

ROCKDALE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Statement of Faith

Preface

The church is “the pillar and support of the truth” (1 Timothy 3:15). It is the responsibility of every member of the church to “contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints” (Jude 3).

God’s truth has always been questioned, attacked and perverted. The Bible warns us that such deception will continue, and history has demonstrated the accuracy of these warnings. It is no wonder, then, that in our day, truth is rare while error is rampant.

We offer this statement of faith, not as something new or profound, not as a response to any single system of false doctrine, but rather as a simple and sincere attempt to proclaim and defend God’s inerrant Word.

We pray that the reader, whether in agreement or disagreement, will emulate the fair-minded people of Berea who “searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so” (Acts 17:11).

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Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

Colossians 2:8

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

2 Timothy 2:15

How We Use Our Statement of Faith

Churches have historically used confessions and statements of faith in order to summarize and clearly identify what they believe. Many historical confessions have been preserved, and are used by churches to this day. We have chosen a two-tiered approach. First, we have adopted the “Baptist Confession of Faith of 1689” as our broad confession (*with minor exceptions noted). Second, we have summarized the core beliefs of this confession in a concise “Statement of Faith” contained herein. It must be remembered that while the confession of faith and the statement of faith are represented in two distinct documents, they are inherently linked and function as a unified whole. Listed below are several important things you should understand about the purpose of our statement of faith, and about the way it will be used.

1. Our statement of faith, which has its roots in our confession, will be a helpful introduction to the doctrines we will teach, giving you assurance that we will remain solidly biblical in our convictions. While we strongly believe that the doctrines set forth in our statement are an accurate summary of biblical truth, we do not require everyone joining our church to understand and affirm the statement at every point.
2. We may invite guest speakers who do not agree with every point of doctrine in our statement of faith. There are many faithful ministers of the Word who do not hold to the exact expression of our convictions. Though our statement will guide us in selecting those we choose for guest speaking, it will not preclude those who are in complete agreement in the essential areas, while differing somewhat on secondary issues.
3. We do expect conformity to the statement of faith from our Elders and teachers, those most associated with the shepherding duty of teaching the truth. This does not imply that every teacher must have a thoroughly formulated understanding of every aspect of the statement. It does mean, however, that they are willing not to knowingly teach contrary to the established doctrine of the church while working out the finer points. Certain doctrines are so clear and so necessary that a teacher or potential leader would have no reason to be in confusion over them (e.g. the inerrancy of Scripture, the deity of Christ, the nature of saving faith, the sovereignty of God in election, etc.). However, certain difficult points of doctrine may take even good students some time to work out (e.g. the extent of the atonement, the precise relationship between the covenants, etc.). Since any teaching is a pastoral extension, the Elders will decide which points of theology, on a case by case basis, may remain suspended in the mind of a teacher or potential leader. Pains should be taken, however, to remove the confusion and to come to a solid conviction and doctrinal unity.
4. If a teacher comes to a conclusion contrary to the statement of faith, he is required to inform the Elders about his conflicting belief. The Elders will work with his concerns until there is unity in understanding. If an issue in the statement is found to be in error when compared with the confession of faith and then compared with Scripture, a correction will be made to the statement. If unity is unattainable, then the Elders and the individual must fall back on the statement of faith as correct, until proven otherwise. In this case, the teacher will be asked to discontinue teaching until there is a better resolve. It is possible that at some point, an Elder or teacher may completely apostatize (i.e. disbelieve certain essential doctrines once held true). In that special case, church discipline is in order and all teaching responsibilities will be terminated.
5. Our statement of faith is subservient to our confession of faith, which is subservient to Scripture alone. Neither the statement of faith nor the confession of faith has authority equal to that of God’s Word. They are authoritative only in a limited sense, as far as, they accurately reflect the meaning of Scripture. We view them and use them as tools to promote, achieve and maintain doctrinal understanding, purity and harmony

ROCKDALE COMMUNITY CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. The Holy Scriptures (cf.1689 BCF Chapter 1)

God has revealed all that is necessary for life and salvation in the sixty-six books of the Bible, which is the Word of God (1). All Scripture is inerrant and infallible, transmitted through human authors by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (2). Scripture alone* is the final authority in all matters of doctrine and practice. The authority of Scripture is derived from its Author and not from the opinions of men (3).

