



Promise Christian Church Statement of Faith

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Promise Christian Church believes that the Bible is the final authority on every subject, that although it does not speak of things like bicycles or the Internet, it speaks of the people using them, and therefore may be used as a righteous basis for fellowship among the Church. These Statements do not, indeed cannot cover every area of belief, but are set forth as essential in a church whose purpose is Biblical.

These Statements do not claim inspiration or revelation, but are self-recognized guidelines and beliefs set forth from scripture to guide and govern our church. There are a very large number of items which may be listed in this Statement and their exclusion does not indicate that they are held in a lesser view by the church. Rather the Statements are listed here to show a pattern of following the Bible in principle and in practice.

The following Seven Primary Statements of Faith make up the base of our practice and purpose of religion, and especially show the beliefs of Promise Christian Church, covering seven main areas of Theology and Philosophy of Christian Living

They are:

1. God
2. Scripture
3. Mankind
4. Salvation
5. Mission and Ministry
6. Ordinances
7. Miracles

1. God

- a. There is one Almighty, Omniscient, Omnipresent, Omnipotent, Eternal, Sovereign, and Holy God who has revealed Himself in the Persons of the Father, the Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.
- b. These “Persons” are distinct revelations of God, and are revealed in Scripture and life as “in” One Another, and so never operate apart from or independent of One Another.
- c. He has created all things, and is Master of all.
- d. Jesus, the Word, became a human by miraculous birth, lived without sin, died, and rose from the dead, and now sits at the Father’s right hand making intercession for us.
- e. The Holy Spirit is given to infill and empower those who believe on Jesus, and to move the hearts of those who do not believe toward repentance.

{Genesis 1:1; Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; John 1; John 17:21; John 5:17-30; et al.,}

2. Scripture

- a. The 66 books of the Holy Bible contain the Holy Scriptures given by God Himself to the several authors under His inspiration, and are infallible and the absolute authority for Godly Christian life.
- b. The sundry translations, versions, and paraphrases of the Holy Bible are man’s attempts to make those original written words available to mankind, and are to be studied with careful attention and prayerful openness to the illumination of the Holy Spirit.

{2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21; et al.,}

3. Mankind

- a. As the special creation of God, Mankind was given a special gift of a soul. He was given the gift of fellowship with God Himself. And he was given the gift of free will.
- b. Man, in Adam and Eve, of their own free will, chose to sin against God, breaking the fellowship God shared before that sin.
- c. Mankind was thrust out of His fellowship and presence, and made to live under a curse.
- d. Throughout time, God has spoken from time to time to individuals by His own Voice, by angelic visitations, and other means, drawing all of Mankind back to Himself.
- e. Man has been unable to live up to the minimum standard God set up, and so has been unable to reconcile himself to God, continuing to live under the curse.

{Genesis 3; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; et al.,}

4. Salvation

- a. Through one man, all mankind was damned. So through one Man, God made provision to escape that damnation and restore fellowship with Himself.
- b. One may choose to believe on the Lord Jesus and be saved.
 - i. Truly believing on Jesus compels action which both proves and promotes life in that belief and in the individual believer.
 - ii. Apart from active working evidence supporting that belief, faith is dead.

- iii. Apart from genuine faith, any working evidence is useless and without value.
 - c. Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead on the third day, and even today is sitting with God the Father making intercession for us.
 - i. He fulfilled the whole law, satisfying the Old Testament and its standard.
 - ii. He established a new law, creating a New Testament based on faith in Him.
 - d. Salvation through Jesus includes a person's immortal soul, and every part of that believer's life, and is subject to the sovereign will of God regarding how that salvation is manifest. This includes life, health, prosperity, and fulfillment of every promise God has placed in the Holy Bible, as it pertains to the individual believer.
 - e. Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of heaven. This means a person must repent, or turn away from their sinful ways and turn toward God, pursuing His will. In this way a person becomes "dead" to themselves and "Born Again" to a life pleasing to God.
 - f. Jesus shall return one day and take all those who believe on Him, both alive at that time and all who lived before and died in their faith, into eternity with Him. This is the Eternal Hope of the church.
 - g. All who reject Christ will be judged and damned to an eternity separated from God in a place of everlasting punishment called the Lake of Fire.

{Hebrews 10:12; James 2:18-20; John 3:3; Revelations 21:8; et al.,}

5. Mission and Ministry

- a. The church at large is accountable for fulfilling one Great Commission, and it is to be the Mission of the church.
 - i. Go therefore, and make disciples of all peoples, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- b. The church at large is accountable for fulfilling one Great Commandment, and it is to be the Ministry of the church.
 - i. Love the Lord with all of your heart, mind, soul, and strength, and love your neighbor as you love yourself.
- c. Everything the church does should be an action toward satisfying these two Purposes of the church in its Mission, and its Ministry.

{Matthew 28:19; Matthew 22:37-40; et al.,}

6. Ordinances

- a. Jesus commanded His followers to take communion, and as often as they do, to remember Him until His return.
 - i. Communion confirms relationship with Him.
 - ii. Communion remembers His sacrifice.
 - iii. Communion looks toward His return.
- b. Jesus also commanded His followers to repent and be baptized.

These are commanded by Jesus, and considered Ordinances of the Church. Participating in them does not save a person, nor does failure to participate exclude them from salvation. One who believes on Jesus is responsible for these activities, in obedience to Jesus.

{1 Corinthians 11: 24-28; Mark 16:16; et al.,}

7. Miracles

- a. Nothing is too difficult for God. Old and New Testament believers performed tasks which were physically or naturally impossible through the power of God, by means of their faith and the intervention of God.
- b. God in His Sovereignty has authority and in His Omnipotence has power to perform whatever tasks He chooses without limitations of Nature. Jesus performed miracles, and promised His followers that they would also perform the things they say Him do, and even greater things.
- c. We believe that it is the responsibility of the Christian to pray for the sick, to lay hands on those in need, and to lift their need up to God. It is the responsibility of a believer to follow the instruction of Jesus, even regarding things which are otherwise outside our control. It is entirely the decision of God how best to work everything together for the good of His followers.
- d. God performs miracles, physically and naturally impossible events and tasks of His own volition and in response to active faith cooperating with His Holy will.

{John 14:12; Isaiah 53:5; Acts 5:15; et al;}

These are seven connected beliefs held without qualification or apology. The Gospel is the Good News that God has sent His Son Jesus to reconcile all of mankind back to Himself. It preaches that God does not want any individual to pass under the eternal judgment, but he wants every person to turn toward Him and the eternal life He has in store that surpasses every idea one could imagine.

The church must share the Gospel with everyone in much the same way someone might deal with a child running into the street. There is an urgency to save, and an awareness of a better way. The church must share that good news like a person with a cure to a terminal illness should offer it to the sick. The hope of eternal life with God sets itself against the dread of an eternity of punishment without Him.

This is the core of the church: the Great Commission, and the Great Commandment, as listed in (5) Mission and Ministry above. Promise Christian Church believes that every function of the Church must revolve around those purposes.