

OUR BELIEVE

DETAIL ELABORATION OF THE DOCTRINE OF

“THE CHRIST MY SALVATION CHURCH”

THE HOLY BIBLE IS THE SOLE INSPIRED, INFALLIBLE, AND AUTHORITATIVE WORD OF GOD, ACCORDING TO OUR BELIEFS. AS A RESULT, THE FOCUS OF OUR MINISTRY IS ON THE LINE-BY-LINE AND PRECEPT-BY-PRECEPT EXEGESIS OF GOD'S WORD FROM GENESIS TO REVELATION. WE HOLD THAT THE ENTIRE ACCOUNT OF GOD'S SELF-DISCLOSURE TO HUMANITY IS CONTAINED IN THE 66 BOOKS OF THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS. GOD'S EXACT WORDS, INERRANT IN THE ORIGINAL WRITINGS, WERE MIRACULOUSLY RECORDED BY MANY INDIVIDUALS AS THEY WROTE BY THEIR STYLES AND PERSONALITIES. GOD'S WORD CAN THEREFORE BE CORRECTLY UNDERSTOOD BY THOSE WHO PUT FORTH THE EFFORT TO LEARN ITS LITERAL, HISTORICAL-GRAMMATICAL CONTEXT. SCRIPTURE SERVES AS OUR ULTIMATE AND ADEQUATE AUTHORITY THROUGHOUT LIFE, AND IT IS COMPLETELY RELIABLE (2 TIMOTHY 3:16–17; 2 PETER 1:20–21).

TRINITY: WE HOLD THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE REAL, LIVING GOD WHO EXISTS FOREVER (JOHN 17:3) IN COMPLETE UNION WITH THE FATHER, THE SON, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT (MATTHEW 28:19–20). EVERY MEMBER OF THE GODHEAD HAS THE SAME ESSENCE, QUALITIES, AND BEING, AND THEY ARE ALL EQUALLY DESERVING OF THE SAME PRAISE, RESPECT, AND OBEDIENCE, EVEN IF THEY EACH PLAY DIFFERENT BUT COMPLEMENTARY ROLES IN REDEMPTIVE HISTORY (JOHN 1:1–4; ACTS 5:3–4).

GOD, THE CREATOR: WE HOLD THAT GOD THE FATHER, VIA HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST, CREATED EVERYTHING IN SIX LITERAL DAYS FOR HIS GLORY AND BY HIS OWN WILL (REVELATION 4:11). WITH SUPREME HEADSHIP OVER ALL CREATION, PROVIDENCE, AND REDEMPTION, HE SUPPORTS EVERYTHING BY THE WORD OF HIS POWER AND GRACE (COLOSSIANS 1:17; HEBREWS 1:3).

GOD THE SON: WE HOLD THAT JESUS CHRIST, THE ETERNAL SON, BECAME HUMAN BY THE FATHER'S WILL AND WAS MOVED BY LOVE (JOHN 1:1, 14, 18). BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY, HE WAS CONCEIVED BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. HE LIVED A SPOTLESS LIFE, GAVE HIS BLOOD AS A SACRIFICE, AND DIED ON THE CROSS IN OUR PLACE TO COMPLETE REDEMPTION FOR EVERYONE WHO PUTS THEIR FAITH IN HIM. HE IS FULLY GOD AND FULLY MAN (JOHN 14:8–9). THREE DAYS LATER, HE PHYSICALLY AND VISIBLY ROSE FROM THE DEAD AND ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, WHERE HE NOW SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER AS THE HEAD OF HIS BODY, THE CHURCH. HE IS ALSO THE ONLY SAVIOR AND MEDIATOR BETWEEN GOD AND HUMANITY, AND HE WILL RETURN IN GLORY AND STRENGTH TO COMPLETE HIS REDEMPTIVE WORK ON EARTH (1 TIMOTHY 3:16).

GOD THE SPIRIT: WE HOLD THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT EXALTS THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IN EVERYTHING HE DOES IN THIS DAY AND AGE. HE BRINGS CONVICTIONS OF SIN, RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND JUDGMENT TO THE WORLD. HE CALLS THE UNREDEEMED TO FAITH AND REPENTANCE, AND AT SALVATION, HE GIVES THE BELIEVER NEW SPIRITUAL LIFE, UNITING THEM WITH CHRIST AND THE

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BODY OF CHRIST. THE BELIEVER IS PERMANENTLY INDWELLED AT SALVATION BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, WHO ALSO BESTOWS SPIRITUAL GIFTS FOR CHRISTLIKE LIVING AND SERVICE. THESE PASSAGES INCLUDE JOHN 16:8; 13:15; TITUS 3:5; EPHESIANS 1:22; 4:11–12; ROMANS 8:9–17; 12:4–8; 1 CORINTHIANS 3:16; 12:4–55, 11–13, 19; GALATIANS 5:25; HEBREWS 2:1–4; AND 2 CORINTHIANS 12:12.