2. God and the Trinity (cf. 1689 BCF Chapter 2)

There is one true and living God (1) who exists in three eternally distinct persons (2): the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (3). These three are one in being (4), united in purpose (5), and equally worthy of glory and adoration (6). God is invisible, eternal, omni-present, almighty, all-knowing, unchanging, dependent upon none, sovereign, righteous, holy, just, gracious, loving, merciful, patient and good (7).

3. Creation (cf. 1689 BCF Chapter 4)

God created all that now exists in six days and from nothing, and it was all very good (1). The Father, Son and the Holy Spirit acted together in the work of creation (2). Out of all living things, only man was created in God's image. God granted him dominion over all lesser forms of life and over the earth itself (3).

4. Providence (cf. 1689 BCF Chapters 3& 5)

God orders and directs His universe in every detail (1). Every event in nature and every human action and decision is according to His decree and purpose (2). In God's infinite wisdom and power, all things work together for the benefit of His people (3), and for His glory (4).

5. The Fall and Its Effects (cf. 1689 BCF Chapters 6, 7 & 9)

God made Adam perfect, holy and upright (1), appointing him representative head of the human race (2). He fell from his original righteousness into sin when he disobeyed God's command (3). By his sinful act, Adam brought all people into a state of death and condemnation, passing to each one of them a corrupt sinful nature (4).

6. Man's Inability (cf. 1689 BCF Chapter 6 & 9)

The fall brought every man into a state of utter depravity, meaning every dimension of his being is distorted by sin (1). Apart from the grace of God, fallen man treats sin as his master (2), God as an enemy (3), and the message of the cross as foolishness (4). Until he is born again, he possesses neither the desire nor the ability to love God, to keep His laws, to understand the gospel, to repent of sin, or to trust in Christ (5).

7. The Birth and Life of Christ (cf. 1689 BCF Chapter 8)

God sent His Son into the world to save His people from their sins (1). Conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary (2), Jesus was and is both God and man (3). He was tempted in all things yet without sin (4), living the perfect life of righteousness on behalf of His people (5).

8. The Death of Christ (cf. 1689 BCF Chapter 8)

Jesus died on the cross (1) as the perfect sacrifice for sin (2), forever finishing the substitutionary work of atonement (3) for His people (4).

9. The Resurrection of Christ (cf. 1689 BCF Chapter 8)

On the third day, Jesus rose bodily from the grave (1). The resurrection affirms the deity and authority of Christ (2) and assures believers of their future bodily resurrection (3).

10. The Ascension of Christ (cf. 1689 BCF Chapter 8)

Jesus ascended into heaven (1) to appear in the presence of God as our perpetual High Priest, presenting Himself as the only acceptable sacrifice for sin (2). He is the one and only Mediator between God and men (3), and Head of His church (4). He intercedes forever on behalf of His people (5) and rules over all things for their sake (6).

11. Election and Responsibility (cf. 1689 BCF Chapters 3, 6, 9 & 10)

Before the foundation of the world, God elected a great multitude of men and women to eternal life (1) as an act of His free grace alone*. This election was in no way dependent upon His foresight of human faith, decision, works, or merit (2). In the unsearchable realm of God's sovereign will (3), all men remain responsible beings, subject to God's commands to repent and believe, and accountable to God for their rebellion, impenitence and rejection of Christ (4).

12. Calling and Regeneration (cf. 1689 BCF Chapters 7, 10, 14 & 15)

To accomplish God's redemptive purpose (1), the Holy Spirit works effectively through the gospel of Christ (2), regeneration elect sinners (3) and drawing them irresistibly to repentance and saving faith (4).

13. Justification (cf. 1689 BCF Chapters 8, 11 & 12)

The elect are declared righteous in the sight of God because of Christ's perfect life, His substitutionary death and the imputation of His righteousness (1). Justification can never be the reward or result of human works or merit (2), nor does it grow out of an infusion of Christ's righteousness (3). It is granted by grace alone* through faith alone* (4) in the person of Christ alone* (5).

