

# SCRIPTURAL TRUTHS

or

## What We Believe

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By WALTER SCOTT

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# Scriptural Truths

## or What We Believe

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### 1—The Holy Scriptures

We truly believe and firmly maintain the Divine Authority and Verbal Inspiration of the Old and New Testaments—66 books in all. We hold the Inspiration of each book, of every word, of every letter, and even down to the smallest particle of a letter (Matt. 5: 18), of the *original* Scriptures. Human infirmity and mistakes characterize the translation of the Scriptures. Absolute perfection is stamped upon the original Writings (II Tim. 3:15, 16; I Cor. 2:13; II Peter 3:15, 16; Luke 24:44, etc.). The Bible is Divine and is God's one and only book to the human race.

### 2—The Mystery of the God-Head

We truly believe and firmly maintain the Distinctness, Mutual Relation, and essential equality of each of the three Persons in the God-Head — FATHER, SON, and HOLY GHOST. The truth of the God-head is a profound and unfathomable mystery, yet believed in because revealed (Luke 3:21),

22; Matt. 28:19; II Cor. 13:14; John 15:26; Rev. 1, etc.).

### **3—Creation of the Universe**

We truly believe and firmly maintain that the Vast Scene of Creation—the heavens and the earth and all therein—angels and men, the visible and unseen, from the mighty Archangel down to the tiniest insect or least atom of matter—all, the animate and inanimate, were created by God the Son, and further that He is the Source and Sustainer of all that was, is, and ever shall be (Col. 1:15-17; Acts 17:24-29; Heb. 1:2, 3; Gen. 1:2, etc.).

### **4—Sin and Universal Ruin**

We truly believe and firmly maintain that the Devil or Satan, created wise, beautiful, strong, and perfect in character and ways, fell from his exalted position through pride, and subsequently dragged down to moral ruin the parents of the human family; further, that the ruin of the race is universal, total, and irremediable by any human effort whatever (Ezek. 28:11-19; I Tim. 3:6; Gen. 3; Rom. 3; Eph. 2:5, etc.).

### **5—The Incarnation**

We truly believe and firmly main-

tain that God, the Eternal Son, the Only Begotten of the Father, the Word Who was God, ever subsisting in Essential Deity—was truly born of the Virgin Mary, miraculously conceived by the Holy Ghost, and *not* of paternal human generation, hence born holy, and called the Son of God, Emmanuel, and with the essential rights of Jehovah and the Messiah. Further, that the Incarnation did not constitute the Lord Jesus Christ a Person, but manifested Him as such, for as a Divine Person He came into the world. In Him two natures are united—Divine and Human—each in correspondence with the other, and subsisting in equal perfection—not divisible, but may be distinguished in the Person (Matt. 1; Luke 1; I Tim. 3:16; Isa. 9:6; Ps. 40:6 with Heb. 10:5; John 1:14, etc.).

### **6—Impeccability of our Lord**

We fully believe and firmly maintain the impeccability of the Lord. There was no sin in Him, nor sin done by Him, nor was He born under the curse of a broken law, nor was His body mortal or subject to death — He was absolutely Holy in birth, in life, in service, in death for our sins, and in His present session at God's right

hand (Luke 1:35; John 8:46; 14:30; Acts 2:27; 3:14, etc.).

### **7—Christ's Death Voluntary and Substitutionary**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that neither Death nor Judgment had claim over the Lord. The Holy One of God, Voluntarily offered Himself without spot to God as the fore-ordained Lamb to bear away the sin of the world, as the One absolutely Perfect Sacrifice and Offering for His people's sins and guilt. He was made sin on the cross, made a curse on the tree, bearing our sins in His own body, dying the Just One for the unjust. His death was Substitutionary, and to make atonement for sinners with God (John 10:17, 18; Heb. 9:14; I Peter 1:20; II Cor. 5:21; I Peter 2:24; I Cor. 15:3, 4, etc.).

### **8—The Shed Blood of Christ**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that Jesus Christ shed His blood on the Cross, i. e., laid down His life under the Judgment of God, and that this is the ALONE ground of Justification by God, Forgiveness of Sins, and Peace with God. The infinite worth of Christ's sacrifice of Himself is enough. There remaineth no more sacrifice for

sins, nothing can be added to it, for its value is Infinite and Eternal (I John 1:7; Rom. 5:9; Heb. 9:14-22; I Peter 1:18, 19; Rom. 3:25; Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:20, etc.).

### **9—Christ's Death, Resurrection, and Ascension**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that the Lord Jesus Christ, Who as to His nature and life was absolutely holy, was crucified by Jews and Gentiles, yet according to the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, was buried, raised from the dead on the third day, and after forty days ascended to heaven, where He now sits crowned and glorified at God's right hand, and sharer, too, of His Father's throne (I Cor. 15:3; I Peter 3:18; Acts 13:30; Rom. 4:24, 25; 6:4; Acts 1:9-11; I Peter 3:22; Mark 16:19; Luke 24:50, 51).

### **10—The Gospel to the Human Race**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that the Gospel of Christ's Death and Resurrection should be preached without reserve or qualification to every creature under heaven; that the responsibility of all who hear is to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ for Justification and Forgiveness of Sins

(Luke 24:47; Acts 13:38, 39; Mark 16:15; Col. 1:23, etc.).

