

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Shades Mountain Christian School

1. The Bible, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, is the inerrant and complete Word of God, the final authority in all matters of faith and practice. (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Jude 3)
2. There is one God, eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:21-22)
3. The Lord Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, and is true God and true man. (Luke 1:30-35; John 1:18; 3:16; Philippians. 2:5-11)
4. Man was created in the image of God; he sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death which is separation from God; as a consequence, all mankind is declared by God to be totally depraved, having inherited a sinful nature and having become sinners in thought, word, and deed. (Genesis 1:26-27; 2:16-17; 3:6-19; Romans 3:10-23; 6:23; 7:18; 11:32; Galatians 3:22)
5. The Lord Jesus Christ died as a substitutionary and complete sacrifice for the sins of the whole world and only those who believe in Him are saved, and this on the basis of His shed blood. (Romans 3:24-28; 5:8-10; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 1 John 2:1-2)
6. The Lord Jesus Christ arose from the dead in the same body, though glorified, in which He was crucified; He ascended into Heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of the Father as Head of the Church. (John 20:1-29; Acts 1:9-11; Ephesians 1:20-23; Hebrews 1:3)
7. The Lord Jesus Christ will come again personally and bodily; first He will come in the air prior to the seven-year Tribulation, hence at any moment, to receive the Church, His Body, unto Himself in Heaven; and following the literal fulfillment of the Great Tribulation spoken of by the prophets, He will return visibly to the earth with His saints to inaugurate His millennial kingdom of universal peace and righteousness. (Acts 1:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:51-58; 2 Peter 3:1-13; Revelation 19:1-16; 20:1-6)
8. Both the believer and the unbeliever will be resurrected bodily in their own order: the saved unto everlasting bliss, the lost unto everlasting and conscious punishment. (1 Corinthians 15:1-50; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Rev. 20:11-15; 21:22)
9. On the sole condition of personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, men are born again by the Holy Spirit; at regeneration, all believers in this age are also indwelt by the Holy Spirit, baptized by the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ, and sealed by the Holy Spirit unto the day of redemption. (Romans 3:24-28; 8:9-11; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Ephesians 4:30)
10. Sanctification, which is separation unto God, is threefold: positionally, the believer was sanctified at his conversion by virtue of his union with Christ; progressively, he is continually being sanctified through the Word as he walks in the Spirit, thereby overcoming the lusts of the flesh and producing the fruit of the Spirit; ultimately, he will be completely conformed to the image of Christ when he sees his Savior face to face. (John 17:17; Ephesians 5:26; Colossians 3:1-4; Hebrews 10:14; 1 John 3:1-3)
11. The Church is the Body of Christ, composed of all who are born again during this age of grace, which began at Pentecost and will be terminated at the rapture; this church universal is to gather together as local churches or assemblies after the pattern of New Testament doctrine and practice, including the observation of the ordinances of water baptism and the Lord's Supper; and God performs the ministry of His church through its members to whom He has given gifts for the purpose of edifying the Body of Christ. (Acts 2:1-47; Romans 12:1-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31; Ephesians 1:22-23)
12. The Great Commission was given to the Church and this task of world evangelism is the mission of the Church today. (Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 10:9-17; Ephesians 4:7-16)