



Statement of Faith

Paragraph 1:

WE BELIEVE that God is the Eternal¹ King². He is an infinite³, unchangeable⁴ Spirit⁵, perfect⁶ in holiness⁷, wisdom⁸, goodness⁹, justice¹⁰, power¹¹ and love¹². From all eternity¹³ He exists as the One¹⁴ Living¹⁵ and True¹⁶ God in three persons¹⁷ of one substance¹⁸, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit¹⁹, equal in power and glory²⁰.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 1

1 DEU 33:27, ROM 1:20; 2 PSA 95:3, ISA 43:15; 3 PSA 143:5, JOB 11:7-9;
4 JAM 1:17; 5 JOH 4:24; 6 MAT 5:48;
7 ISA 6:3, 1PE 1:15-16; 8 PSA 104:24, PRO 2:6,
ISA 28:29; 9 EXO 33:19, PSA 63:2, PSA 31:19;
10 PSA 33:5, PSA 89:14, ISA 30:18;
11 EXO 15:6; 12 1JO 4:8; 13 ISA 43:13;
14 ISA 45:5, 1CO 8:4; 15 PSA 42:2, PSA 84:2;
16 JER 10:10; 17 JOH 1:18, JOH 10:30,
JOH 14:9, JOH 14:16-17, JOH 14:26,
JOH 15:26, 2CO 3:17-18; 18 JON 1:1,
JOH 1:14, 2CO 3:17; 19 MAT 28:19-20,
2CO 13:14, REV 1:4; 20 REV 5:13, EPH 3:14-21

Paragraph 2:

WE BELIEVE that God's kingdom is everlasting²¹. From His throne²², through His Son, His eternal Word²³, God created²⁴, upholds²⁵ and governs²⁶ all that exists²⁷: the heavenly places²⁸, the angelic hosts²⁹, the universe³⁰, the earth³¹, every living thing³² and mankind³³. God created all things very good³⁴.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 2

21 PSA 45:6, PSA 145:13, DAN 4:3;
22 PSA 93:1-2; 23 JOH 1:1-3, 1CO 8:6,
COL 1:15-16, HEB 1:1-2; 24 GEN 1:1,
PSA 95:3-5; 25 COL 1:17, HEB 1:3
26 PSA 103:19, PSA 104:24-29; 27 PSA 96:4-6;
28 PSA 89:11; 29 PSA 103:20-21;
30 COL 1:16-17; 31 PSA 104:5; 32 PSA 103:22;
33 PSA 22:28, PSA 47:8; 34 GEN 1:31

Paragraph 3:

WE BELIEVE that Satan, originally a great, good angel, rebelled against God, taking a host of angels with him³⁵. He was cast out of God's presence and, as a usurper of God's rule, established a counter-kingdom of darkness³⁶ and evil on the earth³⁷.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 3

35 REV 12:7-9; 36 2CO 11:14, COL 1:13-14,
EPH 6:12; 37 MAR 3:22-26, EPH 2:1-2,
1JO 5:19

Paragraph 4:

WE BELIEVE that God created mankind in His image, male and female³⁸, for relationship with Himself and to govern the earth³⁹. Under the temptation of Satan⁴⁰, our original parents fell from grace⁴¹, bringing sin⁴², sickness⁴³ and God's

judgment of death to the earth⁴⁴. Through the fall, Satan and his demonic hosts gained access to God's good creation⁴⁵. Creation now experiences the consequences and effects of Adam's original sin⁴⁶. Human beings are born in sin⁴⁷, subject to God's judgment of death⁴⁸ and captive to Satan's kingdom of darkness⁴⁹.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 4

38 GEN 1:26-27; **39** GEN 1:26; **40** GEN 3:1, REV 12:9; **41** GEN 3:8, ROM 1:21, ROM 5:16; **42** ROM 5:12; **43** JOH 5:14; **44** 1CO 15:22; **45** JOH 8:44, 1JO 5:19; **46** ROM 8:20-23; **47** PSA 51:5; **48** EZE 18:4, ROM 2:5, ROM 2:12, HEB 9:27; **49** GAL 1:3-5, GAL 4:8-9, COL 1:13

Paragraph 5:

