

Doctrinal Statement of Stanley Heights Baptist Church

www.stanleyheights.org

THE SCRIPTURES

We believe that the Bible is the Word of God; that it was written by men who were moved by the Holy Spirit so that their writings, in the original, were supernaturally and verbally inspired and free from error, as no other writings have ever been or ever will be. They are the complete and final revelation of the will of God to man, and so are the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct. (II Timothy 3:16-17, II Peter 1:19-21, John 17:17, Hebrews 4:12).

THE TRUE GOD

We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

God the Father - We believe in God the Father, perfect in holiness, boundless in love, infinite in wisdom, measureless in power. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ, His son. (I Corinthians 8:6, Genesis 1: 1, John 1:1-3, Ephesians 4:3-6, Matthew 28:19).

God the Son - We believe in Jesus Christ, God the Son, preexistent with the Father, begotten by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary; sinless in His nature and life, infallible in His teaching, making atonement for the sins of the world by His substitutionary death on the cross. We believe in His bodily resurrection, His ascension into Heaven, His perpetual intercession for His people and His glorious second advent according to promise. We believe that the promise of His second coming includes first, "The Blessed Hope" of the believer, namely, the personal, premillennial, and pretribulation return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to rapture His church according to I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Second, His return with His saints to set up His millennial reign. (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:18, John 1:1; 14:4, Luke 1:35, I Thessalonians 4:16, I Peter 2:22; 3:18).

God the Holy Spirit - We believe in the deity and personality of the Holy Spirit. We believe that He came from God to convince and convict the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; and to regenerate, sanctify, indwell, comfort, and empower those who believe in Jesus Christ. (Romans 8:9, John 14:16-17; 16:8, I Corinthians 3:16, Acts 5:3-4, Ephesians 1:13, 14).

MAN

We believe that man was created in the image of God; that he sinned and thereby incurred not only physical death, but also that spiritual death which is separation from God. We believe that all human beings are born with a sinful nature, and in the case of those who reach moral responsibility, become sinners in thought and deed by choice. (Genesis 1:27, Isaiah 53:6, Romans 3:23; 5:12-19, Ephesians 2:1-3).

SATAN

We believe in the reality and personality of Satan. He is the unholy god of this age, author of all powers of darkness and sin, and is destined to the judgment of an eternal justice in the lake of fire. (Matthew 13:39, Luke 10:18;11:18, II Corinthians 11:3, Revelation 20:10, II Timothy 2:26, Ephesians 2:2).

SALVATION

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for sins according to the Scriptures, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice, and that all who repent of their sins and who by faith receive Him as their personal Savior, are justified on the ground of His blood shed on Calvary and His resurrection from the dead and are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become the children of God. (John 3:3-6, 16; 10:28-29, Ephesians 2:8-10, I Peter 1:18-23, Acts 16:31, I Timothy 2:5-6).

LAST THINGS

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all the dead, the saved to eternal life and blessedness in Heaven and the unsaved to eternal, conscious suffering and woe in Hell. (John 5:28-29; 14:2, Matthew 25:46, Revelation 20:14-21:4).

SECURITY OF THE BELIEVER

We believe that those who receive Jesus Christ as Savior are eternally secure. The security of the believer is not conditioned upon his circumstances, nor emotional experiences, nor strength, but our security rests on the finished work of Jesus Christ. The believer is secure because God has taken that responsibility for His own. (John 10:27-30, Romans 8:31-34, 38-39, I John 2:1-2).

CIVIL GOVERNMENT

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good order of human society; that government officials are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ who is the Lord of conscience. (Romans 13:1-7, II Samuel 23:3, Exodus 18:21-22, Acts 23:5, Matthew 22:21, Acts 4:19-20, Daniel 3:17-18).

THE CHURCH

We believe that a local church is an organized body of believers immersed upon credible confession of faith in Jesus Christ, recognizing only two offices (filled by pastor and deacon), sovereign in polity, and bonded together for work, worship, mutual edification, observance of the ordinances and the worldwide proclamation of the Gospel. The church is distinct from Israel in the Old Testament, autonomous, with Christ as its head. (Matthew 28:19-20, Acts 2:41-47, I Corinthians 12, Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:11-13).

JUSTIFICATION

We believe that justification is the judicial act of God whereby He declares us to be righteous through Jesus Christ; that justification includes the pardon of sin and the imputation of God's righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done; but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood. (Acts 13:30, Isaiah 53:11, Zechariah 13:1, II Corinthians 5:18-21, Romans 5:1).

SANCTIFICATION

We believe that sanctification is the divine setting apart of the believer unto God accomplished in a three-fold manner: first, an eternal act of God, based upon redemption of Christ, establishing the believer in a position of holiness at the moment he trusts Christ as Savior; second, a continuing process in the saint as the Holy Spirit applies the Word of God to the life; and third, the final accomplishment of this process at the Lord's return (Hebrews 3:1; 10:10-14; John 17:17, II Corinthians 3:18, I Corinthians 1:30, Ephesians 5:25-26, I Thessalonians 4:3-4; 5:23-24, 27, I John 3:2).

CURRENT TRENDS IN THEOLOGY

As a fundamental group of believers, we take our stand against the current trends that lead to discrediting the Bible and undermining the fundamentals of the Faith. We take a separatist stand against Neo-Orthodoxy, New-Evangelicalism, the Ecumenical movement, and the modern tongues movement.