

Redeemer Bible Church Statement of Faith

The Scriptures

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God; God-breathed, infallible and inerrant in the original manuscripts; having been written by human authors carried along by the Holy Spirit, 1 that it has God for its author and salvation for its end, truth without any mixture of error for its matter 2 and that it is the supreme authority in all matters of faith and practice. 3

1 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Matthew 5:16; John 10:35; Acts 1:16; 3:21

2 2 Timothy 3:15; 1 Peter 1:10-12; John 5:38-39; Romans 1:16, 1 Thess 2:13, Proverbs 30:5-6

3 1 John 4:1,6; Isaiah 8:20; Acts 17:11; Psalm 119:59-60; Philippians 1:9-11; Hebrews 4:12

One True God

We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, the Creator of the Universe and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; 4 inexpressibly glorious in holiness, 5 and worthy of all possible honor, praise, glory and love; 6 that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; 7 equal in every divine perfection, 8 and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption. 9

4 Deuteronomy 6:4; John 4:24; Psalm 83:18; 147:5; Hebrews 3:4; Romans 1:20; Jeremiah 10:10

5 Exodus 15:11; Isaiah 6:3; 1 Peter 1:15-16; Revelation 4:6-8

6 Mark 12:30; Revelation 4:11; Matthew 10:37; Jeremiah 2:12-13

7 Matthew 28:19; John 15:26; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6;

8 John 5:17; 10:30; Acts 5:3-4; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11; Philippians 2:5-6

9 Ephesians 2:18; 2 Corinthians 13:14

The Fall & Its Effect on Humanity

We believe that Adam, the appointed representative of the human race, 17 was created in holiness, under the law of his maker 18 but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state 19 and as a consequence every person is now a sinner, 20 both by nature and by choice 21 and is in a state of depravity, that every dimension of his being is distorted by sin. 22 Apart from the grace of God, fallen man treats sin as his master, God as an enemy, the message of the cross as foolishness, 23 possessing neither the desire nor the ability to love God, to keep His laws, to understand the gospel, to repent of sin, or to trust in Christ 24 and is therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse. 25

17 Romans 5:12-19; 1 Corinthians 15:22

18 Genesis 1:27, 31; 2:16-17; Ecclesiastes 7:29

19 Genesis 3:6-24; Romans 5:12

20 Romans 5:15-19; John 3:6; Psalm 51:5

21 Isaiah 53:6; Genesis 6:12; Romans 3:9-18; James 1:13-15

22 Genesis 6:5; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 1:18-32; Titus 1:15

23 Romans 5:10; 8:6-8; Eph 2:1-3; Col 1:13, 21; 2 Tim 2:26; Titus 3:3; James 4:4; 1 Cor 1:18, 21

24 Jeremiah 13:23; Mark 4:10-12; John 6:44, 65; 8:43-47; 1 Cor 2:14; 2 Cor 4:3-4; Ephesians 4:17-19

25 Romans 1:18-20, 32; 3:19; Ezekiel 18:19-20; Galatians 3:22

Jesus Christ and the Way of Salvation

We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; only through the work of the Son of God. 26 We believe that He was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, 27 and that by the appointment of the Father, the Son freely took upon himself our nature, yet without sin; 28 He fulfilled the divine law by His personal obedience, 29 and by His death made a full atonement for our sins; 30 That having risen victoriously from the dead, He is now enthroned in heaven; 31 We affirm His full humanity and deity, 32 making Him the perfect, compassionate, and all-sufficient Savior.” 33

