

The Church

We believe that the true Church, called in the Scripture the “Body of Christ,” is a spiritual organism. Every person who has trusted Jesus Christ for salvation in this present age has been baptized (placed) into this organism by the Holy Spirit. The local church, as established in the Scripture, is made up of redeemed individuals who, with the leadership of Biblically qualified and appointed elders, have joined together for worship, instruction, fellowship, and service (Eph. 1:22; 1 Cor. 12:13).

Ordinances

We believe that our Lord Jesus Christ instituted two ordinances to be observed by all believers until His return – baptism and the Lord’s Supper (Matt. 28:19; 1 Cor. 11:23-26).

Satan, Demons, and Evil

We believe there is a personal being called the Devil, Lucifer, the Evil One, and a number of other names in Scripture. He apparently is the highest created being (Ezek. 28:14-15) who, because of pride, sought equality with God (Isa. 14:13-14). He was removed from his lofty position and now functions as the greatest and most powerful enemy of God (see book of Job). He blinds the eyes of unbelieving men (2 Cor. 4:4), offers temptation to sin (1 Cor. 10:13), and causes confusion and destruction in God’s orderly creation. Demon spirits are fallen angels which do the bidding of Satan, always opposing God. We are assured as believers that we have no need to fear personal bodily harm (1 John 4:4), but we are instructed to be on guard against Satan and his angels because of his position, power, and craftiness. While the Scriptures reveal some information about the activities of the demonic world, in regards to dealing with this menace, they only give simple instructions to resist, to avoid, and not to practice evil. Any attempt to describe the practices, habits, and operations of Satan and his demons based on personal experiences will lead believers away from their dependence on the Lord and His Word.

The Second Coming of Christ

We believe in the personal, pre-tribulational coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His Church, and His subsequent premillennial return to earth to establish His Kingdom (1 Thess. 4:13-18; Zech.14:4-11; Rev. 19:11-16; 20:1-6).

The Eternal State

We believe that at death the souls of those who have trusted Christ for salvation pass immediately into His presence and remain there in conscious bliss until the Resurrection at Christ’s coming for the Church, when their bodies and souls will be reunited. We then shall be with Him forever in glory. We also believe that at death the souls of unbelievers remain in conscious misery until the final judgment of the Great White Throne at the close of the Millennium when their souls and bodies will be reunited and cast into the Lake of Fire—not to be annihilated, but to be separated from God forever in conscious punishment (Luke 16:9-26; 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; Rev. 20:11-15).



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DOCTRINAL STATEMENT



Making Disciples of the
Lord Jesus Christ

CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH

CONDENSED DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

The mission of **Cornerstone Bible Church (CBC)** is to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ. We are a non-denominational church committed to the clear teaching and application of the Bible. We have provided this document to assist you in getting to know us. Below is our short Doctrinal Statement. You can also learn more about distinguishing characteristics of our church through our Distinctives. As you learn more about CBC, we hope to have the privilege of learning more about you and how we can assist you in knowing, worshipping, and serving the Lord. We would be delighted to meet with you personally to answer any questions you might have.

–*The CBC Elders*

Our Doctrinal Statement

God is truth. He has revealed the truth through the Bible and His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Cornerstone Bible Church exists to honor God by knowing, proclaiming, and living out the truth.

The Holy Scriptures

We believe the Scriptures – both the Old and New Testaments – to be the verbally-inspired Word of God, written by men in God's control, inerrant and infallible in the original manuscripts, and the final authority in faith and life. We accept the grammatical–historical system of interpretation of the Scriptures, and accept the historical record of the Bible as accurate and adequate (2 Tim. 3:15-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Psalm 19:7-9).

The Godhead

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three Persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – Who are identical in essence, equal in power and glory, and who possess precisely the same attributes and perfection (Deut. 6:4; Matt. 28:19).

The Condition of Man

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, in innocence and without sin. But, in Adam's sin, the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became spiritually dead and alienated from God so that man is a sinner by nature, by imputation, and by choice; and man, of himself, is incapable of remedying his lost and depraved condition (Gen. 1:26; 3:1-24; Rom. 3:10-18; 5:12.)

The Person and Work of Christ

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became Man without ceasing to be God; that He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin, in order that He might redeem sinful man. He accomplished this redemption by voluntarily giving Himself as a sinless, substitutionary sacrifice on the cross, thereby satisfying God's righteous judgment against sin. He gave proof that He had accomplished that redemption by His bodily resurrection from the grave. He then ascended to the right hand of His Father, where He intercedes on behalf of all those who trust Him (John 1:1-2; 14, 18; Luke 1:34-35; Rom. 3:24-26; 8:34).

The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the Divine Person Who convicts the world of sin; that He also brings new life to those who are spiritually dead; that He baptizes (or places) all believers into the one true Church, which is the Body of Christ; that He indwells them permanently, seals them unto the Day of Redemption, bestows spiritual gifts upon them, and fills (controls) those who are yielding to Him (John 3:3-8; 16:7-11; 1 Cor. 12:13).

Salvation

We believe that salvation is the free gift of God's grace given to all who come to Him in faith and repentance. It includes all that God does in saving the elect from the penalty, power, and presence of sin, and in restoring them to a right relationship with God. It is solely the work of God from initiation to completion. Salvation cannot be gained by good works; rather, it is a free gift for all who put their trust in Jesus Christ and His finished work on the cross.

All who so trust in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are forgiven and saved from their sins, are declared righteous before God, and are born into the family of God by the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit. God's purpose for saving His children is so that they might bring glory to Him by their lives (Eph.1:7; 2:8-10; John 1:12; 2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 1:6; Titus 2:11-14).

Security, Assurance, and Responsibility

We believe that all the saved – those in whom God has accomplished His transforming work of grace – are kept by His power and are secure in Christ forever. This assurance, however, is not the occasion for sin, for God in holiness cannot tolerate persistent sin in His children, and in infinite love, He corrects them. True faith in Christ is expressed by a fruitful, God-pleasing life (John 10:27-29; Rom. 8:29-39; 1 John 5:13).

Sanctification

We believe that God, in the Scripture, has given us everything pertaining to life and godliness. This includes salvation from the penalty of sin and, just as surely, the provision of sanctification (separation) from the power of sin in this life. Sanctification from sin has both a positional and practical aspect. Positional sanctification as a work of the Holy Spirit is complete and is without further growth; however, practical sanctification, a result of the work of the Spirit in regeneration using the Word of God, is the on-going process of growth in maturity in Christ. While practical sanctification is assured by the Word and the Spirit, it is yet imperfect in this life. In every part of the fallen nature there is some element of corruption which is the source for the war between the flesh and the Spirit. The maturing unto obedience is possible for believers as they feed on the Word, submit to the Spirit of God, and are in fellowship with other believers for service and accountability (John 17:17; 1 Cor. 1:30; Rom. 6:19, 22; Heb. 10:25).