

New Hope Bible Fellowship

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Article I

Of The Scriptures

We believe that the Holy Bible as originally written was verbally inspired and the product of Holy Spirit-controlled men, and therefore, is without any admixture or error. We believe the bible to be the center of true Christian fellowship and supreme standard by which all human conduct, creed, and opinions shall be tried.

II Timothy 3:16, 17; II Peter 1:19-21

Article II

Of The True God

A. God The Father

We believe there is one, and only one, living and true God, infinite, intelligent Spirit, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; Is expressively glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

Exodus 20:2, 3; I Corinthians 8:6; Revelation 4:11; Matthew 26:19; II Corinthians 13:14.

B. God The Son

1. His Deity.

We believe in the absolute Deity of the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ; that he was divine as no other man can be, being very God of very God, existing from all eternity co-equal with the Father and the Spirit; that He Never ceased to be God for one instant and that His humiliation did not consist in laying aside His Deity; that in His incarnation His Deity Was not set aside.

John 1:1,2; I John 5:20; Colossians 1:13-17; I Timothy 3:16.

2. His Virgin Birth.

We believe that Jesus was begotten of the Holy Ghost in a miraculous manner; born of Mary, a virgin, as no Man was ever born, or can ever be born of a woman, and that He is both the Son of God and God the Son.

Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25; John 1:14, Luke 1:26-38

C. God The Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit Is a divine person; equal to God the Father and God the Son and of the nature; that he was active in the creation; that in His relation to the unbelieving world He restrains the evil one until God's purpose is fulfill; that he convicts of sin, of righteousness, and of judgement; that He bears witness to the truth of the gospel in preaching and in testimony; that He is the agent in the New Birth; that He seals, endues, guides, teaches, witness, sanctifies, and helps the believer and indwells every true child of God.

John 14:16, 17; Luke 1:35; Acts 11:16; Matthew 28: 19; Genesis 1:1-3; Ephesians 1:13, 14; John 14:26; John 16:8-11; Acts 5:30-32; Roman 8: 14; 16; I Corinthians 6: 19; Romans 8: 26, 27

Article III

Of The Devil, or Satan

We believe in the distinct personality of Satan, that he is the unholy god of this age, and the author of all the powers of darkness of sin and is destined to the judgment of an eternal justice in the lake of fire.

Matthew 4:1-3; II Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 20:10; I Peter 5:8; Ezekiel 28:14, 17; Isaiah 14:12, 15.

Article IV

Of The Creation

We accept the Genesis account of creation and believe that man came by direct creation of God and not by evolution.

Genesis 1 and 2; Colossians 1:16, 17; John 1:3

Article V

Of The Fall Of Man

We believe that man, in the person of the first Adam, was created in innocence but, by voluntary transgressions, fell into sin thus plunging the whole race into condemnation and death, so that now all mankind is born in sin and shaped in iniquity and become willful sinners with the

first expression of personal choice and so are without excuse before God.

Genesis 3:16; 24, Romans 5:12, 19; 1:18-32, Romans 3:10-29.

Article VI

Of The Redemption From Sin

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon Him our nature, yet without sin, honored the Divine law by His personal obedience, and by His death made a full and vicarious atonement for our sins; that His atonement consisted not in setting us an example by His death as a martyr, but was a voluntary substitution of Himself in the sinner's place, the just dying for the unjust; Christ, the Lord, bearing our sins in His own body on the tree, that having risen physically and bodily from the dead, He is now enthroned in Heaven, and uniting in His wonderful person the most tender sympathies with divine perfection, he is in every way qualified to be the suitable and compassionate and all sufficient Savior.

Ephesians 2:8, 9; Matthew 18:11 Romans 3:24, 25; Philippians 2:7, 8; I John 4:10; Hebrews 2:14; I Corinthians 15:3; John 3:15; Isaiah 53:4-7; II Corinthians 5:21

Article VII

Of Grace In The New Creation

We believe that by and through the shed blood of Jesus Christ we have been purchased, " justified, redeemed, reconciled, sanctified, cleansed"

and "made right"; that Jesus has been set forth as a propitiation for our sins.

