



gracehouse<sup>7</sup>

OUR BELIEFS

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## BELIEFS

- We believe that the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, are the inspired Word of God, the complete revelation of his will for the salvation of mankind, and the highest authority for all Christian faith and life.
- We believe that the one true God exists eternally in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and that these, being one God, are equal in deity, power, and glory. We believe that God not only created the world but also now upholds, sustains, and governs the world by the power of his word.
- We believe that God the Son became a human being in the person of Jesus Christ. That He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless life (for He was without sin), died a substitutionary death for all mankind, was raised from the dead on the third day, ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God until His enemies are made His footstool, and at that time he will return to judge the living and the dead.
- We believe that the Holy Spirit is fully God, equal with the Father and Son. The primary ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit also convicts unbelievers of their need for Christ and imparts spiritual life through faith and repentance. The Spirit regenerates, indwells, sanctifies, leads, illumines, and graciously empowers for godly living and service all who come to faith in Christ.
- We believe that Jesus perfectly revealed and did the will of God, taking upon Himself human nature with its demands and necessities and identifying Himself completely with mankind yet without sin. He honoured the divine law by His personal obedience, and in His substitutionary death on the cross, he took upon himself the penalty of the law, he conquered the power of sin and death, and made provision for the redemption of men from sin and the punishment thereof. We affirm that Jesus Christ is the only available and effective sacrifice for the sins of every person.

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- We believe that the ministry of the Spirit in signs and wonders continues to be as broad, tangible, and powerful among believers today as it was in the early church. We also believe that all the gifts of the Spirit continue to be distributed by the Spirit today; that these gifts are divine provisions central to spiritual growth and effective ministry; and that these gifts are to be eagerly desired, faithfully developed, and lovingly exercised according to biblical guidelines.
- We believe that Adam and Eve were created in the image of God, righteous and without sin. In consequence of their disobedience, all humanity are born subject to the power of sin and death, and as such are inherently corrupted in a way that affects every aspect of their being. For this reason, every person will indeed sin. On account of sin, mankind is cut off from eternal life, and without repentance will suffer eternal destruction.
- We believe that the Church is the Bride of Christ and is comprised of all believers in every age. The Church is also God's primary instrument through which he is fulfilling his redemptive purposes in the earth. We believe that God has called the Church to preach the gospel to all nations, and to especially minister to the poor and disadvantaged through sacrificial giving and practical service. We also affirm the priesthood of all believers and the importance of every Christian being joined with and actively involved in a local community of the saints.
- We believe that water baptism and the Lord's Supper are the two ordinances of the church to be observed until the time of Christ's return. While they do not save in and of themselves, they are channels of God's sanctifying grace and blessing. Only those who have personally and consciously placed their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour are invited to receive the sacraments.