coming will be gathered together and publicly judged according to their works. The wicked will go into conscious and everlasting punishment, and the righteous into everlasting life to inherit the new world.