

# Victory Church of Red Deer Statement of Faith

1. Our universe, and everything in it, can be studied and understood by our minds because it was created by a Mind. This does not mean that people understand everything about the world, but it does mean humans have the capacity to understand the universe because it was ordered and planned by the Mind of God. (Gen. 1-2; Ps. 33:6-9; Prov. 25:2; Rev. 4:11)
2. Because the universe can be understood by human minds, humans are able to have correct ideas about how the world works. When an idea about some aspect of reality corresponds to the way that thing is in the real world, that idea is true. Humans can know and understand truths about both the physical world and the spiritual world. (Ps. 33:10-15; Ps. 119:97-104; Col. 1:16-17)
3. The Bible, consisting of the 39 books of the Old Testament and the 27 books of the New Testament, is the Word of God, a supernatural revelation from God, concerning His being, nature, character, will and purposes; and concerning humanity, our nature, duty and destiny. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are without error or misstatement. In the original manuscripts (autographs) they are inerrant in all they affirm, morally, spiritually, historically and scientifically. (Ps. 19:7-11; Ps. 119:160; Mt. 24:35; Luke 24:44-47; John 10:35; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:21)
4. There is one eternal, unchanging God, infinite in being, knowledge, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, righteousness, love, mercy, and grace, and manifesting Himself to us in three Persons--Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Isaiah 44:6-8; 45:5; Mt. 28:19; Luke 9:35; John 14:15-18; Rom. 8:12-17; 2 Cor. 13:13)
5. Our Lord Jesus was supernaturally conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin, Mary, a lineal descendant of David (Luke 1:26-37). He lived, taught and performed mighty works, wonders and signs exactly as recorded in the New Testament. He was put to death by crucifixion under Pontius Pilate (Luke 23), but God raised Him from the dead in the very same body that had been nailed to the cross. The Lord Jesus, after His crucifixion, showed Himself to be physically and spiritually alive to His disciples, appearing to them several times over the space of forty days. After this the Lord Jesus ascended into heaven, and the Father made Him to be head over all things, including the Church. (Luke 24; John 2:19; Col. 1:15-20; 1 Cor. 15)
6. The Lord Jesus, before His incarnation, existed in the exact form of God, and of His own choice, laid aside His divine glory and took upon Himself the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of men. He is a divine person possessed of all the attributes of deity and should be worshipped as God by angels and humans. (John 1:1; Phil. 2:5-11) "In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." (Col. 2:9)
7. By His death on the cross, the Lord Jesus made a perfect atonement for sin, by which the wrath of God against sinners is appeased and a ground furnished upon which God can deal in mercy with sinners. He redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse in our place. He Who Himself was absolutely without sin had our sin counted to Him so that we might have His righteousness, the righteousness of God, counted to us. (1 Peter 2:24; 1 John 2:2; 3:4-5, Isaiah 53:4-6; 2 Cor. 5:21; John 19:30)
8. At a time known only to God, the Lord Jesus will return again to this earth, personally, bodily, and visibly. (Acts 1:6-7; 1 Thess. 4:16-17; Heb. 9:28; Rev 1:7)
9. The Holy Spirit is a person distinct from the Father and the Son. He possesses all of the divine attributes. He is God. (Mt. 28:19; John 14:15-18; Rom. 8:12-17; 1 Cor. 12:4-6; 2 Cor. 3:16-18; Eph. 4:4-6)
10. Humanity, both male and female, is created in the image of God, after His likeness, and therefore has transcendent, intrinsic worth. (Gen. 1:27) The unjustified destruction of any human being from fertilization to natural death (e.g., through abortion, embryonic stem cell research, cloning, euthanasia, doctor-assisted suicide, etc.) is wrong (Ex. 21:22; Ex. 20:13; Ps. 139:12-16, Jas. 2:11)

