



Rock Church Statement of Faith

Holy Bible

The Holy Bible is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority in determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, it is inspired, infallible, and inerrant (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Proverbs 30:5; Romans 16:25-26).

Trinity

There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and co-eternal (1 John 5:7; Genesis 1:26; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 9:6; Hebrews 3:7-11).

Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is God the Son, the second person of the Trinity. On earth, Jesus was 100% God and 100% man. He is the only man ever to have lived a sinless life. He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed miracles, died on the cross for mankind, and thus, atoned for our sins through the shedding of His blood. He rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will return again in power and glory (John 1:1,14, 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:16; Isaiah 9:6; Philippians 2:5-6; 1 Timothy 2:5).

Virgin Birth

Jesus Christ was conceived by God the Father, through the Holy Spirit (the third person of the Trinity) in the virgin Mary's womb; therefore, He is the Son of God (Matthew 1:18, 25; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:27-35).

The Atonement

Christ's vicarious death on the cross paid the penalty for the sins of the whole world, but its benefits are only applicable to those who receive Jesus as their personal Savior. The blood that Jesus Christ shed on the cross of Calvary was sinless and is 100% sufficient to cleanse mankind of all sin. Jesus allowed Himself to be punished for both our sinfulness and our sins, enabling all those who believe to be free from the penalty of sin, which is death. Healing—body, soul, and spirit—and all of God's provisions for His saints, are provided for in the atonement, but these must be received by faith (Isaiah 53:3-6; Matthew 8:17; Romans 5:9; 1 John 1:7; Colossians 1:20; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 John 1:29; Revelation 1:5, 5:9).



The Fall and Redemption

Mankind was created in the image and likeness of God, male and female, and completely free of sin. They remained in perfect union with God until they voluntarily rebelled against Him, and thereby suffered the consequences of their sin: separation from God, spiritual death, and physical death. Since Adam and Eve reproduced in this fallen state, every subsequent generation was born with a sinful nature. Therefore, the only hope of redemption for mankind is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God (Genesis 1:26-31, 2:17, 3:1-7, 5:2; Romans 5:12-21).

Salvation

We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ: His death, burial, and resurrection. Salvation is a gift from God, not a result of our good works or of any human efforts. The moment we are born again, our spirit is made new (regenerated) by the Holy Spirit, and we become a brand new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17, 21; Ephesians 2:8-9; Galatians 2:16, 3:8; Titus 3:5; Romans 8:9, 10:9-10; Acts 16:31; Hebrews 9:22).

Water Baptism

Following faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the new convert is commanded by the Word of God to be baptized in water in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:12, 36-38; 10:47-48, Romans 6:4).

Repentance

Repentance is the commitment to turn away from sin in every area of our lives and to follow Christ, which allows us to receive His redemption. It is through repentance we receive forgiveness of sins and appropriate salvation (Acts 2:21, 3:19; 1 John 1:9).

Sanctification

Sanctification is the ongoing process of yielding to God's Word and His Spirit in order to complete the development of Christ's character in us. It is through the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God that the Christian is enabled to live a godly life that consistently produces the fruit of the Spirit (John 15:5-8; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 4:21-24; 1 Thessalonians 4:3, 5:23; 2 Corinthians 3:18, 6:14-18; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-3; Romans 8:29, 12:1-2; Hebrews 2:11).



Baptized with the Holy Spirit

The promise of the Father—to be baptized with the Holy Spirit—was given at Pentecost, which marked the birth of the Church and the beginning of the Last Days. Jesus taught His disciples that the Gospel of the Kingdom, which includes supernatural power—healing, miracles, freedom from demons, etc.—is to be preached throughout the entire earth before the end would come. Being baptized with the Holy Spirit brings this power. This baptism was the normal experience of the early Church and is available to every believer in Christ today (Joel 2:28-29; Matthew 3:11, 4:23, 9:35, 10:7-8, 12:28, 24:14; Mark 1:8, 1:15, 1:21-25, 16:17; Luke 3:16, 4:40-43, 8:1-3, 9:1-2, 9:11, 10:9, 11:20, 24:49; John 1:33, 7:38-39; Acts 1:5, 2:1-4, 2:17, 2:38-39, 8:12-17, 9:17, 10:44-47, 11:15-17, 19:1-7).

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is manifested through a variety of spiritual gifts to build and sanctify the church, demonstrate the validity of the resurrection, and confirm the power of the Gospel. The Bible's lists of these gifts are not necessarily exhaustive, and the gifts may occur in various combinations. All believers are commanded to earnestly desire the manifestation of the gifts in their lives. With love as our motivation, these gifts are to always operate in harmony with the Scriptures (Hebrews 2:4; Romans 1:11, 12:4-8; Ephesians 4:16; 1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6-7; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31, 14:1-40; 1 Peter 4:10).

The Church

Jesus is the hope of the world, and the Church is His body. The Church is the means by which the gospel is spread throughout the earth, and how the Spirit is made present and active in the world. We are baptized into (joined with) Christ at salvation, and thereby become members of His body. Although the body of Christ has many parts, each with unique functions and gift-mixes, every member is called to the ministry of reconciliation, which is to restore the original relationship between God and mankind (1 Corinthians 12:13; 2 Corinthians 5:18; Ephesians 1:22-23, 2:19-22, 4:16; Hebrews 12:23; John 17:11, 20-23).

Marriage

We believe marriage is defined in the Bible as a covenant, a sacred bond between one man and one woman, instituted by and publicly entered into before God (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:4-6).



The Lord's Supper

A unique time of communion in the presence of God when the elements of bread and grape juice (the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ) are taken in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice at the whipping post and on the Cross (Matthew 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 11:23-25).

Resurrection

Jesus Christ was physically resurrected from the dead in a glorified body three days after His death on the cross. In addition, both the saved and the lost will be resurrected, those that are saved to the resurrection of life, and those that are lost to the resurrection of eternal damnation (Luke 24:16, 36, 39; John 2:19-21, 20:26-28, 21:4; Acts 24:15; 1 Corinthians 15:42, 44; Philippians 1:21-23, 3:21).

Heaven and Hell

People were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin or exist eternally in union with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life in heaven. Heaven and hell are real places of eternal existence. (Matthew 5:3, 12, 20, 6:20, 19:21, 25:34, 25:41; Mark 9:43-48; John 17:24; 2 Corinthians 5:1; Hebrews 11:16, 9:27; 1 Peter 1:4; Revelation 14:9-11, 20:12-15, 21:8).

The Second Coming

Jesus Christ will physically and visibly return to earth for the second time to establish His Kingdom. This will occur at a date undisclosed by the Scriptures (Matthew 24:30, 26:63-64; Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8; Revelation 1:7).