

Agapé Bible Church

Statement of Faith

The Bible

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, written by Divinely inspired men. We believe that it is complete and inerrant in the original writings and is the supreme and final authority in faith and life. (2 Tim 3:16,17; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Psalm 119:11; Prov 30:5-6; 1 Peter 1:23-25)

God

We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, eternally existing in three persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God alone is holy and worthy of praise and honor and glory and power forever and ever.

(Matt 28:19; 1 Cor 8:6; Rev 5:13)

Jesus Christ

We believe that Jesus Christ, begotten of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, is God the son, manifest in the flesh, yet sinless. We believe that in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead. (Matt 1:18-25; Phil 2:6-8; Col 2:9; John 1:14)

We believe that He bodily arose from the dead, ascended to Heaven, and is present there as the High Priest, Intercessor, and Advocate for all believers. (Luke 24:26; Heb 7:24-25; I John 2:1; Heb 2:17; I Tim. 2:5)

We believe that in His second coming, Jesus Christ will come personally, bodily and visibly to set up His kingdom on earth and to judge the world in righteousness. (I Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 20:4-6; Acts 10:42)

Sin

We believe that man was created in the image of God, but sinned and incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God. We believe that all mankind is born with a sinful nature and in need of a Savior. (Gen. 1:26,27; Rom. 3:10,23; 5:12; Isa. 53:6)

Salvation

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died a substitutionary death upon the cross. His sacrifice made atonement for the sin of the world, that all might be justified by His shed blood. (I Cor 15:3,4; Eph 1:7; Rom 5:9)

We believe that all those, and only those, who believe in Him, who trust in His shed blood, and by faith receive Him as Lord and Savior, have eternal life in Him. We believe that those who receive the Lord Jesus Christ are born into the family of God and are sealed in Christ with the Holy Spirit. (I John 5:11-13; John 3:15; Heb 10:19;

Eph 2:8-9; John 1:12; John 3:5; Eph 1:13; 2 Cor 1:21,22)

Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells all Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, baptizing them into the body of Christ. (1 Cor 6:19; 1 Cor 12:13; Rom 8:9,14)

We believe that for the Believer, the Holy Spirit gives spiritual understanding, comfort, life, and produces the fruit of the Spirit and power for service. (John 14:26; Acts 1:8; Rom 8:11; 1 John 4:16; Gal 5:22)

We believe that the Holy Spirit convicts and reproves the world of sin and of righteousness and of judgment. (John 16:8-11)

Church

We believe that the Church is the body of Christ, composed of all born-again believers (Eph. 1:3-6; I Cor. 12:12-14)

We believe that the primary mission of the Church is to witness concerning the Head, Jesus Christ and to “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded...”
(Matt. 28:19-20)

Satan

We believe that Satan is a real, personal being. We believe that he is the enemy of God, the “father of lies”, the “great deceiver” and the instigator of all false systems of religion. We believe he is a being of great cunning, able to exert great power but only so far as God allows.

(Eph. 6:11; I Peter 5:8)

We believe he and all his followers shall ultimately be cast into the lake of fire forever and ever.

(Rev. 20:10, 14, 15)

Final State

We believe in the bodily resurrection of both the saved and the lost; for the saved, everlasting blessedness in the presence of God and for the lost, everlasting punishment and separation from God. (John 3:16-18; Rom. 6:23)

Doctrine

We believe that the above points of doctrine are Biblical truths and lead to salvation, true faith and godliness. (I John 4:2,3; Phil. 1:27; I John 5:1-8)

The statements listed above define the very basic Christian beliefs necessary for true fellowship in any Christian church. And although they do not encompass all scriptural thoughts and beliefs, they do define a common ground for study and pursuit of greater understanding of the Word of God. There are, however, other issues and beliefs that have been deliberated and debated for centuries and that have led to strife and division in the Church, rather than to love and unity. We support and encourage each to be fully convinced in their own conscience about such issues, but ask that they not be held dogmatically to the point of division and separation. (Ephesians 4:1-3)

Salvation Topic Scripture References

Because we believe that the primary mission of the church is to witness concerning the head, Jesus Christ, it is each believer's privilege and responsibility to share that Good News. (2 Tim 3:15-4:2; Matt 28:19-20)

The following Scriptures may benefit you as you share.
Tracts are available in the office.

1. *You need to be saved*
 - a. Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. (John 3:3)
 - b. For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. (Rom 3:23)
 - c. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way. (Isa 53:6)
 - d. Additional Scriptures: (Isa 64:6; Jer 17:9)

2. *You cannot save yourself*
 - a. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast. (Eph. 2:8-9)

- b. Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us.
(Titus 3:5)
- c. There is a way which seems right to a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.
(Prov. 14:12)
- d. Additional Scriptures:(James 2:10; Gal. 2:16)

3. *Jesus is the ONLY WAY and has already provided for your salvation*

- a. But God demonstrates his own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
(Rom 5:8)
- b. Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but by Me.
(John 14:6)
- c. And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be save.
(Acts 4:12)
- d. For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
(John 3:16)
- e. Additional Scriptures: (1 Pet 2:24; 3:18; 1Tim. 2:3-6; 2 Cor 5:21)

4. *You must repent (turn from your sins) and receive
JESUS CHRIST as your LORD and SAVIOR*

- a. If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. (Rom 10:9)
- b. Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord. (Acts 3:19)
- c. Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved, you and your household. (Acts 16:31)
- d. To as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become the children of God. (John 1:12)
- e. For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus. (1 Tim 2:5)
- f. Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. (Luke 13:5)

5. *Now is the time*

- a. Behold, now is the day of salvation. (2 Cor. 6:2)
- b. Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. (Matt 6:33)

- c. For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose His own soul? (Mark 8:36)
- d. Additional Scriptures: (Heb. 2:3; Isa. 55:6; Prov 27:1)

6. Remember

- a. Every one of us shall give account of himself to God. (Rom 14:12)
- b. It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment. (Heb 9:27)
But he that believeth on Him...shall not come into judgment. (John 5:24)

7. Jesus will enable you to overcome temptation

- a. If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. (2 Cor 5:17)
- b. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way of escape. (1 Cor 10:13)
- c. Additional Scriptures: (2 Pet 2:9)