Our Basic Beliefs

Jesus the True God

God’s Essence
- Spirit — Jn 4:24
- Self-existing — Ex 3:14; Heb 7:3
- Eternal — Isa 40:28; 44:6
- Transcendent — Ps 113:4–6; 1 Kgs 8:27

God’s Attributes
- Omnipresent — Ps 139:7–12
- Omnipotent — Mt 19:26; Jer 32:17, 27
- Omniscient — Heb 4:13; Ps 139:1–4
- Holy — Lev 11:44; Ps 99:5
- Jealous — Ex 34:14; Deut 4:24
- Loving — 1 Jn 4:8, 16
- Faithful — Deut 7:9; 1 Cor 1:9
- Just — Deut 32:4; Ps 97:2
- Merciful — Ps 86:15; 145:8–9

God’s Role in Creation
- Creator — Gen 1:1; Heb 3:4; 11:3
- Ruler — 2 Chr 20:6; Ps 95:3–7
- Savior — Jn 3:16–17
- Judge — Ps 96:13; Acts 17:31

Divinity of the Lord Jesus
- Creator — Col 1:15–16; Heb 1:10
- God’s incarnation — Jn 1:1, 14; Col 2:9
- God’s name — Jn 5:43; 17:11
  “Jesus in Hebrew = the LORD our Savior
- Only Savior — Acts 4:10, 12
- Risen Christ — Rom 1:4; Acts 2:32–33
- Judge — Acts 10:42
- King of kings — Rev 17:14

Holy Bible

A Book with Authority
- God-breathed — 2 Tim 3:16; 2 Pet 1:20–21
- Infallible — Mt 5:18; Ps 19:7; 119:89
- Living — 1 Jn 1:1–2; Heb 4:12

How to Study the Bible
- Read it — Acts 17:11
- Think about it — Ps 1:2; 119:97
- Do what it says — Jas 1:22–25

The Bible at Work
- Directs our way — Ps 119:105, 133
- Examines our thoughts — Heb 4:12
- Transforms our lives — 2 Tim 3:16–17
- Saves our soul — Jn 5:39; Jas 1:21

Church

Identity of the Church
- Assembly of the redeemed — Acts 20:28

Body of Christ — Eph 1:22–23; Col 1:24
- Speaks of the word of Christ — 1 Tim 3:15; Eph 2:20
- Has the Spirit of Christ — Rom 8:9; 1 Cor 12:13
- Manifests the power of Christ — Mk 16:17–20; Heb 2:3–4;
  Acts 14:3
- Expresses the nature of Christ — Eph 4:11–16; Jn 8:31; 15:8;
  13:35

Name of the Church
- Upholds God’s name— Jesus — Mt 18:20; Acts 4:10–12;
  Jn 17:11; Ex 20:24; 2 Chr 7:16
- “True Jesus Church” — 1 Jn 5:20; Jn 15:1, 5; 17:3

Mission of the Church
- Proclaim the gospel — Mt 28:19–20; Acts 1:8
- Attend to members’ needs — Jn 21:15–17

Baptism

Source of Cleansing
- Blood of Jesus — Rev 1:5; 1 Pet 1:18–19
- Unity of blood, water, and Spirit — Jn 5:6–8

Effect of Baptism
- Remission of sins — Acts 2:38; 22:16
- Regeneration — Tit 3:5; Rom 6:3–4; Jn 3:5
- Salvation — Mk 16:16; 1 Pet 3:21
- Divine sonship — Gal 3:26–29

Way of Baptism
- The baptist — Mt 16:18–19
- Has received the Holy Spirit — Jn 20:21–23

The candidate
- Believes — Mt 16:16; Acts 18:8
- Repents — Acts 2:38
  In the name of the Lord Jesus — Acts 2:38; 10:48; 19:5
  Head bowed — Rom 8:5; cf Jn 19:30; Lk 18:13
  Fully immersed — Mk 1:9–10; Acts 8:38–39;
  cf Jn 3:23
- “Baptism” in Greek = immersion
- In natural flowing water — Jn 3:23; Zech 13:1; Mic 7:19
  Once in a lifetime — Heb 6:4–8; 10:26–31

The Promised Holy Spirit

What is the Holy Spirit
- The Spirit of God and Jesus Christ — Rom 8:9

Works of the Holy Spirit on Believers
- Justification — 1 Cor 6:11
- Sanctification — 2 Thess 2:13; Rom 15:16
- Testimony of sonship — Rom 8:16
- Revelation of the truth — Jn 14:26; 16:13
- Victory over sin — Rom 8:2
- Intercession — Rom 8:26–27
- Power from above — Acts 1:8; Eph 3:16
- Witness of Jesus’ resurrection — Acts 2:32–33
Rebirth through the Holy Spirit
Receive the Holy Spirit .................. Acts 2:38
Can be seen and heard ................. Acts 2:33; 8:18
Be renewed by the Spirit .............. Tit 3:5–6; Ezek 36:26–27
Walk by the Spirit ...................... Gal 5:25; Rom 8:4–6