26 John 3:16; Romans 5:8; John 17:2; Galatians 4:4-5

27 Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-23; Luke 1:26-35

28 Isaiah 53:9; Matthew 4:1-11; 2 Cor. 5:21; Hebrews 4:14-15, 7:26-28

29 Hebrews 9:11-14; 10:10-14; Isaiah 53:10

30 Matt 20:28; John 10:15; 19:30; Acts 20:28; Rom 3:21-25; 1 Cor 15:3-4; Eph 5:25; Hebrews 9:12

31 Matthew 28:5-7; 1 Corinthians 15:4-8; Hebrews 1:8; 8:1; Colossians 3:1-4

32 Romans 1:4; John 5:21, 26; Acts 2:29-36; 17:31; Ephesians 1:20-22; Philippians 2:8-11; Col 2:9

33 Heb. 2:18; 4:14-16; 7:25-26

The Grace of God

We believe that before the foundation of the world, God elected a great multitude of men and women to eternal life as an act of His sovereign grace alone, 34 in no way dependent upon His foresight of human faith, decision, works, or merit. 35 In the unsearchable realm of God's sovereign will, 36 all men remain responsible beings, subject to God's commands to repent and believe, and accountable to God for their rebellion, unrepentant hearts, and rejection of Christ as Lord. 37 We believe that election is a most glorious display of God's sovereign grace, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; 38 that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise and trust in God. 39

34 John 6:37-39; 10:14-16; 17:2; Acts 13:48; Romans 8:28-30; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12;

2 Thessalonians 2:13

35 Romans 9:10-18; 11:5-6; Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Timothy 1:9

36 Deuteronomy 29:29; Isaiah 55:8-9; Romans 11:33-34; 1 Corinthians 2:16

37 Matthew 25:31-46; John 3:36; Acts 17:30-31; Romans 1:18-21; 2:4-5; 9:19-22; 2 Thess 1:5-10

38 Exodus 33:18-19; Matthew 20:15; Romans 9:23-26; 11:28-29

39 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; 4:7; Romans 3:27; Col 3:12-14; 1 Peter 2:9; 1 Thess 2:12; John 15:16

The Freeness of Salvation

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel of Jesus Christ; 40 that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them gladly through repentance, and obedient faith in Jesus Christ alone; 41 that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel; 42 which rejection involves him in serious condemnation and the wrath of God. 43

40 Romans 10:9,13; Isaiah 55:1; Revelation 22:17

41 Romans 1:15-17; 16:26; Mark 1:15

42 John 5:39-40; Matthew 23:37; Proverbs 1:24; Romans 1:18-32; 9:32

43 John 3:18-19; Matthew 11:20-22; 2 Thessalonians 1:8

Regeneration (Born Again)

We believe that, in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, or born again; that through regeneration we are given a new heart and mind; 44 that it is applied in a manner above our comprehension or understanding, by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with the divine truth of God, 45 so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel; 46 and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, faith, and newness of life. 47

44 John 3:3, 6-7; 2 Corinthians 4:6; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 1:3

45 John 1:13; 3:8; James 1:16-18; 1 Corinthians 1:30; Philippians 2:13

46 1 Peter 1:22-23; 1 John 5:1

47 Ephesians 5:9; Romans 8:9; Galatians 5:16-24; Eph 3:14-21; Matt 3:8-10; 7:15-20; 1 John 5:18

Repentance and Faith

We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable graces, worked into our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; 48 whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Jesus Christ, 49 we turn to God with genuine repentance, confession, and plea for mercy; 50 at the same time joyfully receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King relying on Him alone as the only and all sufficient Savior. 51

48 Mark 1:15; Acts 11:18; Ephesians 2:8; 1 John 5:1

49 John 16:8; Acts 2:37-38

50 Luke 18:13; James 4:7-10; 2 Corinthians 7:10-11; Psalm 51

51 Romans 10:9-11; Hebrews 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:12; Matthew 13:44

Justification

We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to those who believe in Him is justification; 52 that justification is the act of God's free grace whereby He pardons all our sins and judicially declares a person to be righteous in His sight, 53 that it is granted, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but only through faith in the Redeemer's blood; 54 by virtue of which faith in His perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us by God; 55 that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity. 56

52 Romans 4:23-25; 8:1

53 Romans 5:9; Zechariah 13:1; Matthew 9:6; Acts 10:43

54 Romans 4:4-5; 5:20-21; Philippians 3:7-9

55 Romans 3:24-26; 5:19; 1 John 2:12

56 Romans 5:1-11

Sanctification

We believe that sanctification is the process by which according to the will of God, we are made holy; 57 that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration; 58 and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means-especially the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness, and prayer. 59 In this work of sanctification, Jesus Christ is supremely treasured and increasingly pursued. 60

