

WHAT WE BELIEVE
US – Part 4
October 8-9, 2011 /John Smith



About...

1. THE BIBLE

The sole basis of our belief is the Bible, composed of sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments. We believe that Scripture originated with God, and that it was given through the instrument of chosen human beings. Our first question when faced with a decision is, "What do the Scriptures say?" Because it is inspired by God and it is the full and final authority on all matters of faith and practice.

2. GOD

There is one true, holy God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In the beginning God created the world out of nothing and all the things therein. By God's sovereign power God continues to sustain His creation. By God's providence He is operating throughout history to fulfill His redemptive purposes.

3. SALVATION

The central purpose of God's revelation in Scripture is to call all people into fellowship with Him. Men and women were created in God's image to be in relationship with God, but they defied God, choosing to go their own way, and were thus alienated from God. Through repentance and personal faith in Jesus Christ, God forgives us our sins; we are reborn, and we become children of God. The salvation of humankind is wholly a work of God's grace, not the result of human works or goodness, and must be personally received by repentance and faith.

4. JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is God's Son, the second Person of the Trinity. As true God and true man He taught women and men how to live through His sinless life, was crucified as a sacrifice for their sins, accomplishing salvation for all who trust in Him alone. He rose from the dead, was seen by over 500 persons, and returned to heaven to prepare a place for His own. He will come again to earth, personally and visibly, to consummate history and the eternal plan of God.

5. THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. He was sent into the world by the Father and the Son to apply to humankind the saving work of Christ. The HOLY SPIRIT enlightens the minds of sinners, awakens them to recognize their need of a Savior and regenerates them. At the point of salvation He permanently indwells the life of every believer to become the source of assurance, strength, and wisdom. The HOLY SPIRIT guides believers in understanding and applying the Scripture. He endows every believer with gifts for the building up of the church, and gives believers the power to lead a life of Christ-like character and bear fruit to the glory of the Father.

6. THE CHURCH

The CHURCH is the living body of Christ on earth. The CHURCH is composed of all who personally acknowledge Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. The CHURCH exists to: celebrate the presence of the living God, demonstrate God's love to people, cultivate personal growth in Christ, and communicate Christ to the world.

7. FAITH AND PRACTICE

The Bible is the final authority in all matters of FAITH AND PRACTICE. Crossroads will not dictate policies for individual members in areas where the Bible is silent. Rather, each believer is to be led in those areas by the Lord, to whom she or he is ultimately responsible.