



WHAT WE BELIEVE

GOD

We believe in a God of love, grace and sovereignty who creates, sustains, rules, and redeems the world.

God is one God but three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This mystery is called the Trinity.

Although men and women were made perfect in the beginning (in God's image), they turned away from God. Because of this, mankind is now spiritually dead, born sinful and completely unable to turn towards God - without the Holy Spirit giving life (regeneration).

JESUS

Jesus Christ is fully God. He is the second member of the Trinity. Yet he became fully human when he was born from a virgin (incarnation).

Jesus earned our way to heaven (salvation). He did this through His perfect life and His death on the cross. He became our substitute and traded His perfection for our guilt. God punished Jesus instead of us. This is called atonement.

He rose from the dead after three days, not just spiritually but physically. There were many witnesses. Soon afterwards he was taken up to heaven where he is now ruling over everything and praying for his Church (interceding).

Men and women can now receive - by faith - the perfection (righteousness) of Jesus as a free gift (grace). This means that people can be completely forgiven and made righteous, even though they are sinners. This is called justification.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit was sent by Jesus after His return to heaven. He comforts, counsels, empowers and leads believers. He challenges non-Christians about their sin (conviction) - and brings them to Jesus (conversion). He also works to make believers more holy (sanctification) and gives them gifts to help them serve God. He empowers believers for mission.



THE CHURCH

Jesus is building His new community called the Church. There is the universal Church (all the Christians in the world) and the local church (a group of believers in a particular area, who are committed to Jesus and to each other).

The local church should bring in the rule of God (His Kingdom) wherever they are. God is worshipped and His word is preached. People are born again, the poor are cared for, sick people are healed, lives are transformed. Believers are baptised in water as a sign of commitment and as a symbol of their death and resurrection in Jesus Christ. The Lord's Supper is also followed, to celebrate Jesus' death.

THE BIBLE

We believe in the divine inspiration and supreme authority of the Old and New Testament Scriptures, which are the written Word of God - fully trustworthy for faith and conduct.

THE FUTURE

God's Kingdom will come in its fullness with the personal and glorious return of Jesus to earth. He will judge all of mankind. He will give everlasting joy to the believers and eternal condemnation to the lost. He will create a new heaven and new earth.