

WE
BELIEVE



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- Our focus for the series will be our Church Statement of Beliefs (Doctrinal Statement).

About Us

What we believe

The Divine inspiration and supreme authority of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments;

The existence of One God in three persons – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit;

The Deity and Incarnation of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Son of God, the Second Person in the Holy Trinity;

The fallen, sinful and lost estate of all mankind;

The salvation of people from penal consequences and the power of sin through the perfect obedience of the Lord Jesus Christ, His atoning death, His resurrection from the dead, His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and His unchanging Priesthood;

The immediate work of the Holy Spirit in the regeneration of people, in my sanctification, and in my preservation to the heavenly kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ;

The necessity, in order to obtain salvation, of repentance towards God, and of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ;

The resurrection of the dead, and the final judgement of all people by the Lord Jesus Christ;

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- As disciples of Jesus, who are seeking to make disciples it is important that we know what we believe.
- Our focus for the series will be our Church Statement of Beliefs (Doctrinal Statement).
- Our aim is to understand what we believe & how our beliefs influence who we are, what we say and what we do.



We Believe...

The Divine inspiration and supreme authority of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments;

1. What the Bible says about itself

- 2 Timothy 3:14-17 (NIV)

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

1. What the Bible says about itself

- 2 Timothy 3:14-17 (NIV) All Scripture is God-breathed
- (NLT) All Scripture is inspired by God
- (KJV) All Scripture is given by inspiration of God
- (ESV) All Scripture is breathed out by God

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- God influencing the human authors such that what they wrote was the very word of God.
- The source of the information, rather than the way it was communicated.
- All Scripture is given by *expiration (breath)* from God...
its ultimate origin is in Him!

1. What the Bible says about itself

- 2 Timothy 3:14-17 (NIV) All Scripture is God-breathed (*Divine inspiration*)

- 1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV)

*¹³ And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it **not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God**, which is indeed at work in you who believe.*

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¹³ *When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths.*

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- 1 Corinthians 2:13 ...the Spirit's words
- 2 Peter 1:16-28

1. What the Bible says about itself

- 2 Peter 1:16-18 (ESV)

¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," ¹⁸ we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain.

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- 2 Peter 1:19 (ESV)

¹⁹ And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts

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- 2 Peter 1:20-21 (ESV)

²⁰ knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. ²¹ For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

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- 2 Samuel 23:1-2 (NIV) *The LORD spoke through me; His word was on my tongue*

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- 2 Samuel 23:1-2 (NIV) *The LORD spoke through me; His word was on my tongue*
- Acts 1:16 The Holy Spirit spoke in the OT.

2. What Jesus had to say about the Bible

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¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

2. What Jesus had to say about the Bible

- Matthew 5:17-18 (NIV) Jesus affirms the authority of the Scriptures.
- Matthew 24:35 (NIV) The word of God endures forever. It will never pass away.

³⁵ *Heaven and earth will pass away, but **my words will never pass away.***

2. What Jesus had to say about the Bible

- Luke 24:44-49 (ESV)

⁴⁴ "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

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- 92x Jesus & the apostles said - "It is written" (or equivalent)
- **approx. 10% of Jesus words in the gospels are taken from the OT.**

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- John 13-17 Progression: Father > Son > Apostles > Spirit/Scripture > ends of the earth

2. What Jesus had to say about the Bible

- John 13-17

Notice the Progression:

1. Jesus received the words that he spoke from God (Jn 17:8-9, 14)
2. Jesus gave these words to the apostles (Jn 14:25; 15:20; 17:8-9, 14; Mt 28:20)
3. The apostles spoke those words to those that would come to believe in Jesus (John 17:20)
4. They not only spoke the words, but under the direction of the Holy Spirit they wrote them down. (John 14:16-17, 24-25; 15:26-27; 16:7-15; 17:20)

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*Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but **his delight is in the law of the LORD**, and on His law he meditates day and night.*

Psalm 1:1-2 (ESV)

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2 Tim 3:14-15

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"As people of the book, our identity, doctrine and practice are bound up with the belief that God has spoken to us in our scriptures."

"The Bible is the church's community forming and belief-authorizing document, which is divinely communicated to us, through the Holy Spirit who infuses Holy Scripture with Gods presence and truth."

Michael F. Bird

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4. **We need to be confident in the authority of the Bible.**

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4. We need to be confident in the authority of the Bible.

"The Word of God is like a lion. You don't have to defend a lion. All you have to do is let the lion loose, and it will defend itself."

Charles Spurgeon

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3. We need to be diligent in our study of the scriptures.
4. We need to be confident in the authority of the Bible.
5. **We need to start believing God's word.**

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 3:16-17