How to Receive the Holy Spirit
Believe in God and His word ......... Gal 3:14; Eph 1:13; Mk 11:24
Repent and be baptized ............... Acts 2:38; Jn 9:31
Pray with importunity ................ Lk 11:8–13

Footingwashing
Origin of the Footwashing
Commanded by the Lord Jesus ....... Jn 13:14–17
Effect of the Footwashing
Having a part with the Lord ........... Jn 13:8
Meaning of the Footwashing
Complete love ......................... Jn 13:1
Purified life ......................... Jn 13:10; Rom 6:11
Humble service ....................... Jn 13:12–14; Mk 10:42–45

Holy Communion
Origin of the Holy Communion
Instituted by the Lord ................. Mt 26:26–29
Commanded by the Lord .......... Lk 22:19, 1 Cor 11:25
Purpose and Effects of the Holy Communion
Remembering the Lord’s death ...... 1 Cor 11:24–26
Communion with Christ and His church .... 1 Cor 10:16–17
Life in the Lord Jesus .............. Jn 6:53
Resurrection on the last day ....... Jn 6:54
Elements of the Holy Communion
Bread
The Lord’s body ..................... Lk 22:19
One bread ........................... 1 Cor 10:16–17
Unleavened bread .................. 1 Cor 5:6–8; cf Mt 16:5–12
Juice
The Lord’s blood .................... Mt 26:28
Grape juice ....................... Mt 26:29; cf Lev 10:8–9
Partaking of the Holy Communion
Baptism as a prerequisite ....... 1 Cor 5:7–8; Ex 12:43, 45
Self-examination ................. 1 Cor 11:27–29

Sabbath Day
Origin of the Sabbath
Divine institution .................... Gen 2:1–3
Divine command ..................... Ex 16:23; 20:8–11
Divine covenant .................... Ezek 20:12,19–21
Universality of the Sabbath
Made for all humanity .......... Mk 2:27
Included in the Commandments .... Ex 20:8–11
The Lord’s day ...................... Lev 19:3,30; 26:2; Mt 12:8
Above race ........................ Isa 56:6–7
Sabbath Observance in the New Testament
By the Lord Jesus .................. Lk 4:16; 13:10; Mk 6:2
By the disciples .................... Lk 23:55–56
By the church ....................... Acts 15:21
By the apostle Paul ............... Acts 13:13–14; 16:13; 17:1–2; 18:4

The Way to Keep the Sabbath
Honor the day ...................... Gen 2:3; Isa 58:13–14
Remember God’s creation .......... Ex 20:11
Rest from worldly tasks .......... Ex 20:8–11
Receive God’s word .............. Lk 4:16, Acts 13:44; 15:21
Perform good deeds .............. Mt 12:9–13; Lk 13:10–17
Look forward to the eternal rest .. Heb 4:1, 9–11

Way of Salvation
Meaning of Salvation
Deliverance from Satan .......... Acts 26:18
Deliverance from sin ............. Mt 1:21
Deliverance from death .......... Jn 3:16
Deliverance into God’s kingdom .. 2 Tim 4:18

Need for Salvation
All have sinned .................... Rom 3:23
We cannot save ourselves ...... Rom 3:20

The Savior
God through Jesus Christ ......... Acts 4:10–12

Path of Salvation
Believe .......................... Acts 16:31; Jn 3:15–16
Repent ............................ Acts 3:19; 2:38
Be baptized ....................... Mk 16:16; 1 Pet 3:21
Receive the Holy Spirit ......... Jn 3:5; Tit 3:5–6
Obey the Commandments ....... Mt 7:21; 19:17

Coming of Christ
The Day of the Lord
Feared by the wicked and unrepentant .. Phil 3:20, Rev 22:20
Longed for by the saved ......... Phil 3:20

Prophecies in the New Testament
Foretold by Christ Himself .... Mt 26:64; Lk 21:27
Foretold by angels ............ Acts 1:10–11
Foretold by the apostles ....... 2 Pet 3:9–10; Heb 9:28
Time unknown ................ Mt 24:36; Lk 12:40; 1 Thess 5:2
Near at hand .................... Phil 4:5; Jas 5:8; Rev 22:7

Purpose of the Second Coming
To receive the saved ones ....... 1 Thess 4:14–17; Jn 14:1–3
To judge the wicked ........... Jude 14–15; Lk 12:45–48
To reward the righteous .... Mt 25:34; Col 3:4
To establish His kingdom ...... Dan 7:13–14; Rev 11:15
To destroy all physical existence . 2 Pet 3:10,12; Heb 1:12
To create a new universe .. 2 Pet 3:13; Rev 21:1

Preparing for the Second Coming
Accept the Lord ............... 2 Thess 1:7–9; Isa 55:6–7
Obey the Lord .................. Mt 7:21–23
Preserve purity .................. 1 Thess 5:23; 1 Tim 6:14
Keep watch ........................ Mk 13:32–37; Lk 12:37–40
Congregate with other members .. Heb 10:25
Be filled with the Spirit ......... Mt 25:1–13; 1 Jn 2:28
Be a faithful steward .......... Mt 25:14–30; Lk 12:42–44
Perform deeds of love .... Mt 25:31–46; 1 Pet 4:7–8