14. Sanctification (cf. 1689 BCF Chapters 13, 15 & 16)

According to God's purpose in predestination, the justified are progressively conformed to the image of Christ (1). All true believers direct their will and affections toward this purpose (2), putting to death desires and deed of the flesh (3) by the enabling power of the Holy Spirit (4) as God's Word is more fully understood and applied (5). While sinless perfection will never be attained in this life (6), it is a certainty in heaven (7).

15. Perseverance (cf. 1689 BCF Chapters 15, 17 & 18)

All who are chosen, called, regenerated and justified shall preserve in faith and never finally fall away (1). Perseverance is not a human accomplishment but a work of God through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit who creates, sustains and nourishes a living, growing, transforming and enduring faith in all true believers (2).

16. The Church (cf. BCF Chapters 22, 26 & 27)

A local church is a visible representation of the body of Christ and is under the authority of Christ alone* (1). Nevertheless in every local church, qualified elders are appointed to serve Christ as they care for His body (2). Qualified deacons are to assist elders as needs arise (3). Each member of the church is uniquely gifted by the Holy Spirit to edify the body (4). A local church must recognize and fellowship with the universal body of Christ as represented in other true churches (5).

17. Baptism (cf. 1689 BCF Chapters 28 & 29)

Baptism is an act of Christian obedience (1). We believe our practice of baptism by immersion in water (2), best symbolizes both the believer's union with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection to new life (3) and his cleansing from sin (4). Baptism may only be administered to those who demonstrate repentance from sin and make a credible profession of faith in Christ (5).

18. The Lord's Supper (cf. BCF 1689 BCF Chapters 28 & 30)

Christians may, and indeed, must regularly partake of the Lord's Supper (1). By breaking and eating the bread and drinking the cup, believers remember the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross (2). Through the Lord's Supper, they affirm and celebrate their oneness, their separation from the world and their fellowship with Christ in the New Covenant (3).

19. Evangelism (cf. 1689 BCF Chapters 16, 26, 27 & 29)

It is the calling of every local church to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey all that Christ has commanded (1). It is a priority in evangelism to unite new believers with local churches (2).

20. Marriage (cf. 1689 BCF Chapter 25)

Marriage is always to be between one man and one woman only. Homosexual unions and same-sex marriages, even if sanctioned by the civil authorities, are aberrations of God's law (1) and thus ungodly and not permissible; neither is it biblical, godly or permissible for a man to have more than one wife at the same time or a woman to have more than one husband at the same time (2), nor for a couple to live together as husband and wife outside of the covenant of marriage. (3)

21. The Return of Christ (cf. 1689 BCF Chapters 31 & 32)

The Lord Jesus Christ shall come again to raise the dead bodily, both righteous and unrighteous (1). The justified shall enjoy everlasting life in the presence of God in heaven, while the unjustified shall eternally endure God's wrath in hell (2).

22. God's Everlasting Covenant (cf. 1689 BCF Chapter 7)

The distance between God and His creature man is so great that, although men, endowed as they are with reason, owe obedience to Him as their creator, yet they could never have attained to life as their reward had not God, in an act of voluntary condescension made this possible by the making of a covenant (1).

Furthermore, since man, by reason of his fall into sin, had brought himself under the curse of God's law, it pleased the Lord to make a covenant of grace (2), in which He freely offers life and salvation by Jesus Christ to sinners. On their part He requires faith in Him that they may be saved (3), and promises to give His Holy Spirit to all those who are elected unto eternal life, in order that they may be made willing and able to believe (4).

God's covenant is revealed in the gospel; in the first place to Adam in the promise of salvation by "the seed of the woman", and afterwards, step by step, until the full revelation of salvation was completed in the New Testament (5). The salvation of the elect (6) is based upon a covenant of redemption that was transacted in eternity between the Father and the Son; and it is solely through the grace conveyed by this covenant that all the descendants of fallen Adam who have been saved have obtained life and a blessed immortality; for the terms of blessing which applied to Adam in his state of innocence have no application to his posterity to render them acceptable to God (7).