WE BELIEVE that God did not abandon His rule over the earth⁵⁰ which He continues to uphold by His providence⁵¹. In order to bring redemption, God established covenants⁵² which revealed His grace to sinful people⁵³. In the covenant with Abraham, God bound Himself to His people Israel, promising to deliver them from bondage to sin and Satan and to bless all the nations through them⁵⁴.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 5

51 PSA 24:1, PSA 96:10, ISA 40:22, HEB 1:3; **52** ROMANS 9:4, **53** EPH 2:12; **54** GEN 17:3-8, GEN 12:2-3, GEN 15:4-6, ROM 4:3-5, ROM 4:16, ROM 4:20-25, GAL 3:6-9, GAL 3:13-14

Paragraph 6:

WE BELIEVE that as King, God later redeemed His people by His mighty acts from bondage in Egypt⁵⁵ and established His covenant through Moses, revealing His perfect will and our obligation to fulfill it⁵⁶. The law's purpose is to order our fallen race⁵⁷ and to make us conscious of our moral responsibility⁵⁸. By the work of God's Spirit⁵⁹, it convicts us of our sin⁶⁰ and God's righteous judgment against us⁶¹ and brings us to Christ alone for salvation⁶².

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 6

55 EXO 15:3-18; **56** EXO 19:3-6, EXO 24:3-4, EXO 24:7, ROM 8:3-4, ROM 8:12-14; **57** DEU 5:1-3, DEU 30:15-18, GAL 3:23-25; **58** PSA 25:8-10, ROMANS 7:7; **59** JOH 15:26, JOH 16:8-11, 2CO 3:14-17, ROM 7:13, GAL 3:19, GAL 3:21-22; **60** ROM 2:1-11; **61** GAL 3:24, PHI 3:8-9

Paragraph 7:

WE BELIEVE that when Israel rejected God's rule over her as King⁶³, God established the monarchy in Israel⁶⁴ and made an unconditional covenant with David⁶⁵, promising that his heir would restore God's kingdom reign over His people as Messiah forever⁶⁶.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 7

63 1SA 8:6-8; **64** 1SA 8:21-22, 1SA 9:15-16, 1SA 10:1, 1SA 10:24, 2SA 7:11-16, PSA 89:34-37; **65** ISA 9:6-7, ISA 11:1-5, JER 23:5-6, EZE 34:23

Paragraph 8:

WE BELIEVE that in the fullness of time⁶⁷, God honored His covenants with Israel and His prophetic promises of salvation⁶⁸ by sending His only Son⁶⁹, Jesus, into the world⁷⁰. Conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary⁷¹,

as fully God and fully man in one person⁷², He is humanity as God intended us to be⁷³. Jesus was anointed as God's Messiah and empowered by the Holy Spirit⁷⁴, inaugurating God's kingdom reign on earth⁷⁵, overpowering the reign of Satan by resisting temptation⁷⁶, preaching the good news of salvation⁷⁷, healing the sick⁷⁸, casting out demons⁷⁹ and raising the dead⁸⁰. Gathering His disciples⁸¹, He reconstituted God's people⁸² as His Church⁸³ to be the instrument of His kingdom⁸⁴. After dying for the sins of the world⁸⁵, Jesus was raised from the dead on the third day⁸⁶, fulfilling the covenant of blessing given to Abraham⁸⁷. In His sinless, perfect life⁸⁸ Jesus met the demands of the law⁸⁹ and in His atoning death on the cross⁹⁰, He took God's judgment for sin⁹¹ which we deserve as law breakers⁹². By His death on the cross He also disarmed the demonic powers⁹³. The covenant with David was fulfilled in Jesus' birth from David's house⁹⁴, His Messianic ministry⁹⁵, His glorious resurrection from the dead⁹⁶, His ascent into heaven and His present rule at the right hand of the Father⁹⁷. As God's Son and David's heir⁹⁸, He is the eternal Messiah-King⁹⁹, advancing God's reign throughout every generation and throughout the whole earth today¹⁰⁰.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 8