Acts 20:28; Romans 3:25; 5:9; Ephesians 1:7; 2:12; Colossians 1:14,20; Hebrews 9:12, 22; 13:12; I Peter 1:18, 19; I John 1:7; 2:2; Revelation 1:5; 5:9; 12:11

Article VIII

Of Grace in The New Creation

We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be born again; that the new birth is a new creation in Christ Jesus; that it is instantaneous and not a process; that in new birth the one dead in trespasses and in sins is made a partaker of the divine nature and receives eternal life, the free gift of God; that the new creation is brought about in a manner above our comprehension, solely by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

Article IX

Of The Security Of The Believers

We believe that all who are truly born again are kept by God the Father for Jesus Christ.

I John 5:11; Philippians 1:6; John 10:28, 29; romans 8:35-39; Jude 24; John 5:24.

Article X

Of Justification

We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is justification;

- (a) That justification included the pardon of sin, and the gift of eternal life on principles of righteousness;
- (b) That it is bestowed not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done; but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood, His righteousness is imputed to us.

Acts 13:39; Isaiah 53:11; Romans 8:1; 5:1; 4:25, 5:9; Titus 3:5

Article XI

Of The Local church

We believe that a local church is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant of faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His work; that it's officers are the senior pastor, the elders and the deacons whose qualifications, claims and duties are clearly defined in the scriptures; we believe the true mission of the church is the faithful witnessing of Christ to all men as we have opportunity. We hold that the local church has the absolute right of self-government, free from the interference of any hierarchy of any individuals or organizations; and that the one and only superintendent is Christ, through the Holy spirit; that it is scriptural for true churches to cooperate with each other in contending for the faith and for the furtherance of the Gospel; that each local church is the sole judge of

the measure and method of its cooperation; on all matters of membership, of polity, of government, of discipline, of benevolence, the will of the local church is final.

Acts 2:41, 42; 20:17-28; 15:12-14; I Timothy 3:15, 16; I Corinthians 12:2; Ephesians 1:22, 23; 4:11; 5:23, 24; Colossians 1: 18;

Article XII

Of Baptism And Lord's Supper

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is prerequisite to the privilege of a church relation. We believe that the Lord's Supper is the commemoration of His death until He comes, and our continual fellowship with Him and should be preceded by baptism, and always by careful self-examination.

Acts 8:36-39; John 3:23; Colossians 2:12; Romans 6:3-6; I Corinthians 11:23-32; Matthew 3:16.

Article XIII

Of The Righteous And The Wicked

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in His esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked, and under the curse;

and this distinction holds among men both in and after death, in the everlasting felicity of the saved and the everlasting conscious suffering.

Malachi 3:18; Romans 7:6; Matthew 25:34-41; Genesis 18:23; Roman 6:23; John 8:21; Romans 6:17, 18; Proverbs 14:32; I John 5:19; Luke 16:19-31; Revelation 20:10-15.

Article XIV

Of Civil Government

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed; except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the coming Prince of the kings of the earth.

Romans 13:1-7; Matthew 22:21; II Samuel 23:3; Acts 5:17-32; Acts 4:19, 20; Acts 23:5; Daniel 3:17, 18.

Articles XV

Of The Resurrection And Personal, Pre-millennial Return Of Christ, Visible To Believers, And Related Events

We believe in the bodily, personal, pre-millennial return of Jesus Christ; that He will come before the seven-year tribulation period to catch away His church, coming only into the air and that He will come with His church at the close of the tribulation to judge the living nations and to set up His kingdom on earth. We believe in the resurrection of the bodies of the dead; that believers who sleep in Jesus (whose souls and spirits are now in heaven) will receive their glorified bodies at the

coming of Christ for His church and be caught up with the transformed living saints to meet the Lord in the air, and that the wicked dead will be raised at the close of the millennial kingdom and stand in their bodies at the Great White Throne judgment to receive their final doom.

I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:31-46; Revelation 19:11-21; John 2:21-30 Revelation 7:9-17; Daniel 9:24-27; I Thessalonians 5:9; II Thessalonians 2:1-4; Revelation 20:11-15