23. The Glory of God (cf. 1689 BCF Chapters 2 & 16)

Christians must live for God's glory *alone**(1) through their awareness and enjoyment of His person (2), submission to His authority (3), and reliance upon His goodness (4). In truth, all things that have or will transpire, serve to glorify God as their highest purpose (5).

For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory alone forever. Amen. (Romans 11:36)

The italicized use of the word "alone" at various places in our statement of faith indicates our affirmation of the five "solas" of the Protestant Reformation. Please see the following definitions:

THE FIVE SOLAS

Imbedded in our statement of faith are the following five critical Christian doctrines. For centuries before the Protestant Reformation, these truths were largely neglected, even denied by most professing Christian leaders.

I. Sola Scriptura (Scripture alone)

The Bible alone teaches all that is necessary for our salvation from sin and is the standard by which all Christian behavior must be measured.

II. Sola Gratia (Grace alone)

In salvation we are rescued from God's wrath by His grace alone. God's spontaneous and unmerited favor is granted through the calling and regenerating work of the Holy Spirit who releases us from our willful bondage to sin and enables us to repent and believe in Christ.

III. Sola Fide (Faith alone)

Justification is by grace alone through faith alone. Justification can never be the reward or result of human works or merit, nor does it grow out of an infusion of Christ's righteousness.

IV. Solus Christus (because of Christ alone)

Our salvation is accomplished by the mediatorial work of Jesus Christ alone. His sinless life and substitutionary death alone are sufficient for our justification and reconciliation to the Father.

V. Soli Deo Gloria (for the Glory of God alone)

God glorifies Himself in all that He does. Therefore we should acknowledge His highest purpose and live for His glory alone.

Scripture Proofs

1. The Holy Scriptures

- (1) Matthew 4:4; Romans 1:16; 1 Timothy 4:16; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; Hebrews 4:12
- (2) Psalm 19:7-9; 119:160; Proverbs 8:8; 30:5; John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21
- (3) Isaiah 8:19-20; Psalm 138:2; Proverbs 30:6; Acts 17:11; Galatians 1:8-9; 1 Timothy 1:3; 6:3-5,20-21; 2 John 9-11

2. God and the Trinity

- (1) Deuteronomy 4:39; Isaiah 44:6; 45:5; 46:9
- (2) Matthew 28:19; Titus 3:4-6
- (3) The Father: Matthew 3:17; 6:9; John 17:1,5,11,21,25;
The Son: Matthew 1:23; 3:17; John 1:1,14; 5:19-23; 8:58 (cf. Exodus 3:14);
John 10:31-33; 17:1,5,11,21,25; Romans 9:5; Philippians 2:5-6; Colossians 2:9; Titus 2:13; 3:4,6
(cf. Isaiah 43:11; 45:21); 2 Peter 1:1;
The Holy Spirit: Matthew 1:18 (cf. Luke 1:35); John 14:16-17; Acts 5:3-4; Romans 8:9-11; 1
Corinthians 2:10-12; 12:11,18
- (4) Genesis 1:26-27; 3:22-24; Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 3:16
- (5) Isaiah 42:1; 48:16; 61:1-3; Matthew 28:19; John 5:19,30; 14:26; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Titus 3:4-6
- (6) Matthew 12:31-32; John 4:24; 5:23; 17:5; Hebrews 1:6; 10:29; Revelation 4:11 (cf. Job 33:4);
Revelation 5:12-14
- (7) invisible-John 1:18; 4:24; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17; 1 John 4:12; eternal-Deuteronomy 33:27;
Genesis 21:33; Psalm 90:2; 1 Timothy 1:17; omnipresent-Psalm 139:7-12; Proverbs 15:3;
almighty-Psalm 62:11; 65:6; Isaiah 40:15,28; Psalm 115:3; all-knowing-Psalm 147:5;
Isaiah 40:13-14,28; 66:18; Romans 16:27; 1 Timothy 1:17; Jude 25; unchanging-Malachi 3:6;
Hebrews 13:8; James 1:17; dependent upon none-Genesis 1:1; Acts 17:25;
sovereign-1 Chronicles 29:11-12; Psalm 47:2; 115:3; Proverbs 21:1; Lamentations 3:37-38;
Isaiah 46:9-11; John 19:10-11; Ephesians 1:11; 1 Timothy 6:15; righteous-Ezra 9:15; Nehemiah 9:8;
Psalm 89:14; 92:15; John 17:25; holy-Psalm 99:3,5,9; Isaiah 6:3; Revelation 4:8; just-Psalm 89:14;
Isaiah 45:21; Romans 3:26; gracious-Exodus 34:6; Jonah 4:2; 1 Peter 2:3; loving-John 3:16; Romans 5:8;
1 John 3:1; 4:8-10 (cf. Malachi 1:2-3; Romans 9:10-15; Hebrews 12:5-8); merciful-Exodus 34:6;
Numbers 14:18; Psalm 136; Lamentations 3:22 (cf. Exodus 33:19; Romans 9:15); patient-Exodus 34:6;
Numbers 14:18; Jonah 4:2; 2 Peter 3:9; good-Exodus 34:6; Psalm 34:8; Luke 18:19

3. Creation (1) Genesis 1:1-31; Exodus 20:11; 31:17; Acts 17:24; Romans 4:17; Hebrews 11:3; Revelation 4:11

- (2) Genesis 1:1-2,26-28; Job 33:4; Psalm 33:6,9; 104:30; Jeremiah 10:12-13; John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:15-17;
Hebrews 1:2; 11:3
- (3) Genesis 1:26-28; 9:6; Psalm 8:6-8; Colossians 3:10; James 3:9

4. Providence

- (1) Numbers 23:19; Job 38:4-41; Proverbs 16:33; Isaiah 46:9-11; Ephesians 1:11; Acts 17:25,28;
Hebrews 1:3
- (2) Exodus 7:3-4; Proverbs 16:9; 21:1; Daniel 4:25,35; Matthew 10:29; John 6:37-40; Acts 4:27-28; 13:48;
Philippians 2:12-13
- (3) Romans 8:28; 2 Corinthians 7:10 (cf. Romans 2:4); Hebrews 12:5-11
- (4) Exodus 9:16; Isaiah 60:21; Ezekiel 28:20-23; Romans 9:22-23; 11:33-36; Ephesians 1:11-14

5. The Fall and Its Effects

- (1) Genesis 1:26-31; Ecclesiastes 7:29
- (2) Romans 5:12-19; 1 Corinthians 15:22
- (3) Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-24
- (4) Psalm 51:5; 58:3; Isaiah 48:8; Romans 3:19,23; 5:12,18,19; 6:23; 1 Corinthians 15:22

6. Man's Inability

- (1) Genesis 6:5; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 1:28-32; 3:9-18; Titus 1:15
- (2) Romans 6:16-22; Ephesians 2:1-3; Colossians 1:13; 2 Timothy 2:26; Titus 3:3
- (3) Deuteronomy 32:41; Romans 5:10; 8:7; Colossians 1:21; James 4:4
- (4) Acts 17:32; 26:22-24; 1 Corinthians 1:18,21; 2 Corinthians 2:15-16; Philippians 3:18-19
- (5) Deuteronomy 5:29; Jeremiah 4:22; John 3:19-20; 6:44,65; 8:43,45,47; 14:17; 15:5;
Romans 1:21; 3:9-18; 8:6-8; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Ephesians 2:1; 4:17-19; Colossians 2:13;
2 Thessalonians 3:2 (cf. 1 Corinthians 4:7; Hebrews 11:6)

7. The Birth and Life of Christ

- (1) Matthew 1:21; John 1:29; 3:16-17; Philippians 2:7
- (2) Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-23; Luke 1:26-35
- (3) John 1:1; 20:28; Romans 9:5; Philippians 2:7-8; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 1:8; John 1:14; Romans 5:15, 18-19;
1 Corinthians 15:47-49; 1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 2:17
- (4) John 8:46; Hebrews 4:15; 7:26-28; 1 Peter 2:21-22; 1 John 3:5
- (5) Galatians 4:4-5; 2 Corinthians 5:21

8. The Death of Christ

- (1) Mark 15:37,44; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Revelation 1:18; Romans 10:9
- (2) 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 2:10; 9:9-14; 10:10-14
- (3) John 19:28-30; Romans 3:23-25; 2 Corinthians 5:18-19
- (4) John 10:15; Acts 20:28; Romans 8:28-34; Ephesians 5:25; Hebrews 10:12-14

9. The Resurrection of Christ

- (1) Matthew 28:5-7; Luke 24:5-8, 39, 42-43
- (2) Romans 1:4; John 2:19-21 (cf. 5:21,26); Acts 17:30-31
- (3) Romans 6:5; 1 Corinthians 6:14; 15:12-19,22; 2 Corinthians 4:14; Philippians 3:20-21

10. The Ascension of Christ

- (1) Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9-11
- (2) Romans 4:25-5:1; Hebrews 7:23-25; 9:11-12,24; 10:4,14
- (3) 1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 8:6; 9:15; 12:24
- (4) Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 5:23; Colossians 1:18
- (5) Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:23-25; 1 John 2:1
- (6) 1 Corinthians 15:24-26; Romans 8:37-39; Philippians 2:9-11

11. Election and Responsibility

- (1) Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Acts 13:48
- (2) Romans 9:10-12; 11:5-10; Ephesians 2:8; Philippians 1:29; 2 Timothy 1:9
- (3) Deuteronomy 29:29; Job 11:7-9; 36:22-23; Isaiah 55:8-11; Romans 11:33-35; 1 Corinthians 2:16
- (4) Mark 1:15; John 3:36; 6:37; Acts 17:30-31; Romans 1:18-21; 9:19-21; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-10

12. Calling and Regeneration

- (1) Isaiah 55:10-11; Ezekiel 34:11-13,16 (cf. Luke 19:10); 2 Thessalonians 2:13
- (2) Romans 1:16; 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 1:21; 1 Peter 1:22-25; 1 Thessalonians 1:4-5;
2 Thessalonians 2:14
- (3) Deuteronomy 30:6; Jeremiah 31:33; Ezekiel 36:26-27; John 1:13; 3:3-8; 1 Corinthians 6:11;
2 Corinthians 4:6; 5:17; Ephesians 2:10; Titus 3:5b; James 1:18
- (4) John 6:37,44-45,65; 10:16; Romans 8:30; 1 Corinthians 1:26-29; Hebrews 9:15

13. Justification

- (1) Isaiah 53:11; Romans 4:5-8,11,16,20-25; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 1:18-19
- (2) Romans 3:20-21,27-28; 4:1-4; Galatians 3:10-14; Titus 3:4-5
- (3) Romans 4:5; 1 Timothy 1:15
- (4) Genesis 15:6; John 1:11-12; Romans 1:17; 3:20,26-28; 4:5,20-21,24; 5:1; Galatians 2:20-21; 3:2-3,5-9,11-13,
5:1-6; Ephesians 2:8-9; Philippians 3:9
- (5) John 3:14-18,36; 14:6; Acts 4:12; 2 John 9; 1 Corinthians 16:22

14. Sanctification

- (1) Proverbs 4:18; Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 4:16; 1 Thessalonians 3:10; 4:3; 5:23
- (2) Matthew 7:21; John 14:21,23a; 2 Timothy 2:19b; Hebrews 12:14; James 2:14-26; 3 John 11; 2 Peter 1:5-11;
1 John 3:3
- (3) Psalm 119:9-11; Matthew 5:6; Phil 3:14; Romans 8:13; Galatians 5:24; Colossians 3:1-11
- (4) Ezekiel 36:27; Romans 8:8-14; Philippians 2:13
- (5) Psalm 1:1-3; 19:7-8; 119:9,11,133; Proverbs 2:1-9; John 17:17; Acts 20:32; Ephesians 5:26;
1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; James 1:21-25; 1 Peter 2:1-3
- (6) Proverbs 20:9; Philippians 3:12-14; James 3:2; 1 John 1:8,10
- (7) 1 Corinthians 13:9-12; Ephesians 4:13; 5:27; Philippians 1:6; 1 Thessalonians 5:24; Hebrews 10:14; 12:1-2;
Jude 24; Revelation 21:27

15. Perseverance

- (1) John 5:24; 10:27-29; Romans 8:1-2; 28-39; Hebrews 3:14; 1 John 2:19
- (2) Romans 1:16-17; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:13; 2 Timothy 1:12; 1 Peter 1:3-5

16. The Church

- (1) 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 1 Peter 2:4-5; Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 1:22-23; 5:23-24a
- (2) Acts 20:17,28; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:2-4
- (3) Acts 6:1-4; 1 Timothy 3:8-13
- (4) 1 Corinthians 12:7,11; 14:12,26b; Romans 12:3-8; Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Peter 4:10-11
- (5) Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; Romans 8:16-17; Galatians 3:26 (cf. 1:2); 2 Corinthians 11:28; Colossians 4:16

17. Baptism

- (1) Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38,41; 8:37-38; 9:18; 10:47-48; 16:14-15, 31-34; 18:8
- (2) Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10; John 3:23; Acts 8:36-38
- (3) Acts 19:3-5; Romans 6:3-6; Galatians 2:20; Colossians 2:11-14
- (4) Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Titus 3:5; Hebrews 10:22
- (5) Matthew 28:19; John 1:12-13; Acts 2:38; 8:37

18. The Lord's Supper

- (1) Luke 22:19; 1 Corinthians 11:25
- (2) Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:26
- (3) Matthew 26:27-28; Acts 2:41-47; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17,21; 11:25

19. Evangelism

- (1) Matthew 9:36-38; 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 5:18-20
- (2) Ezekiel 34:11-14 (cf. Acts 20:28); Matthew 16:18; Acts 2:47; 1 Corinthians 3:9; Ephesians 4:14-16; 1 Peter 2:5

20. Marriage

- (1) Genesis 1:28, 2:18; Leviticus 18:22, 20:13; Romans 1:26-27; I Corinthians 6:9-11; 1 Timothy 1:10
- (2) Genesis 2:24; Malachi 2: 13-15; Matthew 19:4-6
- (3) Hebrews 13:4

21. The Return of Christ

- (1) John 5:28-29; 14:3; 1 Corinthians 15:51-55; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Hebrews 9:28
- (2) Matthew 25:31-46; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9; Hebrews 9:27-28; Revelation 20:15; 21:4; 22:3-5

22. God's Everlasting Covenant

- (1) Job 35:7-8; Psa 113:5-6; Isa 40:13-16; Luk 17:5-10; Act 17:24-25
- (2) Gen 3:15; Psa 110:4 with Heb 7:18-22 and 10:12-18; Eph 2:12 with Rom 4:13-17 and Gal 3:18-22; Heb 9:15
- (3) Joh 3:16; Rom 10:6,9; Gal 3:11
- (4) Eze 36:26-27; Joh 6:44-45
- (5) Gen 3:15; Rom 16:25-27; Eph 3:5; Tit 1:2; Heb 1:1-2
- (6) Psa 110:4; Eph 1:3-11; 2Ti 1:9
- (7) Joh 8:56; Rom 4:1-25; Gal 3:18-22; Heb 11:6,13,39-40

23. The Glory of God

- (1) Leviticus 10:3; Matthew 5:16; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Philippians 1:9-11
- (2) Psalm 23:4; 46:1; 139:7-10,17-18; Proverbs 15:3; Jeremiah 16:17; Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5
- (3) 1 Samuel 15:22-23; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; Micah 6:8; John 15:14-16 (cf. John 15:8; Ephesians 2:10); Acts 5:32; Hebrews 12:28-29
- (4) Psalm 23; 34:7-10; Isaiah 41:10; Matthew 6:25-32; Luke 11:11-13; 2 Corinthians 1:3-4; Philippians 4:6-7; Acts 17:28

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