



STATEMENT OF FAITH OF STONE CREEK CHURCH

We of Stone Creek Church, in harmony with our historic position, believe the whole Bible, and only the Bible to be our infallible rule of faith and of practice; understanding our responsibility to make known the divine message of the Bible, we present the following articles of those basic truths taught in the Bible which are common to our Christian faith and practice.

THE BIBLE: the Word of God, the sixty-six Books of the Old and New Testaments are verbally inspired in all parts, and therefore, wholly without error as originally given of God (II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:21).

THE ONE TRUE GOD: exists eternally as three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 48:16-17; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22; II Corinthians 13:14).

THE LORD JESUS CHRIST: His pre-existence and deity (John 1:1-3) incarnation by virgin birth (Matthew 1:18-23; John 1:14), sinless life (Hebrews 4:15; I Peter 2:22), substitutionary death (II Corinthians 5:21), bodily resurrection (Luke 24:36-43), ascension into heaven and present ministry (Acts 1:9; Hebrews 4:14-16), and coming again (Acts 1:11).

THE HOLY SPIRIT: His personality (John 16:7-15); and deity (Acts 5:3-4); and His work in each believer; baptism and indwelling at the moment of regeneration (I Corinthians 12:13; Romans 8:9), and filling (Ephesians 5:18) to empower for Christian life and service (Ephesians 3:16; Acts 1:8; Galatians 5:22-23).

MAN: his direct creation in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-28), his subsequent fall into sin resulting in spiritual death (Genesis 3:1-24; Ephesians 2:1; Romans 5:12), and the necessity of new birth for his salvation (John 3:3-5; 3:16-18).

SALVATION: Complete and eternal salvation comes by God's grace alone, received as the gift of God through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His finished work on the Cross (John 14:6; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5-7; I Peter 1:18-19).

THE CHURCH: there is one true Church, the body and bride of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23; 5:25-32), composed of all true believers of the present age (I Corinthians 12:12-13); and the organization of its members in local churches for worship, edification, fellowship and for world-wide gospel witness, each local church being autonomous but co-operating with other local fellowships of like faith in fellowship and work (Ephesians 4:11-16).

CHRISTIAN LIFE: includes a life of righteousness, good works, and separation unto God from the evil ways of the world (Ephesians 2:10; Romans 12:1-2), following the example of Jesus (I Peter 2:21), maintains the sanctity of the home (Ephesians 5:22-6:4), settles differences between Christians in accordance with the Word of God (Matthew 5:23-24; 18:15-17; I Corinthians 6:1-8), does not engage in carnal strife but showing a Christ-like attitude toward all men (Romans 12:17-21), exhibits the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), and maintains life of prayer (Ephesians 6:18; Philippians 4:6), including the privilege when sick of calling for the elders of the church to pray and to anoint with oil in the name of the Lord (James 5:12-18).

ORDINANCES: The Christian should observe ordinances of our Lord Jesus Christ, which are (1) baptism of believers (Matthew 28:19) and (2) the Communion of the bread and cup (I Corinthians 11:23-26).

SATAN: his existence and personality as the great adversary of God and His people (Revelation 12:1-10), his judgment (John 12:31), and final doom (Revelation 20:10).

SECOND COMING: The personal, visible, and imminent return of Jesus Christ to remove His Church from the earth (I Thessalonians 4:16-17) before the tribulation (I Thessalonians 1:10; Revelation 3:10), and afterward to descend with the church to establish His millennial Kingdom upon the earth (Revelation 19:11-20:6).

FUTURE LIFE: The conscious existence of the dead (Philippians 1:21-23; Luke 16:19-31), the resurrection of the body (John 5:28-29), the judgment and reward of believers (Romans 14:10-12; II Corinthians 5:10), the judgment and condemnation of unbelievers (Revelation 20:11-15), the eternal life of the saved (John 3:16), and the eternal punishment of the lost (Matthew 25:46; Revelation 20:15).