

SALEM BIBLE CHURCH DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

1. We believe in the verbal, plenary inspiration and inerrancy of the original writings of the Old and New Testament and thus, they are the supreme and final authority in faith and life.
2. We believe in one sovereign God, eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who is working all things after the counsel of His own will. Therefore, it is fitting that He be worshiped, honored and glorified.
3. We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is the true God and true man.
4. We believe that man was created in the image of God, that he sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also spiritual death; and that all human beings, except for the Man Jesus Christ alone, are born with a sinful nature, are totally depraved, subject to the wrath of God, and need to be born again.
5. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for the sins of the whole world (unlimited propitiation and reconciliation) according to the Scriptures, as a substitutionary sacrifice, that His crucified body was raised from the dead, and that He ascended into Heaven to appear before the Father as our High Priest, Advocate, and Mediator.
6. We believe that man can only be born again by grace through faith in the Person and Work of the Lord Jesus Christ and thereby becomes a child of God, by the power of the Holy Spirit. At the moment of salvation, he is secure unto the day of redemption.
7. We believe that the Church of Jesus Christ began at Pentecost through the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, is composed of believers only, is the Body and the Bride of our Lord, and is distinct from Israel.
8. In order to protect the Church from doctrinal error resulting from confusion and division, we strongly affirm:
 - a. Every believer is indwelt, sealed, and baptized into one body at the moment of conversion. (I Corinthians 12:13)
 - b. Some gifts are permanent and are to be in use throughout the entire Church Age. These include the gifts of pastor-teacher, teacher, evangelist, helps, government (ruling), ministry, exhortation, giving, and showing mercy (I Corinthians 12:28, Romans 12:7-8, Ephesians 4: 11).
 - c. Other gifts were temporary and given in the Apostolic Age for the purpose of vindicating God's message and messengers until the completion of the writing of the Canon of Scripture. Having fulfilled

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their purpose, they are not necessary and thus are not bestowed by the Holy Spirit today (I Corinthians 13:3-10). These include the gifts of apostleship, prophecy, faith, knowledge, wisdom, discerning of spirits, miracles, healing, tongues, and the interpretation of tongues.

- d. As believers are filled with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18), they will manifest the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) with positive blessing to the whole Church.
- e. We believe that Jesus Christ instituted the Lord's Supper to commemorate His death until He returns for His Church. We believe that water baptism is a testimony to the world of personal faith in Christ.
- f. We believe in the personal and imminent return of our Lord in the air to receive His Church (The Rapture). We believe in the personal, visible, and glorious return of Christ to the earth with His saints to establish His Millennial Kingdom. We believe that between these two events the Great Tribulation will occur.
- g. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the everlasting punishment of the lost.