

We hold to a philosophy that can be best described as an "open hand/closed handed" approach to different theological positions. What this means, is that we consider certain issues to be non-negotiables and believe them to be central to the Christian faith. For the issues that do not fall into the "closed handed" category, we consider them "open handed issues". This means that we do not find them to be central issues to the Christian faith and believe that we as Christians can enjoy open and challenging conversation with those who might hold differing positions.

We affirm in their entirety the ancient creeds such as the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed. These closed handed convictions can be seen outlined below in the statement of faith.

1. There is one God,(1) who is infinitely perfect,(2) existing eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.(3)

2. Jesus Christ is the true God and the true man.(4) He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.(5) He died upon the cross, the Just for the unjust,(6) as a substitutionary sacrifice,(7) and all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood.(8) He arose from the dead according to the Scriptures.(9) He is now at the right hand of Majesty on high as our great High Priest.(10) He will come again to establish His kingdom, righteousness and peace.(11)

3. The Holy Spirit is a divine person,(12) sent to indwell, guide, teach, empower the believer, impart gifts for the work of ministry (13) and convince the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment.(14)

4. The Old and New Testaments, inerrant as originally given, were verbally inspired by God and are a complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men. They constitute the divine and only rule of Christian faith and practice.(15)

5. Man was originally created in the image and likeness of God:(16) he fell through disobedience, incurring thereby both physical and spiritual death. All men are born with a sinful nature,(17) are separated from the life of God, and can be saved only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ.(18) The portion of the unrepentant and unbelieving is existence forever in conscious torment;(19) and that of the believer, in everlasting joy and bliss.(20)

6. Salvation has been provided through Jesus Christ for all men; and those who repent and believe in Him are born again of the Holy Spirit, receive the gift of eternal life, and become the children of God.(21)

7. It is the will of God that each believer should be filled with the Holy Spirit and be sanctified wholly,(22) being separated from sin and the world and fully dedicated to the will of God, thereby receiving power for holy living and effective service.(23) This is both a crisis and a progressive experience wrought in the life of the believer subsequent to conversion.(24)

8. Provision is made in the redemptive work of the Lord Jesus Christ for the healing of the mortal body.(25) Prayer for the sick and anointing with oil are taught in the Scriptures and are privileges for the Church in this present age.(26)

9. The Church consists of all those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, are redeemed through His blood, and are born again of the Holy Spirit. Christ is the Head of the Body, the Church, (27) which has been commissioned by Him to go into all the world as a witness, preaching the gospel to all nations.(28) The local church is a body of believers in Christ who are joined together for the worship of God, for edification through the Word of God, for prayer, fellowship, the proclamation of the gospel, and observance of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.(29)

10. There shall be a bodily resurrection of the just and of the unjust; for the former, a resurrection unto life;(30) for the latter, a resurrection unto judgment.(31)

11. The second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is imminent(32) and will be personal, and visible. This is the believer's blessed hope and is a vital truth which is an incentive to holy living and faithful service.(33)

[1] [Deuteronomy 6:4](#), [2] [Matthew 5:48](#), [3] [Matthew 28:19](#), [4] [Philippians 2:6–11](#), [5] [Luke 1:34–38](#), [6] [1 Peter 3:18](#), [7] [Hebrews 2:9](#), [8] [Romans 5:9](#), [9] [Acts 2:23–24](#), [10] [Hebrews 8:1](#), [11] [Matthew 26:64](#), [12] [John 14:15–18](#), [13] [John 16:13](#); [Acts 1:8](#), [14] [John 16:7–11](#), [15] [2 Peter 1:20–21](#); [2 Timothy 3:15–16](#), [16] [Genesis 1:27](#), [17] [Romans 3:23](#), [18] [1 Corinthians 15:20–23](#), [19] [Revelation 21:8](#), [20] [Revelation 21:1–4](#), [21] [Titus 3:4–7](#), [22] [1 Thessalonians 5:23](#), [23] [Acts 1:8](#), [24] [Romans 6:1–14](#), [25] [Matthew 8:16–17](#), [26] [James 5:13–16](#), [27] [Ephesians 1:22–23](#), [28] [Matthew 28:19–20](#), [29] [Acts 2:41–47](#), [30] [1 Corinthians 15:20–23](#), [31] [John 5:28–29](#), [32] [Hebrews 10:37](#), [33] [Titus 2:11–14](#)