

Simple Statement of Beliefs

Chris Calvert

The Word of God

I believe that the Bible, consisting of sixty-six books, is the Word of God. I believe it is verbally inspired and without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that it is our supreme and final authority for what we are to believe and for the way we are to live.

The Trinity

I believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons who are equal in every divine perfection and who execute distinct but harmonious personalities and offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption.

God the Father

I believe in God, the Father, an infinite personal spirit, perfect in holiness, power, and love. I believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of each person, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. I believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. I believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible return to earth.

The Holy Spirit

I believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. He is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide. I believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ from the moment he is saved, sealing them unto the day of redemption; that He baptizes into the Body of Christ all who are saved; and that He fills believers who are yielded to Him. I believe that speaking in tongues was never the common nor necessary sign of the baptism or filling of the Holy Spirit.

Angels

I believe that God created many angels, some of whom followed the lead of Lucifer and rebelled against God. Lucifer, now called Satan, is a real being and is the enemy of God and His creation.

The New Life

I believe that all people were created in the image of God but fell into sin and are sinners by nature and by choice. Therefore, they are under condemnation. I believe that those who through genuine faith trust Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit and once saved, are kept by God's power, and thus secure in Christ forever.

The Church

I believe in the universal church, a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and all regenerated persons are members. I believe in the local church, consisting of a company of believers in Jesus Christ. That company is associated for observing the ordinances and for worship, work, fellowship, and outreach. I believe that God has laid upon the local church the primary task of giving the gospel of Jesus to a lost world.

The Ordinances

I believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church: baptism and the Lord's Supper. I believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the triune God. I believe that baptism is not for salvation, not even for membership in the local church, but is an act of obedience to Christ and a testimony of faith in Christ. I believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ for commemoration of His death. I believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Christian Conduct

I believe that Christians should live for the glory of God and the well-being of others; that their conduct should be blameless before the world; that they should be faithful stewards of their time, talent, and treasure; and that they should seek to realize for themselves the full stature of maturity in Christ by obedience to the Word of God.

The Last Things

I believe in the personal, visible, imminent coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His own, the Church, and His subsequent return to earth in power and glory to set up His messianic millennial kingdom. I believe in the bodily resurrection of all men—the saved to eternal life and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment. I believe that heaven and hell are real.