

## **PCA DOCTRINAL STATEMENTS**

1. The Bible – the Word of God
  - a. The Bible is God's written revelation of Himself to man that man may understand, know, believe, and follow after God.
  - b. The Bible is the inspired Word of God (II Timothy 3:16).
  - c. The Bible is not a human product, though man was involved (I Peter 1:20-21). God used the writers with their own style, personality, vocabulary, talent, and culture and so supervised and guided them that what they wrote was exactly what He intended to be written.
  - d. The Bible itself claims to be the Word of God: "Thus saith the Lord." (Isaiah 1:2; Jeremiah 1:2; etc., over 2,000 times; Exodus 24:3, 4; Hebrews 1:1; Luke 24:44; the testimony of Jesus – Matthew 5:17, 18; and John 10:35).
  - e. Being the very Word of God, the Bible is our only authority for life – our rule of faith and practice (II Timothy 3:14-17).
2. The personal triune God of the Bible is the supreme and absolute controller of all that happens (Westminster C.O.F., III. I.) In all His works of creation, providence, and redemption God orders all things for His own glory (Romans 11:36; Ephesians 1:11-12; Matthew 10:29-31; Prov. 21:1; Romans 8:28).
3. The creation of all things out of nothing (Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 11:3; Isaiah 44:34)
4. The creation of man
  - a. The dignity of man – made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26, 27)
  - b. The purpose of man – to glorify and enjoy Him forever (I Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 3:23)
5. Sin has affected man throughout, even to the extent that he is unable to come to God. He is naturally sinful (Psalm 51:5; Genesis 6:5), defiled in his mind and conscience (Titus 1:15), unable to understand the truth of God (II Corinthians 2:14), deaf (John 8:42-43), and blind (II Corinthians 4:4). Man is not just sick with sin; he is dead in sin (Ephesians 2:1).
6. God's gracious plan of salvation must be totally of the Lord (Jeremiah 13:23; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7).
  - a. In His sovereignty, God chose to save some men from the penalty they deserve, namely death, which is separation from God (Romans 6:23). Being sinners, none deserve it (Romans 3:10-12), but God in His love and grace gives the gift of eternal life to a number which no man can count (Revelation 7:9-10; Romans 8:28-30; II Thessalonians 2:13; Ephesians 1:3-4).
  - b. Not only did God choose them, but He planned the means by which they would be saved; namely through the death of His Son Jesus, the Christ (Matthew 1:21; Acts 20:28; John 10:14-15, 26-28).
  - c. The Holy Spirit applies the work of salvation to those who were chosen by God. He performs a work of grace (regeneration) in the "dead" sinner, making him alive

and thus able to respond to Christ through repentance and faith (Ephesians 2:1-5; Acts 16:14; John 10:27; John 1:12-13).

7. The Work of the Holy Spirit—by the gracious working of the Holy Spirit, the believer is being continually and wholly conformed in the image of God and is enabled to die more and more unto sin and to live unto righteousness.

*This statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. All of the teaching and ministry of Pinewood Church is rooted in and flows out of these biblical doctrines which are developed in more detail in the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Westminster Larger Catechism, and the Westminster Shorter Catechism.*