

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church

Doctrinal Statement
Kavin L. Jones, Sr., Pastor

Table of Contents

The Holy Scriptures	- 2 -
Man	- 12 -
Salvation.....	- 13 -
Regeneration.....	- 14 -
Election	- 15 -
Justification	- 16 -
Sanctification	- 17 -
Security	- 18 -
Separation.....	- 18 -
The Church	- 19 -
Angels.....	- 24 -
Holy Angels.....	- 24 -
Fallen Angels	- 24 -
Death.....	- 25 -
The Rapture of the Church.....	- 27 -
The Tribulation Period	- 27 -
The Second Coming and The Millennial Reign.....	- 28 -
The Judgment of the Lost	- 29 -
Eternity.....	- 30 -

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church
Doctrinal Statement

Preface

We recognize and affirm that the Bible is the very Word of the Living God to man, and we understand the priority of knowing and obeying its truths. We are therefore committed to providing various teaching vehicles that will present the truths of the Scriptures with diligence and authority.

The central ministry of the Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church is the continuous imparting of biblical truth to the people of God, so that they may become equipped to do the work of the ministry.

This doctrinal statement presents our convictions regarding the theological truths of the Bible, built on years of study and teaching. They are the primary doctrines of the Christian faith, and they reflect the heart of the teaching of this local body of believers.

The Holy Scriptures

- A. We teach that the Bible is God's written revelation to man, and that the sixty-six books of the Bible given to us by the Holy Spirit constitute the plenary (inspired equally in all parts) Word of God.
1 Corinthians 2:7, 14
2 Peter 1:20-21

- B. We teach that the Word of God is
 - 1. an objective, propositional revelation
1 Thessalonians 2:13
1 Corinthians 2:13

 - 2. verbally inspired in every word, absolutely inerrant in the original documents, infallible, and God breathed
2 Timothy 3:16

- C. We teach the literal, grammatical historical interpretation of Scripture which affirms the belief that the opening chapters of Genesis present creation in six literal days.
Genesis 1:31
Exodus 31:17
- D. We teach that the Bible constitutes the only infallible rule of faith and practice.
Matthew 5:18; 24:35
John 10:35; 16:12-13; 17:17
1 Corinthians 2:13
2 Timothy 3:15-17
Hebrews 4:12
2 Peter 1:20-21
- E. We teach that God spoke in His written Word by a process of dual authorship. The Holy Spirit so superintended the human authors that, through their individual personalities and different styles of writing, they composed and recorded God's Word
1. to man
2 Peter 1:20-21
 2. without error in the whole or in the part
Matthew 5:18
2 Timothy 3:16
- F. We teach that, though there may be several applications of any given passage of Scripture, there is but one true interpretation. The meaning of Scripture is to be found as one diligently applies the literal grammatical historical method of interpretation under the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit.
John 7:17; 16:12, 15
1 Corinthians 2:7, 15
1 John 2:20

- G. We teach that it is the responsibility of believers to ascertain carefully the true intent and meaning of Scripture, recognizing that proper application is binding on all generations. Yet the truth of Scripture stands in judgment of men; never do men stand in judgment of it.

God

- A. We teach that there is but one living and true God.
Deuteronomy 6:4
Isaiah 45:5, 7
1 Corinthians 8:4
- B. We teach that God is an infinite, all knowing Spirit.
John 4:24
- C. We teach that God is perfect in all His attributes, that He is one in essence, and that He eternally exists in three Persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and that each equally deserves worship and obedience.
Matthew 28:19
2 Corinthians 13:14

God the Father

We teach that God the Father is the first Person of the Trinity, and that He:

1. orders and disposes all things according to His own purpose and grace
Psalms 145: 8-9
1 Corinthians 8:6
2. is the Creator of all things
Genesis 1:1, 31
Ephesians 3:9

3. as the only and absolute and omnipotent Ruler in the universe is sovereign in creation, providence, and redemption
Psalm 103:19
Romans 11:36
4. His fatherhood involves both His designation within the Trinity and His relationship with mankind:
 - a. As Creator He is Father to all men
Ephesians 4:6
 - b. But He is spiritual Father only to believers
Romans 8:14
2 Corinthians 6:18
5. has decreed for His own glory all things that come to pass
Ephesians 1:11
6. continually upholds, directs, and governs all creatures and events
1 Chronicles 29:11
7. in His sovereignty He is neither author nor approver of sin
Habakkuk 1:13
John 8:38, 47
8. does not abridge the accountability of moral, intelligent creatures
1 Peter 1:17
9. has graciously chosen from eternity past those whom He would have as His own
Ephesians 1:4, 6

