

Doctrinal Statement of Coldstream Baptist Church

The Scriptures – We believe that “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,” and is our supreme and final authority in matters of faith and life. By inspiration we mean, God breathed into holy men of God, who spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit in such a manner that the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, as originally written, are inerrant, plenary and constitutes the very Word of God. (II Tim. 3:16-17; II Pet. 1:19-21)

God – We believe the scriptures reveal God as eternally existing, omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, immutable, perfect in holiness, righteousness, justice, love, manifesting Himself in three simultaneous Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one in essence and power. (Ex. 3:14; Gen. 1:1; Matt. 28:19; II Cor. 13:14)

The Person and Work of Jesus Christ – We believe in the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, His virgin birth, His sinless life, His substitutionary death on the cross for our sins, His physical resurrection from the grave, His ascension to the right hand of God where He ever lives to make intercession for the believers. We believe in the imminent rapture of the church, which will be followed by the seven year Great Tribulation, then Christ’s personal, visible, bodily return to earth, which will usher in the millennial reign of Christ. (Matt 1:18, 20-28; Jn 1:14; 1 Pet. 1:18; 1 Cor. 15:20; Acts 1:1; 1 Thess. 4:16-17)

The Holy Spirit – We believe that the Holy Spirit is a Person, possessing all the distinctive divine attributes of God. We believe that He convicts all of sin and convinces them of their need of Christ, and does the work of regeneration and sanctification. He is the administrator of the things of God, convicting, revealing truth, energizing believers on the matters of prayer and service, and distributing spiritual gifts at the moment of conversion, as He wills. He is the restrainer of evil “until He is taken out of the way.” (II Thess. 2:7)

Man – We believe that God made man in His own image, and that man came into the world by direct creation, not by evolution, that this creative act of God was separate and distinct from any other word of God. We believe that the scriptures record the fall of man through disobedience to God, and that man by nature is “dead in sin.” (Gen. 1:26; Rom. 5:12; Psalm 51:5)

Salvation – We believe salvation to be by grace through faith, wholly apart from human merit, and that every individual at conception is a sinner by nature, and, ultimately by choice. Therefore the individual must exercise personal faith in the redeeming work of Jesus Christ on Calvary to be saved. As born again believers we are eternally secure in the grace of God. (Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5; Psalm 51:5; Rom. 3:23, 10:9-10)

Satan – We believe in the reality and personality of Satan, that he is a created being once known as the “anointed cherub that covereth.” Through pride he fell, that he is the “god of this world”, “the prince of the power of the air,” and that he will be judged at the

revelation of Jesus Christ, and ultimately be cast into the lake of fire. (Matt. 13:39; John 8:44; Eph. 2:2; Rev. 20:10)

Heaven and Hell – We believe in a heaven of eternal bliss for all who, through faith in Jesus Christ the Lamb of God, have become children of God; and a literal lake of fire, of eternal damnation for all who have not received the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ. (Rev. 21:1-8)

The Local Church and its Ordinances – We believe that a New Testament church is a body of baptized believers, recognizing the lordship of Jesus Christ, governed, guided and empowered by the Holy Spirit, for worship, the observance of the ordinances, service and the spread of the gospel throughout the world. We believe in the autonomy of the local church and the priesthood of all believers. We believe that the two ordinances are:

1. **Baptism** – The immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Baptism typifies the essential facts in redemption: (1) death to the power of sin, (2) resurrection to the newness of life, (3) a public testimony of the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.
2. **The Lord's Supper** – The partaking of the bread and cup, the symbols of Jesus Christ's body and blood, in remembrance of His death upon the cross, until He comes again

Evangelism – We believe in the solemn obligation of all believers to be a witness and do their utmost to carry out the Saviour's command, to take the Gospel to the whole world. (Matt.28:19; Acts 1:8)