CHRIST MY SALVATION: WE HOLD THAT SALVATION IS FOUND IN NONE OTHER THAN JESUS CHRIST AND THAT THE SCRIPTURES DECLARE THAT THE LORD JESUS CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS IN OUR PLACE. GOD BESTOWED THIS UNMERITED FAVOUR EXCLUSIVELY OUT OF SOVEREIGN GOOD PLEASURE ON THE INDIVIDUALS HE CHOSE TO SAVE BEFORE THE CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE. EVERY PERSON WHO TURNS AWAY FROM SIN IN REPENTANCE AND PUTS THEIR CONFIDENCE IN CHRIST ALONE BY GRACE HAS HAD THEIR SINS ENTIRELY AND SOLELY PAID FOR BY JESUS CHRIST'S DEATH ON THE CROSS, APPEASING GOD'S JUST WRATH. EVERY INDIVIDUAL WHO IS SAVED IS DEEMED RIGHTEOUS BEFORE GOD, GIVEN A NEW CREATION BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND GIVEN PERMANENT ADOPTION AS A CHILD OF GOD. A LIFE EAGER TO EXALT GOD AND ENDURE TO THE END IS A SIGN OF GENUINE FAITH (ROMANS 8:37–39; 2 CORINTHIANS 5:21; 1 CORINTHIANS 12:13). IT ALSO CONTINUES IN OBEDIENCE AND LOVE FOR JESUS CHRIST.

CHURCH AS BODY OF CHRIST: WE HOLD THAT A PERSON BECOMES A MEMBER OF THE BODY OF CHRIST, THE ONLY INTERNATIONAL CHURCH, OF WHICH JESUS CHRIST IS THE HEAD, UPON ACCEPTING THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS THEIR SAVIOUR. SCRIPTURES (EPHESIANS 1:22–23, ACTS 2:42–46, 1 CORINTHIANS 14:26, MATTHEW 28:18–20) MANDATE BELIEVERS TO MEET TOGETHER IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES FOR WORSHIP, PRAYER, WORD PREACHING, FELLOWSHIP, THE ORDINANCES OF BAPTISM AND COMMUNION, SERVICE TO THE LOCAL BODY THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF TALENTS AND SPIRITUAL GIFTS, AND OUTREACH TO THE WORLD TO MAKE DISCIPLES. THE LOCAL EXPRESSION OF THE CHURCH IS PRESENT WHEREVER GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER REGULARLY BY THIS MANDATE, OVERSEEN BY A PLURALITY OF ELDERS. THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF A CHURCH'S MEMBERSHIP IS TO EXALT CHRIST, AND MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO COLLABORATE IN LOVE AND UNITY (EPHESIANS 4:16).

BELIEVE ON THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT: WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE GLORIOUS, VISIBLE, PERSONAL, PREMILLENNIAL RETURN OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST. THE BELIEVER'S PERSONAL LIFE, SERVICE, AND MISSION ARE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACTED BY THE GLORIOUS HOPE OF HIS RETURN (1 THESSALONIANS 4:13–18). WE HOLD THAT BOTH THE SAVED AND THE LOST WILL EXPERIENCE A BODILY RESURRECTION. THE LOST WILL ASCEND TO JUDGMENT AND SUFFER IN HELL FROM ETERNAL WRATH. ACTS 1:3, 9; AND HEBREWS 7:25–26 STATE THAT THE SAVED SHALL BE RESURRECTED TO ETERNAL PLEASURE IN THE NEW HEAVEN AND NEW EARTH IN GOD'S VISIBLE PRESENCE.

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BAPTISM AND HOLY COMMUNION: IN OUR VIEW, A BELIEVER'S PUBLIC PROFESSION OF SALVATION IN CHRIST—SYMBOLIZED BY IMMERSION IN WATER—SIGNIFIES THEIR IDENTIFICATION WITH CHRIST'S DEATH, BURIAL, AND RESURRECTION. AS BELIEVERS COMMEMORATE CHRIST'S DEATH IN UNISON UNTIL HIS RETURN, THEY SHOULD FIRST CAREFULLY EXAMINE THEMSELVES (ACTS 2:41; ROMANS 6:3-6; 1 CORINTHIANS 11:20–29). THIS IS KNOWN AS THE LORD'S SUPPER.

CALL FOR GREAT COMMISSION: WE HOLD THAT, TO EXALT HIMSELF AND EXPERIENCE HIS FELLOWSHIP, GOD CREATED ALL PEOPLE, MALE AND FEMALE, IN HIS IMAGE AND LIKENESS, FREE FROM SIN. WE HOLD THAT EVERY BELIEVER AND LOCAL CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY, OPPORTUNITY, AND GOAL OF GLORIFYING GOD BY ACTIVELY HEEDING JESUS CHRIST'S GREAT COMMISSION TO GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS (MATTHEW 28:19)