10. saves from sin all who come to Him through Jesus Christ; adopts as his own all those who come to Him; and He becomes, upon adoption, Father to His own

John 1:12

Romans 8:15

Galatians 4:5

Hebrews 12:5, 9

God the Son

A. We teach that Jesus Christ, the second Person of the Trinity, possesses all the divine excellencies, and in these He is coequal, consubstantial, and coeternal with the Father

John 10:30; 14:9

B. We teach that God the Father created according to His own will, through His Son, Jesus Christ, by whom all things continue in existence and in operation

John 1:3

Colossians 1:15, 17

Hebrews 1:2

C. We teach that in the incarnation (God becoming man) Christ surrendered only the prerogatives of deity but nothing of the divine essence, either in degree or kind. In His incarnation, the eternally existing second Person of the Trinity accepted all the essential characteristics of humanity and so became the God Man

Philippians 2:5, 8

Colossians 2:9

D. We teach that Jesus Christ represents humanity and deity in indivisible oneness

Micah 5:2

John 5:23; 14:9-10

Colossians 2:9

E. We teach that our Lord Jesus Christ:

1. virgin born

Isaiah 7:14

Matthew 1:23, 25

Luke 1:26-35

2. was God incarnate

John 1:1, 14

3. that the purpose of the incarnation was to reveal God, redeem man, and rule over God's kingdom

Psalm 2:7-9

Isaiah 9:6

John 1:29

Philippians 2:9-11

Hebrews 7:25-26

1 Peter 1:18-19

F. We teach that, in the incarnation, the second person of the Trinity laid aside His right to the full prerogatives of coexistence with God, assumed the place of a Son, and took on an existence appropriate to a servant while never divesting Himself of His divine attributes
Philippians 2:9-11

G. We teach that our Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through the shedding of His blood and sacrificial death on the cross and that His death was voluntary, vicarious, substitutionary, propitiatory, and redemptive

John 10:15

Romans 3:24-25; 5:8

1 Peter 2:24

- H. We teach that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead and that He is now ascended to the right hand of the Father, where He now mediates as our Advocate, and High Priest
Matthew 28:6
Luke 24:38-39
Acts 2:30-31
Romans 4:25; 8:34
Hebrews 7:25; 9:24
1 John 2:1
- I. We teach that in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave, God confirmed the deity of His Son and gave proof that God has accepted the atoning work of Christ on the cross. Jesus' bodily resurrection is also the guarantee of a future resurrection life for all believers
John 5:26-29; 14:19
Romans 1:4; 4:25; 6:5-10
1 Corinthians 15:20, 23
- J. We teach that Jesus Christ will return to receive the church, which is His Body, unto Himself at the rapture, and returning with His church in glory, will establish His millennial kingdom on earth
Acts 1:9-11
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Revelation 20
- K. We teach that the Lord Jesus Christ is the One through whom God will judge all mankind:
John 5:22-23
- a. Believers
1 Corinthians 3:10-15
2 Corinthians 5:10
 - b. Living inhabitants of the earth at His glorious return
Matthew 25:31-46
 - c. Unbelieving dead at the Great White Throne
Revelation 20:11-15

- L. We teach that our Lord will judge as:
1. The Mediator between God and man
1 Timothy 2:5
 2. The Head of His Body the church
Ephesians 1:22; 5:23
Colossians 1:18
 3. The coming universal King, who will reign on the throne of David
Isaiah 9:6
Luke 1:31-33
 4. The final Judge of all who fail to place their trust in Him as Lord and Savior
Matthew 25:14-46
Acts 17:30-31
- M. We teach that on the basis of the efficacy of the death of our Lord Jesus Christ, the believing sinner is freed from the punishment, the penalty, the power, and one day the very presence of sin; and that he is declared righteous, given eternal life, and adopted into the family of God
Romans 3:25; 5:8-9
2 Corinthians 5:14-15
1 Peter 2:24; 3:18

