

INDISPUTABLE BIBLICAL CONVICTIONS

Doctrinal Truths That Will Never Change

God

We believe in a personal God who has revealed Himself both in nature and in scripture. This God is sovereign, loving and living, and it is He who created the universe and upholds the same by His providence. (*Deuteronomy 6:4; Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 43:10,11*)

Jesus Christ

We believe in the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ: in His virgin birth; in His sinless life; in His miracles; in His vicarious death and atonement through His shed blood; in His bodily resurrection; in His ascension to the right hand of the Father; and in His personal and visible return in power and glory. We believe that because Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever (*Hebrews 13:8*) the healings and miracles of the Bible days are available to believers today. (*John 10:16; Matthew 8:16-17; Acts 5:16; James 5:14-16*)

The Holy Spirit

We believe in the personal present ministry of the Holy Spirit by Whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life, and by Whom the Church is empowered to carry out Christ's great commission. The Person of the Holy Spirit is a gift to believers and functions as a Comforter, Helper, Intercessor, Strength, and Revealer of Truth. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues (a prayer language) is a secondary experience to salvation for the purpose of representing Jesus well. (*Acts 2:4, 8:12-17, 10:44-46, 15:7-9*)

Inspiration of The Scriptures

We believe the Holy Bible, alone, in its entirety constitutes the written Word of God. The Bible, which is both the Old and New Testament, is inspired by God for the purpose of revealing God's heart and equipping His believers for abundant living. We believe that this inspiration extends to all parts of the scriptures and that they are the supreme and final authority for faith and life. (*II Timothy 3:15-17; I Thessalonians 2:13; II Peter 1:21*)

Salvation

We believe that men are lost in sin through the fall and disobedience of Adam and Eve, and that salvation is possible and real only through the shed blood atonement of Jesus Christ on Calvary; that it is appropriated through faith, which is the gift of the Holy Spirit. (*Acts 4:12; Romans 5:8-13, 10:9; James 1:21; Ephesians 2:8*)

Man

We believe that mankind was created in the image of God as a triune being to rule and reign on the earth. Yielding to a temptation by Satan, man's spirit died (was disconnected from God) and humanity became exceedingly sinful. Jesus Christ paid mankind's debt of sin and whoever believes will be born again and begin a restoration back to His original plan for man to reign in life as kings. (*Genesis 1:26, 2:17, 3:6-24; Romans 5:12-21*)

The Second Advent of Christ

We believe the second coming of Christ includes the catching away of the Church (*1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17*), followed by the actual, visible return of Christ with His saints to reign with him on earth for one thousand years (*Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27, 30; Revelation 1:7, 20:1-6*). This Millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel and the establishment of universal peace. (*Ezekiel 39:28, 29; Zephaniah 3:19, 20; Isaiah 11:6-9; Psalm 72:3-8; Micah 4:3, 4*)

The Final Judgment

We believe there will be a final judgement in which the wicked dead will be raised and will be judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment. (*Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20, 20:11-15, 21:8*)

The Hope of Heaven

We believe that heaven is a real place where our Father God, His family and angelic beings dwell forever. It is a place of joy unspeakable, where heavenly rewards are distributed for every believer's earthly service. There is no sorrow and no sickness. Heaven belongs to those who, recognizing their sinful state without God, have trusted Jesus Christ as their Savior. Believing and accepting the good news that Jesus Christ became sin, so that we could become righteous is our assurance of eternal life. (*Jn. 14:2, Eph. 2:8-9, 1 Jn. 5:13, Rev. 21:4, 10-27*)

The Apostles' Creed

A Historic Confession of the Christian Faith

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord:

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell, but on the third day He arose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

"In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

Peter Meiderlin, early 17th century Lutheran theologian // pastor