

As Christians, we agree that there are many doctrinal truths in Scripture. These truths are all profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness. With that understood, we take our responsibility to make disciples and see them grow seriously.

We acknowledge that our current culture is vastly opposed to God and is the most diverse in worldviews in all of human history, yet our responsibility to make disciples and see them grow has not altered.

Because of this, it is extremely important that we highlight key doctrines that distinguish us in a post-Christian context. This list is not exhaustive, but it includes necessary doctrines that are essential for salvation and unity.

1 The Bible | Constitution, Page 3, Section 1 - "Scriptures"

We believe that absolute truth exists and that it originates in God (John 17:17). When it comes to our authority as Christians, we should not finally make decisions based upon our feelings, thoughts, history or traditions, but upon the written word of God (II Peter 1:19-21). We believe that Scripture is the unshakable foundation of our faith, doctrine, and should be the final authority of what we think and practice (II Peter 1:3-4; II Timothy 3:16).

2 The True God | Constitution, Page 3, Section 2 - "The True God"

We believe that there is one God (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 46:9; 48:16; Psalm 147:5; John 4:24) who exists as three distinct, co-equal, co-eternal persons (Isaiah 48:16), yet with one essence and purpose. The Father (John 6:27), Son (John 1:1; Titus 2:13), and Holy Spirit (Acts 5:3-4) are equal in divinity and essence, yet function in different roles (Matthew 28:19; I Peter 1:2) in relationship to each other and to the world.

3 Mankind | Constitution, Page 5, Section 5 - "Fall of Man"

We believe that man's natural condition is as bad as it can be (Colossians 2:13). Man is born in rebellion to God (Romans 5:18) and as separate from God as imaginable without cure from within (Ephesians 2:12). Man is born spiritually dead (Ephesians 2:1) with no hope of salvation apart from Christ (Romans 3:10-11).

4 Jesus Christ | Constitution, Page 4, Section 3 - "Jesus Christ"

We believe that Jesus was fully man and fully God with no dilution or division in his nature. We believe in the preexistence of Christ, the virgin birth, his sinless life, and his bodily resurrection from the dead.

5 Salvation | Constitution, Page 6, Section 9 - "Grace in Regeneration"

We believe there is nothing we can do to earn salvation (Isaiah 64:6), and that we are eternally saved only by the grace of God, through faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9).

6 Christian Maturity | Constitution, Page 8, Section 12 - "Sanctification"

We believe that it is God's will for every Christian to be a committed disciple (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:42-47), and gradually become more like Christ (Romans 8:29). We believe God begins this process through his Spirit in our hearts using the Bible and that continual spiritual growth is the normal experience for every believer (I Peter 1:2; Colossians 1:28; Matthew 7:15-20).

7 Eternity | Constitution, Page 11-12, Section 22-23 - "The Righteous and the Wicked, The World to Come"

We believe that we do not cease to exist after we die physically (Hebrews 9:27), nor are we all universally saved (Revelation 20:15). We believe in a literal hell and heaven and that everyone will physically and consciously (Matthew 8:11-12; Luke 16:19-31) be in one of those two places eternally (Matthew 3:12).

8 Evangelism | Constitution, Page 10, Section 18 - "World-Wide Mission"

We believe that as Christians, we (the Church) have been uniquely called to spread the good news of forgiveness of sins through the blood of Christ to a lost and dying world (Matthew 28:19-20; II Corinthians 5:20). This is a privilege and it is a duty that includes our local community and the world at large (Mark 16:15). We believe this Great Commission involves intentional actions as we make and baptize disciples, and then teach them.

9 The Return of Jesus | Excerpts from our doctrinal statement in our constitution.

Section 23, "The World to Come" - "We believe that the end of this age is approaching (I Peter 4:7). We believe in 'that blessed hope, the personal, imminent return of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ (Acts 1:11; I Thessalonians 4:13-18)."

Section 3, "Jesus Christ" - "His [Jesus] literal body was resurrected from the dead, he has a present ministry in Heaven and he will personally return to earth."