God the Holy Spirit

- A. We teach that the Holy Spirit is a divine Person, eternal, underived, possessing all the attributes of personality and deity including:
1. intellect
1 Corinthians 2:10-13
 2. emotions
Ephesians 4:30

3. will
1 Corinthians 12:11
4. eternity
Hebrews 9:14
5. omnipresence
Psalm 139:7-10
6. omniscience
Isaiah 40:13-14
7. omnipotence
Romans 15:13
8. truthfulness
John 16:13

- B. We teach that in all the divine attributes He (the Holy Spirit) is coequal and consubstantial with the Father and the Son
Matthew 28:19
Acts 5:3-4; 28:25-26
1 Corinthians 12:4-6
2 Corinthians 13:14
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Hebrews 10:15-17
- C. We teach that it is the work of the Holy Spirit to execute the divine will with relation to all mankind. We recognize His sovereign activity in
1. creation
Genesis 1:2
 2. the incarnation
Matthew 1:18

3. the written revelation
2 Peter 1:20-21

4. the work of salvation
John 3:5-7

D. We teach that the work of the Holy Spirit in this age began at Pentecost when He came from the Father

1. as promised by Christ
John 14:16-17; 15:26

2. to initiate and complete the building of the Body of Christ,
which is His church
1 Corinthians 12:13

E. We teach that the broad scope of His divine activity includes convicting the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ and transforming believers into the image of Christ

John 16:7-9

Acts 1:5; 2:4

Romans 8:29

2 Corinthians 3:18

Ephesians 2:22

F. We teach that the Holy Spirit is the supernatural and sovereign Agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the Body of Christ and that He also dwells, sanctifies, instructs, empowers them for service, and seals them unto the day of redemption

1 Corinthians 12:13

Romans 8:9

2 Corinthians 3:6

Ephesians 1:13

G. We teach that the Holy Spirit is the divine Teacher, who guided the apostles and prophets into all truth as they committed to writing God's revelation, the Bible. Every believer possesses the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit from the moment of salvation, and it is the duty of all those born of the Spirit to be filled with (controlled by) the Spirit

John 16:13

Romans 8:9

Ephesians 5:18

2 Peter 1:19-21

1 John 2:20, 27

H. We teach that the Holy Spirit administers spiritual gifts to the church. The Holy Spirit glorifies neither Himself nor His gifts by ostentatious displays, but He does glorify Christ by implementing His work of redeeming the lost and building up believers in the most holy faith

John 16:13-14

Acts 1:8

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

2 Corinthians 3:18

Man

A. We teach that man was directly and immediately created by God in His image and likeness. Man was created free of sin with a rationale nature, intelligence, volition, self-determination, and moral responsibility to God

Genesis 2:7, 15-25

James 3:9

B. We teach that God's intention in the creation of man was that man should glorify God, enjoy God's fellowship, live his life in the will of God, and by this accomplish God's purpose for man in the world

Isaiah 43:7

Colossians 1:16

Revelation 4:11

C. We teach that in Adam's sin of disobedience to the revealed will and Word of God, man lost his innocence; incurred the penalty of spiritual and physical death; became subject to the wrath of God and became inherently corrupt and utterly incapable of choosing or doing that which is acceptable to God apart from divine grace. With no recuperative powers to enable him to recover himself, man is hopelessly lost. Man's salvation is thereby wholly of God's grace through the redemptive work of our Lord Jesus Christ

Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-19

John 3:36

Romans 3:23; 6:23

1 Corinthians 2:14

Ephesians 2:1-3

1 Timothy 2:13-14

1 John 1:8

D. We teach that because all men were in Adam, a nature corrupted by Adam's sin has been transmitted to all men of all ages, Jesus Christ being the only exception. All men are thus sinners by nature, by choice, and by divine declaration

Psalm 14:1-3

Jeremiah 17:9

Romans 3:9-18, 23; 5:10-12

Salvation

We teach that salvation is wholly of God by grace on the basis of the redemption of Jesus Christ, the merit of His shed blood, and not on the basis of human merit or works

John 1:12

Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-10;

1 Peter 1:18-19

Regeneration

We teach that regeneration

- A. Is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit by which the divine nature and divine life are given.