67 MAR 1:15, GAL 4:4; **68** ROM 1:2-4;
69 JOH 1:14; **70** JOH 1:17-18; **71** LUK 1:30-35;
72 JOH 1:14 PHI 2:5-7; **73** ROM 5:19,
1CO 15:22, 1PE 2:22, 2CO 5:21, ROM 8:29;
74 LUK 3:21-22, LUK 4:16-21;
75 MAR 1:14-15, LUK 11:20, LUK 17:20-21;
76 LUK 4:1-13; **77** LUK 4:43; **78** LUK 4:40;
79 LUK 4:41; **80** LUK 7:14-17;
81 MAR 1:16-17; **82** MAR 3:13-15;
83 MAT 16:18; **84** LUK 9:1-2, LUK 10:1-17;
85 JOH 1:29, JOH 6:51, JOH 4:9-10;
86 MAR 8:31, 1CO 15:3-5; **87** GAL 3:13-14;
88 ACT 3:14-15, HEB 4:15;
89 ROM 5:18-19; **90** 1PE 2:24; **91** GAL 3:13,
2CO 5:21; **92** ROM 1:18, ROM 1:32,
ROM 2:12, 2TH 1:6-10; **93** COL 2:13-15;
94 MAT 1:1; **95** LUK 1:68-72, LUK 2:10-11,
MAT 9:27; **96** ACT 2:24-28; **97** ACT 2:29-36;
98 ROM 1:1-4; **99** HEB 1:1-3;
100 1CO 15:24-26, EPH 1:19-23, REV 5:5

Paragraph 9:

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Church at Pentecost in power¹⁰¹, baptizing believers into the Body of Christ¹⁰² and releasing the gifts of the Spirit to them¹⁰³. The Spirit brings the permanent indwelling presence of God to us¹⁰⁴ for spiritual worship¹⁰⁵, personal sanctification¹⁰⁶, building up the Church¹⁰⁷, gifting us for ministry¹⁰⁸, and driving back the kingdom of Satan¹⁰⁹ by the evangelization of the world through proclaiming the word of Jesus¹¹⁰ and doing the works of Jesus¹¹¹.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 9

101 ACT 1:8, ACT 2:1-4; **102** 1CO 12:13;
103 1CO 12:4-7; **104** JOH 14:16-17;
105 ROM 12:1, EPH 5:18-20;
106 ROM 8:3-4; **107** 1CO 14:12,
1CO 14:26; **108** ROM 12:4-6;
109 LUK 11:20, 1JO 3:8; **110** EPH 6:10-20;
111 JOH 14:12-13, ROM 15:18-19,
1CO 4:20

Paragraph 10:

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Jesus Christ¹¹² and that He is our abiding Helper¹¹³, Teacher¹¹⁴, and Guide¹¹⁵. We believe in the filling or empowering of the Holy Spirit¹¹⁶, often a conscious experience¹¹⁷, for ministry today¹¹⁸. We believe in the present ministry of the Spirit¹¹⁹ and in the exercise of all of the Biblical gifts of the Spirit¹²⁰. We practice the laying on of hands for the empowering of the Spirit¹²¹, for healing¹²², and for recognition and empowering of those whom God has ordained to lead and serve the Church¹²³.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 10

112 ROM 8:9-10; **113** JOH 16:7;
114 JOH 14:26; **115** JOH 16:13-15,
ROM 8:14; **116** LUK 24:49, ACT 4:31;
117 ACT 8:18-19, ACT 19:1-2;
118 1CO 2:4-5, 2CO 4:7, 2CO 6:4-7;
119 JOE 2:28-29, ACT 2:15-17;
120 1CO 12:7-11, 1CO 14:1, 1CO 14:5,
1TH 5:19-21; **121** ACT 8:14-17, ACT 19:6;
122 MAR 1:41, LUK 6:18-19, MAR 16:18;
123 ACT 13:1-3, 1TI 4:14, 2TI 1:6

Paragraph 11:

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit inspired the human authors of Holy Scripture¹²⁴ so that the Bible is without error¹²⁵ in the original manuscripts. We receive the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments¹²⁶ as our final, absolute authority, the only infallible rule of faith¹²⁷ and practice¹²⁸.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 11

124 2TI 3:16-17, 2PE 1:20-21, 1CO 2:12-13,
JOH 14:26; **125** PSA 19:7-9, PSA 119:11,
PSA 119:30, PSA 119:43, PSA 119:89,
MAT 5:17-18, JOH 3:34, JOH 10:35,
1TH 2:13, REV 22:6; **126** LUK 24:44,
2PE 3:15-16, REV 22:18-19; **127** ISA 40:8,
MAT 24:35; **128** MAT 7:21, MAT 7:24,
LUK 1:38, JAM 1:22-25

