## Calvary Baptist Church Statement Of Faith

## What we believe

- 1. We believe the Holy Bible as the inspired Word of God, without any error, the all-sufficient authority in matters of faith, doctrine, and Christian living. 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20, 21; 2 Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105,160, 12:6; Proverbs 30:5
- 2. We believe in one God, eternally existing in three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Genesis 1:1,26,27, 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; 1 Peter 1:2; 2 Corinthians 13:14
- 3. We believe in the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ, and that He is true God and Man. He died on the cross for our sins. He rose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven where He sits at the right hand of the Father, and is now our High Priest and Advocate.

Matthew 1:22, 23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1~5; 14:10~30; Hebrews 4:14,15; 1 Corinthians 15:3,4; Romans 1:3,4; Acts 1:9~11; 1 Timothy 6:14,15; Titus 2:13

4. We believe that man was created in the image of God but fell into sin and became lost. Only through regeneration by the work of the Holy Spirit can man's salvation and spiritual life be obtained.

Genesis 1:27, 3:1~24; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1, 2; John 3; Ephesians 2:4; Titus 3:4~7

- 5. We believe that eternal salvation is the free gift of God, entirely apart from man's works, and is possessed by any and all who have faith in and receive Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. Ephesians 2:8~10; Romans 6:23; John 3:16~18;
- 6. We believe church membership is made up of people who have experienced a new birth by trusting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

John 3:3~8; Titus 3:4~7; Acts 2:47; 1Timothy 3:14~15

7. We believe that baptism is by immersion and the Lord's Supper (Communion) is a memorial to His suffering and death on the Cross. These are the ordinances to be observed by the church in its present age. These are, however, not to be regarded as means for man's salvation. Matthew 3:13~17 (The meaning of the Greek word baptizo literally means to submerge,

and it seems to be the mode of baptism used by John the Baptist, Jesus and the Apostles.); Luke 22:14~20; Ephesians 2:8 (Salvation is by grace through faith in Christ, not by observing ordinances.)

8. We believe in the personal, bodily, imminent, and glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ and that His Second Coming inspires believers for dynamic and zealous life and service for Him while waiting for His return.

Acts 1:11; 1Thessalonians 4:16; Matthew 24:29~31; Revelation 22:12

- 9. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead, the everlasting blessedness of the saved in heaven, and the everlasting punishment and separation from God of the unsaved in hell. 1Thessalonians 4:16; Revelation 20:11~15, 21:1
- 10. We believe in the autonomy of the local church. This church shall manage its own affairs and shall not be subject to any other religious body or organization.

We acknowledge that many people who worship with us come from various denominational backgrounds, and may not fully agree or understand every part of our statement of faith, especially those parts which are unique to Baptists, so we seek to maintain the following principle of Christian unity:

In essential beliefs - we seek unity.

"there is one Body and one Spirit . . . there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of us all. . ." (Ephesians 4:4~6)

In non-essential beliefs - we exercise liberty.

"Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters . . . Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls . . . So then each of us will give an account of himself to God . . . So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God." (Romans 14:1, 4, 12, 22)

In all our beliefs - we show love.

". . .\_If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. (1 Corinthians 13:2)