John 3:3-7

Titus 3:5

- B. It is instantaneous and is accomplished solely by the power of the Holy Spirit through the instrumentality of the Word of God when the repentant sinner, as enabled by the Holy Spirit, responds in faith to the divine provision of salvation.

John 5:24

- C. Is manifested by fruits worthy of repentance as demonstrated in righteous attitudes and conduct:

- 1. Good works will be its proper evidence and fruit.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Ephesians 2:10

- 2. Will be experienced to the extent that the believer submits to the control of the Holy Spirit in his life through faithful obedience to the Word of God.

Ephesians 5:17-21

Philippians 2:12b

Colossians 3:16

2 Peter 1:4-10

- 3. This obedience causes the believer to be increasingly conformed to the image of our Lord Jesus Christ

2 Corinthians 3:18

- 4. Such a conformity is climaxed in the believer's glorification at Christ's coming.

Romans 8:17

2 Peter 1:4

1 John 3:2-3

Election

- A. We teach that election is the act of God by which, before the foundation of the world, He chose in Christ those whom He graciously regenerates, saves, and sanctifies.
Romans 8:28-30
Ephesians 1:4-11
2 Thessalonians 2:13
2 Timothy 2:10
1 Peter 1:1-2
- B. We teach that sovereign election does not contradict or negate the responsibility of man to repent and trust Christ as Savior and Lord.
Ezekiel 18:23, 32; 33:11
John 3:18-19, 36; 5:40
Romans 9:22-23
2 Thessalonians 2:10-12
Revelation 22:17
- C. We teach that since sovereign grace includes the means of receiving the gift of salvation as well as the gift itself, sovereign election will result in what God determines. All whom the Father calls to Himself will come in faith and all who come in faith the Father will receive.
John 6:37-40, 44
Acts 13:48
James 4:8
- D. We teach that the unmerited favor that God grants to totally depraved sinners is not related to any initiative of their own part nor to God's anticipation of what they might do by their own will, but is solely of His sovereign grace and mercy.
Ephesians 1:4-7
Titus 3:4-7
1 Peter 1:2

- E. We teach that election should not be looked upon as based merely on abstract sovereignty. God is truly sovereign but He exercises this sovereignty in harmony with His other attributes, especially His omniscience, justice, holiness, wisdom, grace, and love. This sovereignty will always exalt the will of God in a manner totally consistent with His character as revealed in the life of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 9:11-16

Matthew 11:25-28

2 Timothy 1:9

Justification

- A. We teach that justification before God is an act of God by which He declares righteous those who, through faith in Christ, repent of their sins and confess Him as sovereign Lord.

Romans 8:33

Luke 13:3

Acts 2:38; 3:19; 11:18

Romans 2:4

2 Corinthians 7:10

Isaiah 55:6-7

Romans 9:9-10

1 Corinthians 12:3

2 Corinthians 4:5

Philippians 2:11

- B. We teach that this declared righteousness is apart from any virtue or work of man and involves the imputation of our sins to Christ and the imputation of Christ's righteousness to us. By this means God is enabled to "be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus".

Romans 3:20; 4:6

Colossians 2:14

1 Peter 2:24

1 Corinthians 1:30

2 Corinthians 5:21

Romans 3:26

Sanctification

- A. We teach that every believer is sanctified (set apart) unto God by justification and is therefore declared to be holy and is therefore identified as a saint. This sanctification is positional and instantaneous and should not be confused with progressive sanctification. This sanctification has to do with the believer's standing, not his present walk or condition.

Acts 20:32

1 Corinthians 1:2, 30; 6:11

2 Thessalonians 2:13

Hebrews 2:11; 3:1; 10:10, 14; 13:12

1 Peter 1:2

- B. We teach that there is also by the work of the Holy Spirit a progressive sanctification by which the state of the believer is brought closer to the standing the believer positionally enjoys through justification. Through obedience to the Word of God and the empowering of the Holy Spirit, the believer is able to live a life of increasing holiness in conformity to the will of God, becoming more and more like our Lord Jesus Christ.

John 17:17, 19

Romans 6:1-22

2 Corinthians 3:18

1 Thessalonians 4:3-4; 5:23

- C. We teach that every saved person is involved in a daily conflict: the new creation in Christ doing battle against the flesh; but adequate provision is made for victory through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit. The struggle nevertheless stays with the believer all through this earthly life and is never completely ended. All claims to the eradication of sin in this life are unscriptural. Eradication of sin is not possible, but the Holy Spirit does provide for victory over sin.

