

## The Potter's House

### Christian Fellowship Church

We of the Christian Fellowship Church, in harmony with our historic position, believing in the Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible to be our infallible rule of faith and practice, and feeling our responsibility to make known the divine message of the Bible, present the following articles as a statement of those basic truths taught in the Bible, which are common to our Christian faith and practice.

### **GENERAL STATEMENTS OF FAITH: *We Believe...***

1. **THE BIBLE:** The Word of God, the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, verbally inspired in all parts, and therefore wholly without error as originally given of God (II Tim. 3:16; II Peter 1:21).
2. **THE ONE TRUE GOD:** Existing eternally as three persons-the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Luke 3:22, Matt. 28:19; II Cor. 13:14; James 5:7).
3. **THE LORD JESUS CHRIST:** His pre-existence and deity (John 1:1-3), incarnation by virgin birth ( John 1:14, Matt. 1:18-23), substitutionary death (II Cor. 5:21), bodily resurrection (Luke 24:36-43), ascension into heaven and present ministry (Heb. 4:14-16), and coming again (Acts 1:11).
4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT:** His personality (John 16:7-15), and His deity (Acts 5:3-4), and in the personal baptism of the Holy Spirit to empower for Christian life and service (Eph. 3:16; Acts 1:8; Gal. 5:22-23)
5. **MAN:** His direct creation in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-28), his subsequent fall into sin resulting in spiritual death (Gen. 3:1-24; Rom. 5:12), and the necessity of new birth for his salvation (John 3:3-5).
6. **SALVATION:** A complete and eternal salvation by God's grace alone, received as the gift of God through personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His finished work (Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5-7; I Peter 1:18-19).
7. **THE CHURCH:** One true church, the body and bride of Christ (Eph. 1:22-23; 5:25-32), composed of all true believers of the present age (I Cor. 12:12-13), the organization of its members in local churches for worship, for edification of believers, and for worldwide gospel witness, each local church being autonomous but cooperating in fellowship and work (Eph. 4:11-16).

- 8. CHRISTIAN LIFE:** A life of righteousness, good works, and separation unto God from the evil ways of the world (Rom. 12:1-3), manifested by speaking the truth (James 5:12), maintaining the sanctity of the home (Eph. 5:22; 6:4), settling differences between Christians in accordance with the word of God (I Cor. 6:1-8), not engaging in carnal strife but showing a Christ-like attitude toward all men (Rom. 12:17-21), exhibiting the fruit of the spirit (Gal. 5:22-23), and maintaining a life of prayer (Eph. 6:18; Phil. 4:6), including the privilege, when sick, of calling for the elders of the church to pray and anoint with oil in the name of the Lord (James 5:13-18).
- 9. ORDINANCES:** The Christian should observe the ordinances of Jesus Christ which are (1) baptism of believers by triune immersion (Matt. 28:19), and (2) participation in the communion of the bread and the cup (I Cor. 11:23-26).
- 10. SATAN:** His existence and personality as the great adversary of God and God's people (Rev. 12:1-10), his judgement (John 12:31), and final doom (Rev. 20:10).
- 11. SECOND COMING:** The personal, visible, and imminent return of Christ to remove his Church from the earth (I Thess. 4:16-17), before the tribulation (I Thess. 1:10; Rev. 3:10), and afterward to descend with the Church to establish His millennial kingdom upon the earth (Rev. 19:11; 6-20)
- 12. FUTURE LIFE:** The conscious existence of the dead (Phil. 1:21-23; Luke 16:19-31), the resurrection of the body (John 5:28-29), the judgement and reward of believers (Rom. 14:10-12; II Cor. 5:10), the judgement and condemnation of unbelievers (Rev. 20:10-15), the eternal life of the saved (John 3:16), the eternal punishment of the lost (Matt. 25:46; Rev. 20:15)

### **STATEMENTS OF BELIEF:**

#### ***We Believe...***

- In the verbal inspiration of the original scriptures.
- In the absolute Trinity of the eternal God-head.
- In the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- In the reality and personality of satan (the devil).
- In the natural depravity of the human race.
- In the substitutionary atonement through Jesus Christ.
- In the propitiation for sin, only through the Blood of Christ.
- In full salvation by grace, through faith, and not of works.
- In Divine Healing through the Atonement by the laying on of hands and prayer.
- In the personal Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- In the necessity of the new birth (born again).
- In water baptism by immersion at an age of accountability.
- In the true church composed of blood-washed believers.
- In the evangelism of the heathen and the nations of the world.
- In obedience to civil Government.
- In divorce only on New Testament scriptural grounds.
- In Church Government, loyalty and obedience to those in authority over us in the Lord.
- In tithing as God's financial plan.
- In the restitution for past wrongs whenever possible.
- In God's laws and principles outlined in the Bible as the final authority in Christian conduct.
- In the open table at the Lord's Supper.
- In the maintenance of good works and holy living.
- In Christian modesty in matter of dress and apparel.
- In a literal heaven and life everlasting for all true believers.
- In everlasting punishment for the impenitent.
- In the personal, literal, bodily, pre-millennial coming of Jesus Christ.
- In a future, literal, 1,000 year reign of Christ on earth with all his saints.

- In the judgment seat of Christ where the saints will be finally rewarded for their deeds of commission and omission.
- In Christian tolerance to all denominations of Christian faith
- In essentials—unity; in non-essentials—liberty; in all things—charity.

### **THE CHRISTIAN'S CREED**

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"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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into Hell. The third day He arose again and ascended into Heaven to sit at the right hand of God. From thence, He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy world-wide Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen."