



STATEMENT OF FAITH

Gates of Heaven Pentecostal Church, Inc.

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Scripture. We believe that the Holy Bible, composed of Old and New Testament, is God's word inspired and personally spoken by God for the purpose of revealing who God is to humanity. The Bible is without error in all issues to which it speaks and is the authoritative witness to the truth of God embodied in Jesus Christ.

God. We believe in one God eternally existing as Three Persons.

- We believe in God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth. He is perfect in holiness, infinite in wisdom, and measureless in power. God showed His love for all people by sending His Son to die for our sins so that we might have eternal life with God in heaven.¹
- We believe that Jesus is the Son of God, God Himself, and that He became completely man. Conceived through the power of the Holy Spirit, He was born of the virgin Mary. Jesus lived a sinless life and chose to die as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people. He was bodily resurrected from the dead and appeared to many people. He now sits at the "right hand of God" (the highest place of honor and power), interceding (standing in to provide protection) for the sins of His people (those who accepted him as Savior and Lord). He will come in glory to righteously judge all people based on their acceptance or rejection of Him. Jesus is the only way to bridge the gap of sin between God and creation. Thus, He is the only way to have a relationship with God now and eternal life with God in heaven.
- We believe that the Holy Spirit convicts the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment. The Holy Spirit regenerates, sanctifies, and gives comfort to those who believe in Jesus Christ. He is the power that Christians have that enables them to be transformed into the image of Christ. The Holy Spirit is our pledge of eternal life that empowers humanity to live like Jesus on earth.

Creation. We believe that humanity, male and female, was created in the image of God, designed to worship, and given rule over all the earth to be faithful stewards of God's creation. Humanity sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God. All human beings are sinners by nature and by choice, and as a result, sorrow, pain, sickness, death, and all that is "not good" came into existence. Humanity is, therefore, in need of salvation and justification through Jesus Christ's redemptive work. As such, humanity is regenerated by the Holy Spirit to participate in the ministry of reconciliation and careful stewardship of creation.

Salvation. We believe that salvation depends on accepting Christ as both Savior and Lord of your life. We believe that God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.² We believe that all who repent of their sins and receive, by faith, Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are born again of the Holy Spirit and, therefore, become children of God. We believe that justification means that a person is declared righteous in the sight of God by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone.³

The Church. We believe that the Church is a living, spiritual body in which Christ is the head and of which all regenerated people are members. We believe that a visible church is a company of believers in Jesus Christ, buried with Him in baptism and associated for the purpose of leading believers toward maturity through worship, instruction, fellowship, and evangelism. We believe that Christ has committed to the local church, the ordinances of Baptism and Communion to be observed until He comes, and that Christ has committed to the church the responsibility to proclaim to a lost world their need to accept Jesus Christ as Savior and to recognize Him as Lord. We believe that human betterment and social improvement are essential products of the Gospel.

¹ Luke 18:27; John 3:16,17; Romans 11:33; 1 Peter 1:16; 1 John 4:7-10; Revelation 4:8.

² John 3:16

³ John 1:12; Romans 3:21-26; Ephesians 1:13; 2:8-10, John 1:12; Acts 2:38, 39 and 8:26-40 and 16:25-34; 1 Peter 3:21, 22.