Galatians 5:16-25
Ephesians 4:22-24
Philippians 3:12
Colossians 3:9-10
1 Peter 1:14-16
1 John 3:5-9

Security

- A. We teach that all the redeemed once saved are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever.

John 5:24; 6:37-40; 10:27-30
Romans 5:9-10; 8:1, 31-39
1 Corinthians 1:4-8
Ephesians 4:30
Hebrews 7:25; 13:5
1 Peter 1:5
Jude 24

- B. We teach that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word, which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion for sinful living and carnality.

Romans 6:15-22; 13:13-14
Galatians 5:13, 25-26
Titus 2:11-14

Separation

- A. We teach that separation from sin is clearly for throughout the Old and New Testaments, and that the Scriptures clearly indicate that in the last days apostasy and worldliness shall increase.

2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
2 Timothy 3:1-5

B. We teach that out of deep gratitude for the undeserved grace of God granted to us and because our glorious God is so worthy of our total consecration, all the saved should live in such a manner as to demonstrate our adoring love to God and so as not to bring reproach upon our Lord and Savior. We also teach that God commands separation from all religious apostasy and worldly and sinful practices of us.

Romans 12:1-2

1 Corinthians 5:9-13

2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

1 John 2:15-17

2 John 9-11

C. We teach that believers should:

1. Be separated unto our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

2. Affirm that the Christian life is a life of obedient righteousness that reflects the teaching of the Beatitudes.

Matthew 5:2-12

3. Continue the pursuit of holiness.

Romans 12:1-2

2 Corinthians 7:1

Hebrews 12:14

Titus 2:11-14

1 John 3:1-10

The Church

A. We teach that all who place their faith in Jesus Christ are immediately placed by the Holy Spirit into one united spiritual body:

1. The church

1 Corinthians 12:12-13

2. The bride of Christ
2 Corinthians 11:2
Ephesians 5:23-32
Revelation 19:7-8

3. Which Christ is the Head
Ephesians 1:22; 4:15
Colossians 1:18

B. We teach that the formation of the church, the Body of Christ:

1. Began on the Day of Pentecost.
Acts 2:1-21, 38-47

2. Will be completed at the coming of Christ for His own at the rapture.
1 Corinthians 15:51-52
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

C. We teach that the church is:

1. A unique spiritual organism designed by Christ, made up of all born again believers in this present age.
Ephesians 2:11-3:6

2. Distinct from Israel
1 Corinthians 10:32

3. A mystery not revealed until this age.
Ephesians 3:1-6; 5:32

D. We teach that the establishment and continuity of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures.

Acts 14:23, 27; 20:17, 28

Galatians 1:2

Philippians 1:1

1 Thessalonians 1:1

2 Thessalonians 1:1

- E. We teach that the members of the one spiritual Body are directed to associate themselves together in local assemblies.
1 Corinthians 11:18-20
Hebrews 10:25

- F. We teach that one supreme authority for the church is Christ.
1 Corinthians 11:3
Ephesians 1:22
Colossians 1:18

- G. We teach that church leadership, gifts, order, discipline, and worship are all appointed through Christ's sovereignty as found in the Scriptures. The biblically designated officers serving under Christ and over the assembly are elders (also called bishops, pastors, pastor-teachers, and deacons who must meet biblical qualifications).
Acts 20:28
Ephesians 4:11
1 Timothy 3:1-13
Titus 1:5-9
1 Peter 5:1-5

- H. We teach that the church leaders lead or rule as servants of Christ and have His authority in directing the church. The congregation is to submit to their leadership.
1 Timothy 5:17-22
Hebrew 13:7, 17

- I. We teach the importance of:
 - 1. Discipleship
Matthew 28:19-20
2 Timothy 2:2

 - 2. Mutual accountability of all believers to each other.
Matthew 18:5-14

3. The need for discipline of sinning members of the congregation in accord with the standards of Scripture.

Matthew 18:15-22

Acts 5:1-11

1 Corinthians 5:1-13

2 Thessalonians 3:6-15

1 Timothy 1:19-20

Titus 1:10-16

- J. We teach the autonomy of the local church, free from any external authority or control, with the right of self government and freedom from the interference of any hierarchy of individuals or organizations.