57 1 Thessalonians 4:3; 5:23; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Ephesians 1:4; Philippians 2:12-13

58 2 Cor 3:18; Proverbs 4:18; Hebrews 6:1; 2 Peter 1:5-8; Philippians 1:9-11; 3:12-16; Eph 1:13-14
59 Ephesians 4:11-12; 6:18; 1 Peter 2:2; 2 Peter 3:18; 2 Corinthians 13:5; Luke 9:23
60 Psalm 16:11; 42:1-2; 73:25-26; John 15:11; Philippians 3:8; 1 Peter 1:8

Perseverance of Saints

We believe that only those who endure unto the end are true believers; 61 that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark, which distinguishes them from those who profess a false faith; 62 that in God's providence He watches over their welfare; 63 and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation. 64 Perseverance is not a human accomplishment but a work of God, through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit who creates, sustains, and nourishes a living, growing, transforming, and enduring faith in all true believers. 65

61 John 8:31; 1 John 3:9; 5:18; Mark 13:13

62 1 John 2:19; Matthew 13:20-21; John 6:66-69; Job 17:9

63 Romans 8:28; Matthew 6:30-33; Jeremiah 32:40; Psalm 121:3

64 Philippians 1:6; Jude 24-25; Hebrews 1:14; 1 John 4:4

65 2 Corinthians 3:18; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:13; 2 Timothy 1:12; 1 Peter 1:3-5

A Gospel Church

We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of those who have been brought to faith and repentance, have been baptized and whose lives give evidence of conversion, associated by the faith and fellowship of the gospel; 66 observing the ordinances of Christ; 67 governed by His laws; 68 and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word; 69 that its only scriptural officers are Elders – men called to teach and govern as shepherds and overseers of the body; and Deacons – men and women called to serve the church; 70 whose qualifications, claims, and duties are defined in the letters to Timothy and Titus.

66 Acts 2:41-42, 47; 1 Corinthians 1:1-8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-5

67 1 Corinthians 11:2, 23-26

68 Matthew 28:20; John 14:15, 21; 15:12; 1 John 4:21; 1 Thessalonians 4:2; Galatians 6:2

69 Ephesians 4:1-16; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31

70 Philippians 1:1; Acts 14:23; 15:22; 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9

Evangelism

We believe that every aspect of faith and practice must be deliberately grounded in and energized by the redemptive work of Christ. 71 We believe that the church has the privileged mandate to liberally, 72 indiscriminately, 73 accurately, 74 and systematically 75 evangelize the lost at home and abroad, being encouraged and strengthened by the glorious reality that God has a people for His great name from every tribe, tongue and nation. 76 It is the calling and command of Jesus Christ to every believer and local church to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey all that Christ has commanded. 77 It is a priority in evangelism to unite new believers with local churches. 78

71 1 Corinthians 2:2; Galatians 6:14; 1 Peter 2:24; 3:18

72 Psalm 96:1-3; Matthew 24:14

73 Acts 8:4; Mark 16:15

74 Luke 24:46-48; Acts 28:23-31; 2 Timothy 4:1-4

75 Acts 5:42; Matthew 28:18-20

76 John 10:16; Revelation 5:9-10

77 Matthew 28:18-20

78 Acts 2:41-47; 4:32-35; Hebrews 10:19-25

Baptism and the Lord's Supper

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, 79 in the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Spirit; 80 to display in a solemn and beautiful picture, our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, with its effect, in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; 81 and that baptism is the visible sign of membership in the Body of Christ. 82 We believe that in the Lord's Supper, believers in Jesus, after solemn self-examination, 83 by the sacred use of bread and wine (fruit of the vine), commemorate together the dying love of Christ, 84 and their participation in the New Covenant. 85