Paragraph 12:

WE BELIEVE that the whole world is under the domination of Satan¹²⁹ and that all people are sinners by nature¹³⁰ and choice¹³¹. All people therefore are under God's just judgment¹³². Through the preaching of the Good News of Jesus and the Kingdom of God¹³³ and the work of the Holy Spirit¹³⁴, God regenerates¹³⁵, justifies¹³⁶, adopts¹³⁷ and sanctifies¹³⁸ through Jesus by the Spirit¹³⁹ all who repent of their sins¹⁴⁰ and trust in Jesus Christ as Lord¹⁴¹ and Savior¹⁴². By this they are released from Satan's domain and enter into God's kingdom reign¹⁴³.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 12

129 LUK 4:5-7, 1JO 5:19; **130** 1CO 15:22,
EPH 2:1-3; **131** ROM 1:21-23, ROM 1:32;
132 ROM 1:18, ROM 2:5, 2CO 5:10,
EPH 5:6; **133** MAR 1:14-15, ACT 8:12,
ACT 28:31, EPH 5:5; **134** JOH 16:7-11;
135 JOH 3:5-8; **136** I PET 1:23;
137 ROM 5:1-2, ROM 5:9; **138** ROM 8:15,
GAL 4:6; **139** EPH 5:25, HEB 13:12,
1PE 1:1-2; **140** ACT 2:38; **141** ROM 10:9;
142 1JO 4:13-15; **143** COL 1:13-14,
PHI 3:20

Paragraph 13:

WE BELIEVE in the one¹⁴⁴, holy¹⁴⁵, universal Church¹⁴⁶. All who repent of their sins and confess Jesus as Lord and Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit¹⁴⁷ and form the living Body of Christ¹⁴⁸, of which He is the head¹⁴⁹ and all are members¹⁵⁰.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 13

144 JOH 17:20-21, EPH 4:3-6;
145 1CO 3:16-17; **146** MAT 16:17-18,
1CO 1:2, EPH 2:18-19, 1PE 2:9-10;
147 TIT 3:4-7; **148** ROM 12:4-5;
149 EPH 1:22, EPH 5:23; **150** 1CO 12:27

Paragraph 14:

WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ committed two ordinances to the Church: water baptism¹⁵¹ and the Lord's Supper¹⁵². Both are available to all believers.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 14

151 MAT 28:19-20; **152** 1CO 11:23-26

Paragraph 15:

WE BELIEVE that God's kingdom has come in the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ¹⁵³, that it continues to come in the ministry of the Spirit through the Church¹⁵⁴, and that it will be consummated in the glorious, visible and triumphant appearing of Christ¹⁵⁵ - His return to the earth as King¹⁵⁶. After Christ returns to reign¹⁵⁷, He will bring about the final defeat of Satan and all of his minions and works¹⁵⁸, the resurrection of the dead¹⁵⁹, the final Judgment¹⁶⁰ and the eternal blessing of the righteous and eternal conscious punishment of the wicked¹⁶¹. Finally, God will be all in all¹⁶² and His kingdom, His rule and reign¹⁶³, will be fulfilled in the new heavens and the new earth¹⁶⁴, recreated by His mighty power, in which righteousness dwells¹⁶⁵ and in which He will forever be worshipped¹⁶⁶.

REFERENCES PARAGRAPH 15

153 DAN 7:13-14, MAT 4:23, MAT 12:28;
154 MAT 6:10, MAT 10:7-8, MAT 24:14,
MAR 13:11, JOH 15:26-27, ROM 14:17-18;
155 MAR 13:26, ACT 1:9-11, 2TH 2:8;
156 REV 19:11-16; **157** MAT 25:31-32,
1CO 15:23-25; **158** REV 20:10;
159 1CO 15:51-52; **160** JOH 5:28-30,
REV 20:11-15; **161** MAT 25:31-46;
162 1CO 15:24-48; **163** 1TI 6:13-16;
164 2PE 3:13, REV 21:5; **165** REV 21:27;
166 1TI 1:17, REV 7:9-12