Titus 1:5

- K. We teach that it is scriptural for true churches to cooperate with each other for the presentation and propagation of the faith. Each local church, however, through its leaders and their interpretation and application of Scripture, should be the sole judge of the measure and method of its cooperation. The leaders along with the congregation should determine all other matters of membership, policy, discipline, benevolence, and government as well.

Acts 15:19-31; 20:28

1 Corinthians 5:4-7, 13

1 Peter 5:1-4

- L. We teach that the purpose of the church is to glorify God (Ephesians 3:21):

1. By building itself up in the faith.

Ephesians 4:13-16

2. By instruction of the Word.

2 Timothy 2:2, 15; 3:16-17

3. By fellowship

Acts 2:47

1 John 1:3

4. By keeping the ordinances.

Luke 22:19

Acts 2:38-42

5. By advancing and communicating the gospel to the entire world.

Matthew 28:19

Acts 1:8; 2:42

M. We teach the calling of all saints to the work of service.

1 Corinthians 15:58

Ephesians 4:12

Revelation 22:12

N. We teach the need of the church to cooperate with God as He accomplishes His purpose in the world. To that end, He gives the church spiritual gifts:

1. Men chosen for the purpose of equipping the saints for the work of the ministry.

Ephesians 4:7-12

2. Unique and special spiritual abilities to each member of the Body of Christ.

Romans 12:5-8

1 Corinthians 12:4-31

1 Peter 4:10-11

O. We teach that two ordinances have been committed to the local church: baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Acts 2:38-42

P. We teach that Christian baptism by immersion is the solemn and beautiful testimony of a believer showing forth his faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, and his union with Him in death to sin and resurrection to a new life, and it is also a sign of fellowship and identification with the visible Body of Christ.

Acts 8:36-39
Romans 6:1-11
Acts 2:41-42

Q. We teach that the Lord's Supper is the commemoration and proclamation of His death until He comes, and should be always preceded by solemn self examination; and the elements of Communion are only representative of the flesh and blood of Christ, the Lord's Supper is nevertheless an actual communion with the risen Christ who is present in a unique way, fellowshiping with His people.

1 Corinthians 11:28-32
1 Corinthians 10:16

Angels

Holy Angels

We teach that angels are created beings and are therefore not to be worshiped. Although they are a higher order of creation than man, they are created to serve God and to worship Him.

Luke 2:9-14
Hebrews 1:6-7, 14; 2:6-7
Revelation 5:11-14; 19:10; 22:9

Fallen Angels

- A. We teach that Satan is a created angel and the author of sin. He incurred the judgment of God by:
1. Rebelling against his Creator
Isaiah 14:12-17
Ezekiel 28:11-19
 2. Taking numerous angels with him in his fall
Matthew 25:41
Revelation 12:1-14

3. Introducing sin into the human race by his temptation of Eve
Genesis 3:1-15

B. We teach that Satan:

1. Is the open and declared enemy of God and man
Isaiah 14:13-14
Matthew 4:1-11
Revelation 12:9-10
2. Is the prince of this world, who has been defeated through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ
Romans 16:20
3. Will be eternally punished in the lake of fire
Isaiah 14:12-17
Ezekiel 28:11-19
Matthew 25:41
Revelation 20:10

LAST THINGS (ESCHATOLOGY)

Death

- A. We teach that physical death involves no loss of our immaterial consciousness.
Revelation 6:9-11
- B. We teach that the soul of the redeemed passes immediately into the presence of Christ.
Luke 23:43
Philippians 1:23
2 Corinthians 5:8

- C. We teach that there is a separation of soul and body and that for the redeemed, such separation will continue until the rapture.
Philippians 1:21-24
1 Thessalonians 4:13-17
- D. We teach that the rapture initiates the first resurrection, when our soul and body will be reunited to be glorified forever with our Lord.
Revelation 20:4-6
Philippians 3:21
1 Corinthians 15:35-44, 50-54
- E. We teach that until the rapture, the souls of the redeemed in Christ remain in joyful fellowship with our Lord Jesus Christ.
2 Corinthians 5:8
- F. We teach that the souls of the unsaved:
1. At death are kept under punishment until the second resurrection, when the soul and the resurrection body will be united
Luke 16:19-26
Revelation 20:13-15
John 5:28-29
 2. In their resurrection body will appear at the Great White Throne Judgment and shall be cast into hell, the lake of fire
Revelation 20:11-15
Matthew 25:41-46
 3. Will be cut off from the life of God forever
Daniel 12:2
Matthew 25:41-46
2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