79 Matthew 3:5-6; John 3:22-23; Acts 2:38; 8:12, 36-38

80 Matthew 28:19; Acts 10:47-48

81 Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12; 1 Peter 3:18-21

82 Acts 2:41-42

83 1 Corinthians 11:28

84 Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20; 1 Corinthians 11:26

85 Ezekiel 11:19; Jeremiah 31:31; Luke 22:20, 1 Corinthians 11:25, Hebrews 9:15

The Lord's Day

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, that we are called to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ. 86 We believe that we are called to diligently attend the assembly of God's people to learn what God's Word teaches, to participate in the sacraments (Baptism and the Lord's Supper), to pray to the Lord publicly, and to bring Christian offerings for the ministry and the poor. We believe that every day of our life we are called to flee from evil, let the Lord work in us through His Spirit, and so begin in this life the eternal Sabbath. 87

86 Matthew 28:1-6; Colossians 2:16-17; John 20:19;

87 Acts 2:42-47; 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; Psalm 118:24; Luke 10:42; Hebrews 10:25

Marriage and Sexuality

We believe that the term, "marriage" has only one valid meaning and that is a covenantal union sanctioned by God which joins one biological man and one biological woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. 88 We believe that Christians are to marry in the Lord. Therefore, those who profess true faith in Christ should not be unequally yoked by marrying unbelievers. Christians are to marry only other Christians or remain single as God enables them. 89 We believe that God intends marriage between a biological man and a biological woman to be the only context for sexual intercourse to occur. We believe that any form of sexual immorality, such as adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography or any attempt to change one's sex, or disagreement with one's biological sex is sinful and offensive to God in any context. 90

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking his mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ our Lord. 91

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of the Church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the Church Members and the community, it is

imperative that all persons employed by the Church in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, should abide by and agree to this Statement on Marriage and Sexuality and conduct themselves accordingly. 92

88 Gen. 2:18-24; Deut. 24:1-4; Matt. 19:4-6; Mk 10:6-9; 1 Cor. 7:1-16, 39

89 Hebrews 13:4; 1 Timothy 4:3; 1 Corinthians 7:39; Nehemiah 13:25-27

90 Prov. 5:15-19; Heb. 13:4; Matt 5:27-30; Eph. 5:3; Gal 5:19; 1 Cor 6:9, 18-20; 1 Thess. 4:3-5

91 1 John 1:9; Psalm 32:5; Proverbs 28:13

92 Ephesians 5:23-32; Tit. 2:3-5; 1 Pet 3:1-7; Heb 13:7

Civil Government

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; 93 and that civil leaders are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed; except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, 94 who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings and rulers of the earth. 95

93 Romans 13:1-7; Deuteronomy 16:18; Exodus 18:23

94 Matthew 22:21; Titus 3:1; 1 Peter 2:13; 1 Timothy 2:1-8; Daniel 3:15-18; Acts 4:18-20; 5:29

95 Matthew 23:10; Romans 14:4, 9-13; Revelation 19:16; Psalm 72:11

The Righteous and the Wicked

We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; 96 that only those who through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, are truly righteous in His sight; 97 while all who continue unrepentant and remain in unbelief are in His sight wicked enemies and under the curse; 98 and this distinction holds among people both in life and after death. 99

96 Malachi 3:18; Proverbs 12:26; Isaiah 5:20; Acts 10:34-35; Romans 6:16

97 Romans 1:17; 6:22; 1 John 2:29; 3:7; 1 Corinthians 11:32; 1 Peter 4:17-18

98 1 John 5:19; Galatians 3:10; John 3:36; Isaiah 57:21; Romans 5:10; 1 Cor 15:25; Philippians 3:18

99 Proverbs 14:32; Luke 12:4-5; 16:25; John 8:21-24

Last Things

We believe that the end of the world is approaching; that at the Last Day Christ will descend from heaven, 100 and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; 101 that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be judged and sentenced to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of mankind in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness. 102

100 Mark 13:24-27; 1 Thessalonians 1:10, 4:13-18

101 Job 19:25-26; Isaiah 26:19; 1 Corinthians 15:12-58

102 Daniel 12:2-3; John 5:28-29; Matthew 25:41-46; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-10; Revelation 20:4-6

***For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be glory forever. Amen.***

Romans 11:36 (ESV)