



Brandywine Valley Church Statements of Faith

God

God our Creator, Judge and Redeemer is Lord and He is Love. Because He is Lord, He tolerates no rivals. Because He is Love, He seeks not to coerce but to win our worship. In the unity of God are three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. They are equal in every Divine perfection, but they execute distinct yet harmonious offices in the work of redemption. (Exodus 20:2-3; 1 John 4:8; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11)

Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the Virgin-born God-Man. He is undiminished Deity and perfect Humanity. He bore the sins of mankind in the shedding of His blood. He rose from death. He ascended bodily into Heaven. He will return bodily to earth. (Colossians 2:9-10; 1 Peter 2:24; Mark 16:6; Acts 1:9-11)

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is God. He glorifies Christ. He indwells each Christian and so gives unity to the Church. He gives to the justified those graces and gifts necessary for their sanctification. And He carries out God's purposes for both Church and world. (Acts 5:1-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4,7,12-13; John 16:7-15; Galatians 5:22-23; Isaiah 45:1)

The Church

The Church is the one Body of Christ which consists of all whom God has justified. The Church on Earth gathers in local congregations for purposes of worship, teaching, and fellowship; it disperses into the world to evangelize and to do good to all. The Church practices the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper according to the Lord's commands. (1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Hebrews 10:25; Acts 2:42; Matthew 28:20; Galatians 6:10; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

Man [Humanity]

God created Man as male and female. He created both in His image. Adam sinned and brought upon himself and his posterity guilt, death, and condemnation. (Genesis 1:26-28; Romans 5:12,16)

The Bible

God moved the writers of the Old and New Testaments in such a way that all they wrote expresses without error God's thought. The Bible is the final authority for faith and living. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Justification

Justification is an act of God. In this act He pardons eternally the guilt of all who have faith in Christ as Savior. Faith in Christ as Savior means to believe that Christ bore my sins and rose from the dead. (Romans 3:22-26; Ephesians 2:8-9)

Sanctification

Sanctification is a process by which God restores His image in those whom He has justified. In this process God is at work in us both to will and to work His good pleasure, and at the same time we Christians are working out our own salvation. This process will continue until God restores His image in us. (Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 3:10)

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The World to Come

Jesus Christ will return to earth. There will be a resurrection to life for those whom God has justified, and there will be a resurrection to judgment for those whom God has not justified. Those who rise to judgment will be sentenced to eternal hell. Those who rise to life will enter the eternal presence of God as the perfected sons of God. (Acts 1:9-11; John 5:28-29; Revelation 20:15; 1 John 3:2)

Brief Statement on Gender, Sexuality & Marriage

We affirm the Biblical ethics of gender, sexuality, and marriage: God's design for gender distinction as male and female (Genesis 1:27, 2:18), sexual purity (Matthew 15:18-20, 1 Corinthians 6:18-20, Galatians 5:19-21, Hebrews 13:4), and God's design of marriage between a man and a woman (Genesis 2:18-25, Ephesians 5:22-33).