The Rapture of the Church

- A. We teach the personal, bodily return of our Lord Jesus Christ:
1. Before the seven year tribulation
1 Thessalonians 4:16
Titus 2:13
 2. To translate His church from this earth
John 14:1-3
1 Corinthians 15:51-53
1 Thessalonians 4:15-5:11
 3. Between this event and His glorious return with His saints, to reward believers according to their works
1 Corinthians 3:11-15
2 Corinthians 5:10

The Tribulation Period

We teach that immediately following the removal of the church from the earth:

1. The righteous judgments of God will be poured out upon an unbelieving world and that these judgments will be climaxed by the return of Christ in glory to the earth.
Jeremiah 30:7
Daniel 9:27; 12:1
2 Thessalonians 2:7-12
Revelation 16
Matthew 24:27-31; 25:31-46
2. At that time the Old Testament and tribulation saints will be raised and the living will be judged.
Daniel 12:2-3
Revelation 20:4-6

3. This period includes the seventieth week of Daniel's prophecy.
Daniel 9:24-27
Matthew 24:15-31; 25:31-46

The Second Coming and The Millennial Reign

- A. We teach that, after the tribulation period:
 1. Christ will come to earth to occupy the throne of David and establish His messianic kingdom for a thousand years on the earth.
Matthew 25:31
Luke 1:31-33
Acts 1:10-11; 2:29-30
Revelation 20:1-7
 2. During this time the resurrected saints will reign with Him over Israel and all the nations of the earth.
Ezekiel 37:21-28
Daniel 7:17-22
Revelation 19:11-16
 3. This reign will be preceded by the overthrow of the Antichrist and the False Prophet, and by the removal of Satan from the world.
Daniel 7:17-27
Revelation 20:1-7
- B. We teach that the kingdom itself will be:
 1. The fulfillment of God's promise to Israel.
Isaiah 65:17-25
Ezekiel 37:21-28
Zechariah 8:1-17
 2. To restore them to the land which they forfeited through their disobedience.
Deuteronomy 28:15-68

3. The result of their disobedience was that Israel was temporarily set aside.
Matthew 21:43
Romans 11:1-26
4. Israel will again be awakened through repentance to enter into the land of blessing.
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Ezekiel 36:22-32
Romans 11:25-29

- C. We teach that this time of our Lord's reign will be characterized by harmony, justice, peace, righteousness, and long life, and will be brought to an end with the release of Satan.
Isaiah 11; 65:17-25
Ezekiel 36:33-38
Revelation 20:7

The Judgment of the Lost

- A. We teach the after the thousand year reign of Christ:
1. Satan will be released
Revelation 20:7
 2. Satan will deceive the nations of the earth and gather them to battle against the saints and the beloved city, at which time Satan and his army will be devoured by fire from heaven.
Revelation 20:8-9
 3. Following this, Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone.
Matthew 25:41
Revelation 20:10

4. Christ, who is the Judge of all men will resurrect and judge the great and the small at the Great White Throne Judgment.
John 5:22

- B. We teach that the resurrection of the unsaved dead to judgment will be a physical resurrection, whereupon receiving their judgment, they will be committed to an eternal conscious punishment in the lake of fire.

Romans 14:10-13

Matthew 25:41

Revelation 20:11-15

Eternity

We teach that after the closing of the millennium, the temporary release of Satan, and the judgment of unbelievers:

1. The saved will enter the eternal state of glory with God, after which the elements of this earth are to be dissolved and replaced with a new earth wherein only righteousness dwells.
2 Peter 3:10
Ephesians 5:5
Revelation 20:15, 21-22
2. Following this, the heavenly city will come down out of heaven and will be the dwelling place of the saints, where they will enjoy forever fellowship with God and one another.
Revelation 21:2
John 17:3
Revelation 21-22
3. Our Lord Jesus Christ, having fulfilled His redemptive mission, will then deliver up the kingdom to God the Father that in all spheres the triune God may reign forever and ever.
1 Corinthians 15:24-28