### **11.—Personality and Presence of the Holy Ghost**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that the Holy Ghost is a Divine Person—co-equal with the Father and the Son in Power, Position, and Glory. Further, that as promised He came down from heaven on the day of Pentecost, to dwell permanently in the Church and in the body of each Christian, and now is the efficient power on earth of all service, of all godliness, and of all worship (Acts 5:3, 4; Matt. 28:19; Acts 2; John 14:16, 17; I Cor. 3:16; 6:19, etc.).

### **12.—Work of the Holy Spirit in Conversion**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that no one is born again, or saved by a mere act of his own will, nor by the will of another; that the Holy Spirit effects the new birth using the Word preached or written, that He works in the soul and conscience repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ — all being traced to the sovereign will of God (John 1:13; 3:5-8; I Cor. 6:11; I Peter 1:22; James 1:18, etc.).

### 13—Eternal Punishment

We fully believe and firmly maintain that the condemnation of the wicked, of unbelievers, of all Christ-rejecting sinners, is Final, Irrevocable, and Eternal; that for those consigned to the lake of fire Scripture holds out no hope of cessation of suffering, mitigation of punishment, or limitation of duration. The punishment is fixed and eternal. The same word, ETERNAL is employed to express the life-time of Almighty God, the life of the redeemed in glory, and the doom of the lost. Degrees of punishment are proportioned to the guilt of each (Matt. 25:46; II Thess. 1:7-9; Rev. 20:11-15; Jude 7; Mark 9:44, 46, 48; Heb. 6:2, etc.).

### 14—Eternal Security of Believers

We fully believe and firmly maintain that every one of the blood-purchased flock of God *has* eternal life, shall never perish, is saved once and forever, is a child of God now and forever, and is as completely delivered from judgment *now*, as Christ Himself. The final perseverance of Christ in saving, holding, maintaining, and finally presenting every redeemed one to Himself, faultless and in glory, is our soul's deep conviction, and an integral part of the faith of God's elect



(John 5:24; Col. 1:12-14; John 10:28-30; Rom. 8:1, 29-39; Phil. 1:6, etc.).

### **15—Christ: High Priest and Advocate**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that Christ as God's great High Priest now seated on the right hand of the Majesty in the heavens, represents, maintains, succours and intercedes for all true believers in the presence of and before the face of God. His ceaseless Advocacy with the Father, is for the restoration of erring children of God—not a restoration to relationship with God and the Father, for that can never be forfeited, but to the joy and communion which had been for a time lost or forfeited (Heb. 2:18; 4:14, 15; 7; I John 2:1; Luke 22:32; John 13:1-14, etc.).

### **16—The One Mystical Body of Christ**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that since the day of Pentecost there has been *one* body on the earth consisting of all true Christians irrespective of age, sex, growth, or strength of faith. Christ glorified in heaven is its Head, the Holy Ghost on earth acting variously through the members of the body. The *one* body unites believers to each other, and all to Christ. The limits too, of the one

body, define the extent and breadth of Christian fellowship (I Cor. 12:13; Eph. 4:3-16; Col. 1:24; Eph. 1:22, 23; I Cor. 12, etc.).

### **17—Priesthood of all Believers**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that ALL believers are priests and have equal access and divine right to draw near to God in the Holiest, and offer up spiritual sacrifices—apart altogether from human authorization or appointment (Heb. 10:2; 19-22; 13:15, 16; I Peter 2:5, etc.).

### **18—Service of all Believers**

We fully believe and firmly maintain the obligation of ALL believers to serve our Lord Jesus Christ—apart from any human system of ordination, authorization or appointment (I Cor. 12; Rom. 6:18-22; 12; Gal. 6:9, 10, etc.).

### **19—The Two Christian Ordinances**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that ALL believers should be baptized persons, and ALL should partake of the Lord's Supper—Baptism was committed for its administration to the Lord's servants; the Lord's Supper was delivered to the Lord's people. (Matt. 28:19; Acts 2; 8; 16; I Cor. 11:23; Acts 2:46; 20:7, etc.).

## **20—The Lord's Second Advent**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that the Lord Jesus Christ is coming again in power and glory with His saints (previously raised from the dead or changed at His descent into the air), and all the holy angels, to reconcile to Himself the heavens and earth already purchased by His blood, and to establish His millennial Kingdom and reign of 1,000 years (John 14:3; I Cor. 15; I Thess. 4:14-17; Jude 14; Eph. 1:9, 10; Rev. 19; 20:4-6, etc.).

## **21—Personality of Satan**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that Satan, the open and declared enemy of God and Man, was created a sinless being. He fell through pride and insubordination. He is the author of all moral evil. Devil occurs only in the singular in the Scriptures. Satan is a living personality—a veritable being. His appointed doom is the "Lake of Fire." The present spheres of satanic operation are the heavens, the air, and the earth (Job 1:2; Zech. 3; Matt. 4; Eph. 2:2; I Peter 5:8; Rev. 12:9; 20:2, 3, 10.).

## **22—Resurrection of the Dead**

We fully believe and firmly maintain that all the physically dead will be raised by the power of Christ. The saved company will be raised to everlasting blessedness; the unsaved portion of the dead will be raised to endure the horrors of the second death—the lake of fire (John 5:28, 29; Heb. 6:2; Rev. 20:4-6, 12-15; I Cor. 15).

We have written out these articles of the Christian Faith, not as a statement of the truth, nor as a condensed creed or confession of faith, nor as the sum of all we truly believe and firmly maintain, but are presented as a simple statement of certain truths which the writer deems fundamental, and which may help some who have unconsciously drifted with the stream and trend of unbelieving thought. May God graciously grant recovery to all who have or are departing from THE TRUTH.