

MIDLAND MINISTRIES

est. 1977

Seven Point STATEMENT OF FAITH

- (1) We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, and authoritative work of God.
- (2) We believe there is one God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- (3) We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal tangible return in power and in glory.
- (4) We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful men, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.
- (5) We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a Godly life.
- (6) We believe in the resurrection of the body of the saved and lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
- (7) We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in Christ.

MIDLAND MINISTRIES HEADQUARTERS
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Detailed Doctrinal Statement

THE BIBLE

The Holy Scriptures consist of the Old and New Testaments. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, and authoritative work of God. It is the complete revelation of God's will for the redemption of man and the divine and final authority for all Christian faith, life and conduct. (II Tim. 3:16; II Pet. 1:21; I Cor. 2:7-13; Gal. 1:11-12; Eph. 3:2-5; I Thes. 2:13; Mk. 7:5-13; Psalm 138:2)

THE TRINITY

There is only one God, personal, infinite, perfect and eternally living as outwardly expressed in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Each Person is equal in every divine perfection. God directly created the universe from no pre-existing substance. We reject both naturalistic and theistic evolution. (Deut. 6:4, 5; Matt. 3:16, 17; Matt. 28:19; II Cor. 13:14; John 14:16)

JESUS CHRIST

The Son of God became incarnate in the person of Jesus Christ, who was begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin, Mary, and is true God and true man. By His death on the cross, Jesus Christ became a perfect and complete sacrifice for the sins of all mankind; He rose bodily from the dead and ascended into Heaven, where He is now seated on the right hand of the Father where He ever lives to intercede as our Advocate. (Matt. 1:20-21; Luke 1:35; John 14:9; Phil. 2:5-8; Luke 24: 25-27; Heb. 4:14-16; John 1:29)

HOLY SPIRIT

He is a person; He is God and He possesses all the distinctively divine attributes. He is now active as the administrator of God's Purpose in man's redemption, so He convicts all men of sin and leads each to the point of repentance so that man is fully responsible for his decision toward God. The Holy Spirit regenerates those who repent. He aids each believer in all growth, seals and sets the believer apart unto holy life. At regeneration, He

baptizes the believer into the Body of Christ and comes into each life to permanently indwell that born again person.
(John 16:7-14; Rom. 8:9-16; Eph. 1:13, 14; John 3: 5-8; Rom. 8:26; John 14:26; Acts 20:28; Acts 5: 3, 4)

MAN

We were created in the image of God. In Adam our whole race incurred not only the physical death of sin, but that spiritual death in sin, which is separation from God, so that all human beings are born with the sinful nature, and, in the case of those who reach moral responsibility, become sinners in thought, word and conduct. So, without the help of God, man is unable to remedy his lost condition. (Rom. 3:9-18; Rom. 5:8-12; Rom. 8:6-8; Eph. 2:1-3; Gen. 1:26, 27; I Sam. 3:1-7; Matt. 18:2-4; Rev. 21:8)

THE NEW BIRTH

Salvation comes to man only by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, apart from any human merit or good works through the substitutionary atoning sacrifice of God's Son, Jesus Christ. Whoever by faith repents from sin and receives Jesus Christ as a personal Savior from sin so He can become Lord of their life is "born from above" and thereby becomes a child of God, created in Christ Jesus unto good works of service unto His glory. The new birth is instantaneous and not a process and is evidenced by newness of life. Justification is an act of God in which He declares the believer to be righteous on the basis of faith in Christ and the imputation of Christ's righteousness to the believing sinner. Sanctification is the setting apart of a believer unto God as His purchased possession and the process of constant growth in the Spirit for the believer through the work of the Holy Spirit and the power of His Word. (John 1:2; John 3:14-18; John 3:36; Rom. 5:1,2; Eph. 2:4-10; II Cor. 5:21; I Pet. 3:18)

DISCIPLESHIP

All born again believers are called by God and led by His Spirit to follow Jesus Christ in holy life and conduct. While each believer still possess the negative tendencies inherited from the Adamic nature, God has made full provision whereby His children may be more than conquerors through following Christ as their Lord in the power of His Holy Spirit who indwells each one. (John 16:13-14, 17:11-17; II Cor. 6:14-7:1; Rom. 8:9-14, 28-39 Rom. 7:18-25)

THE SPIRIT REALM

God created an innumerable company of sinless spirit being known as angels. Many of these continue in their holy state and are the ministers of God. The angel, Lucifer, (now known as Satan or the devil) and many other angels rebelled against God. These fallen angels, though defeated at the cross of Christ, still continue to oppose God and His purpose. They will ultimately be judged by God and cast into the Lake of Fire to suffer everlasting punishment, which is their righteous due. (Psalm 148:2,5; Col. 1:16,17; Heb. 1:13, 14; Matt. 22:30; Psalm 103:20; Heb. 12:22; Ezek. 28:1-19; Isa. 14:12-20)

THE CHURCH

Every person who experienced the new birth through personal faith in Christ are members of the “church which is His Body,” and is thereby eligible for water baptism and membership in a local Bible believing, Bible preaching church, not necessarily in that order. (Acts 2:41; Acts 4:4, 31-33)

The purpose of the local church is to serve Jesus Christ by proclaiming His Gospel, gathering believers for worship and instruction until each is prepared to serve Him with their gifts of ministry. (Eph. 2:20-22; 3:10; 4:11-13)

Each born again person is given spiritual gifts to use for the benefit of the whole body of Christ, The Holy Spirit is Lord of these gifts and He has the right to use any of them under His full control throughout this Church age. (I Cor. 12-14; Eph. 4:1-13; Rom. 12:3-13)

The church has the exclusive right to practice water baptism in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and the right to govern the serving of the Lord’s Supper as taught in the Bible. Church disciplines are essential to keep the practice of these two ordinances in God’s order. (Matt. 18:15-17; Matt. 28:18-20; I Cor. 11:17-34; Mark 16:15, 16)

GOD’S FUTURE PURPOSES

The return of Christ includes both the rapture of the Church and His return in glory. His first appearance is only for His Church and is in person, and may occur at any moment. The second appearance is His return in great glory and all power to this earth to establish His Kingdom reign over all the nations. All persons will experience bodily resurrection, believers to a state of eternal quality life with Christ and those without faith unto repentance to eternal loss and punishment. (I Thes. 4:13-18; I Cor. 15:51-57; I Thes. 1:7-10; John 5:24-29; Rev. 20:1-15)