

Statement of Faith Grace Family Church

I. God

We believe there is one God who exists in three persons, Father, Son, and Spirit. Each person of God fully possesses the divine essence, and yet they remain three distinct persons.

II. Jesus Christ

Jesus is God in the flesh, the Messiah, the Lord of all things. We believe in the virgin birth, the miracles and teaching of Christ as recorded in the Bible, his atoning death, his physical resurrection, his ascension to the Father's right hand, and his future return to judge the world.

III. Holy Spirit

The Spirit is the third person of the Trinity; he is a person and not an impersonal force.

IV. Holy Scripture

The Bible is the word of God: inerrant, infallible, complete, perfect, authoritative and totally inspired in its original manuscripts.

V. Man

While mankind was perfect when he was first created by God in the beginning, man disobeyed God and became both legally guilty and actually corrupt. This guilt and corruption is passed on to all of Adam's descendants so that every human being without exception is born corrupt and guilty. Man is totally unable to trust, love, or obey God apart from the sovereign grace of God in regeneration.

VI. The Gospel

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the good news that God acted in Jesus to provide a sacrifice for man's sin. Jesus died on the cross in the place of believers, rose again to vindicate himself, and ascended to God's right hand where he lives forever to make intercession for believers. Anyone who will turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as Savior and Lord will receive full forgiveness for all their sins and be welcomed into the family of God.

VII. Salvation

Salvation is the free gift of God from beginning to end and all throughout the middle. Man cannot earn God's salvation in any way; it can only be received as a free gift through faith. God is the sole author of salvation, and therefore shall receive all the glory for it. Man contributes nothing, therefore man will only be able to exhibit joy and gratitude for salvation, not taking any credit whatsoever. Biblical salvation is deliverance from the justly deserved wrath of Almighty God. Salvation is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ Jesus alone to the Glory of God alone.

VIII. The Evidence of a true Christian

All people who are truly born again by God's Spirit and therefore exercise faith in Jesus, resulting in their justification and forgiveness, necessarily practice obedience to Jesus Christ as Lord. There are no people who are saved by Jesus who do not also obey Jesus; such a thing is an

impossibility. Every true believer, though never attaining perfection in this life, will continually strive to please Christ in all of their life. Those who do not live to please Christ Jesus have no reason to believe themselves saved.

IX. Baptism

Baptism is an outward sign of an inward reality. It is the symbol of our being united by faith to Christ in his death and resurrection. It is the public confession of the sinner that they have believed in Jesus and intend to believe in him still, and follow him as their sovereign Lord. Baptism absolutely does not save the Christian; it is not necessary¹ for salvation. The only condition necessary to salvation is faith, according to the scriptures. Baptism, like any other piece of Christian obedience, is the product of salvation and not the ground for salvation.

X. The Great Commission

It is the command of the Lord Jesus Christ that all of his people spend their lives in accomplishing the Great Commission. That means that all Christians are expected to give their time, gifts, and resources to evangelize the lost and train the saved. This includes both local and foreign ministry.

XI. The End Times

We believe that Jesus will return to earth at a time unknown to us, raise the dead, judge all who have ever lived, and assign every person their eternity; those who trusted, loved, and obeyed Jesus will enter into the new heavens and new earth. Those who did not trust in Jesus for salvation will experience eternal hell.

¹ The word “necessary” means “unable to be withdrawn, inescapable, compulsory.” Baptism is necessary and compulsory for the Christian life since it is commanded and must be done in obedience, but it is not the requisite for regeneration, justification, adoption, or the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Water baptism is not necessary to justification, since the only requisite condition for justification is faith, but water baptism is a required, demanded, and commanded part of a sanctified life.