11. The entire human race fell in the fall of the first Adam. As a consequence, all people, apart from spiritual regeneration, are lost, darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, hardened in heart, and morally and spiritually dead through their trespasses and sins. They cannot see nor enter the Kingdom of God unless they are born again of the Holy Spirit. (Jn. 3:1-8; 6:28-29; 8:44; 15:5; Eph. 2:1-5; Phil. 1:29; Rom. 3:10-12; 8:7; Jn. 1:13; 1 Cor. 2:14; Eph. 2:8-9)

12. Men and women are justified on the sole ground of the shed blood of Christ and upon the sole condition of faith in Him Who shed His blood. They are born again by the quickening, renewing, cleansing work of the Holy Spirit, through the instrumentality of the Word of God. These alone become children of God and receive eternal life. At death their spirits depart to be with Christ in conscious blessedness, and at the second coming of Christ their bodies shall be raised and transformed into the likeness of His glorified body. (Jn. 3:16; Rom. 3:20-28; Eph. 2:8-9; Phil. 3:20-21; Rom. 4:1-6; Gal. 2:19-21)

13. All those who persistently reject Jesus Christ in this present life shall be raised from the dead, judged according to their deeds, and punished for their moral crimes and rebellion against God. Throughout eternity they will exist in a state of conscious isolation from God, in endless torment and anguish. (Mt. 8:12; 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Lk. 16:19-31; Rev. 20:14-15; 21:8)

14. The Church consists of the host of the regenerate, wherever they may be found. It is the body and bride of Christ; which Christ loves and for which He has given Himself. (1 Cor. 12:12-14; Eph. 2:11-22; 3:6-11; 5:25-27; Rev. 21:2; 2 Cor. 11:2)

15. There is a personal devil, a being of great cunning who can exert vast power, but only so far as God allows. He shall ultimately be judged and condemned and tormented day and night forever. (Job 1-2; Mt. 4:1-11; 25:41; 2 Pet. 2:4; Jude 6; Mt. 25:41)

16. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life and to perform good works that are the necessary evidence of their genuine faith in Christ. Persistent, egregious sin (e.g., lying, stealing, witchcraft, active practice of sexual sin, including fornication and adultery) is inconsistent with biblical teaching. (Ex. 20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Gal. 5:19-21; Eph. 5:3-6; Rom. 1:18-32)

17. Biblical marriage consists only of a faithful union between one genetic male and one genetic female. Biblical marriage is the only legitimate and acceptable context for a sexual relationship. (Gen. 2:22-24; Mt. 19:4-6; 1 Thess. 4:3-8; Heb. 13:4-7)

18. We believe that every human being is made in the image of God and is equally valued by God. For this reason, we reject racism, sexism, ageism or other forms of malicious discrimination based solely upon a person's biological traits. We affirm that as part of God's original, good creation, men and women differ physically and psychologically, and are therefore designed by God to play complementary, but different roles. (Gen. 1:26-27; 2:18, 21-24; 3:20; 9:19; Job 31:13-23; Mal. 2:10; Acts 17:26, 30-31; Rom. 5:12-19; 1 Cor. 8:6; 11:3; 15:22; Eph. 4:4-6; Col. 3:18-20)

19. We further affirm that everyone who comes to God through faith in His Son is privileged to find their eternal identity in Christ. Gender, race, age, sexual attractions, and all other possible identities, are secondary to the believer's identity as a redeemed, transformed disciple of Christ. It is idolatry when another identity takes precedence, or is seen as equal to our identity in Christ. (Matt. 22:30; Luke 8:1-3; Acts 9:36-39; 16:14-16; 18:24-26; Rom. 16:3-5; Galatians 3:28; 5:6; 1 Tim. 2:9-10; 2 Tim. 4:19; 1 John 3:1-2)

20. We reject euthanasia and assisted suicide as discrimination against the disabled, the suffering and the elderly. Other than for biblical reasons, such as self-defense or a just war, we believe only God has the right to end human life since He is the one who made human life in the first place. (Gen. 9:5-6; Job 1:20-22; 30:23; Prov. 24:11-12; Ecc. 8:8; 1 John 3:16-17; Rom. 5:3-5)