

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Emmanuel Baptist Church is dispensational in theology, premillennial in eschatology, fundamental in position, and has been founded and shall be perpetuated on the following doctrinal basis:

ARTICLE I - THE BIBLE

We believe that the Bible, consisting of the sixty-six canonical books of the Old and New Testaments, was, as originally given, written by holy men of God as they were moved by the Holy Spirit; that it is verbally inspired of God; that it is inerrant, sufficient, and eternal, and therefore of supreme and final authority in faith and life (Psalm 19:7-11; 119:89; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:16-21).

ARTICLE II - GOD

Section 1 - The Trinity

We believe in the Triune nature of God: that there is but one God existing in three Persons -

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - Who are co-eternal, and co-equal (John 16:7-15; I John 5:1-8).

Section 2 - The Father

We believe that God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, is the Heavenly Father of all who have come to a saving knowledge of His only begotten Son (John 1:14; 20:17; Romans 4:11; I Peter 1:3-5).

Section 3 - The Son, Jesus Christ

We believe in the absolute Deity of Jesus Christ, His incarnation by means of Holy Spirit begetting and virgin birth, His sinless life and miraculous ministry on earth, His death on the cross as a substitutionary atonement for the sins of all men, His bodily resurrection from among the dead, His exaltation to the right hand of the Majesty on high as Lord, Mediator, Priest, and Advocate, and His personal, pre-millennial, and imminent return to bring into consummation His work of redemption by ultimate triumph over Satan and his hosts (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-56; 2:1-20; Hebrews 4:14-15; 7:25-26; 9:24; John 3:1-2; 20:30-31; I Corinthians 15:1-28;

Section 4 - The Holy Spirit

We believe in the personality and deity of the Holy Spirit, that it is by His energy that sinners are brought under conviction of sin and are drawn to Christ for salvation, that through Him men are regenerated and sanctified, that by Him the saints are indwelt with the Divine Presence, and that by His endowment and enduement God's people are enabled to serve the Lord acceptably. We believe that He is the Divine Witness, Seal, Earnest, Anointing, Guide, Teacher, and Administrator (John 14:26; 16:7-13; Acts 1:5, 8; 2:4; Romans 8:14-27; 15:16; I Corinthians 12:1-14; II Corinthians 1:21-22; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; 5:18; I John 2:20, 27). Section 5 - The Second Advent of Christ We believe in the pre-tribulational, pre-millennial, personal, imminent coming of the Lord Jesus Christ in the air for all the dead and alive in Christ, our "Blessed Hope"; and the post-tribulational visible appearance of the Lord with His saints on the earth to set up His millennial kingdom (Matthew 24:29-30; Luke 1:31-33; with Acts 1:6-7, with Isaiah 11; I Thessalonians 4:16-17; 5:9-10; Jude verse 14; Revelation 19:11-16; 20:4-6).

ARTICLE III - CREATION

We believe that the entire universe was brought into existence by the creating act of the great Triune God (Genesis 1:1 - 2:3; John 1:1-3; Col. 1:16).

ARTICLE IV - SATAN

We believe in the personality of Satan, "the old serpent, the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world," that he is the arch-enemy of God and man, and that in God's own appointed time he will suffer ultimate defeat at the hands of the Lord Jesus and will be tormented throughout eternity in the Lake of Fire (Isaiah 14:12-17; Matthew 4:1-11; John 8:44; Revelation 12:9-10; 20:1-2, 7- 10).

ARTICLE V - MAN

We believe that man was originally created by God in His image, but that by disobedience to his Creator he incurred both physical and spiritual death, and that the entire human race was plunged into sin and death; that all men inherit an evil nature and are totally

depraved, and if not saved after the day of accountability will endure eternal punishment in the lake of fire (Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7 - 3:24; Romans 5:12; 6:23; 8:5-8; I Corinthians 15:45; Galatians 5:17; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 20:14-15).

ARTICLE VI - SIN

We believe in the universality and exceeding sinfulness of sin and that there is no remission of sins apart from the shedding of the blood of the Son of God and man's repentance (Ezekiel 18:4; Luke 24:46-47; Romans 3:10-26; 6:23; 7:13-14; Hebrews 9:22).

ARTICLE VII - SALVATION

Section 1 - The Atonement

We believe in the single substitutionary sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ for sinners, One for all, and once for all; that salvation is wholly of divine grace apart from any works of merit of the sinner; that it is provided in the atonement of Jesus Christ, wrought by God, and is received by a sinner when he repents towards God and puts his trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as his own personal Savior; that all who receive the Lord Jesus Christ by personal faith as Savior, are thereby born again, and have eternal life through the indwelling Christ; that unbelievers will suffer eternally for their sins (Psalm 49:7; Jonah 2:9; Mark 1:14-15; Luke 13:3; 24:46-47; John 1:11-13; 3:16, 18, 36; 5:24; 8:24; Acts 16:31; 17:30-31; 20:20-21; Romans 4:2-5; 5:8; 10:9-10; II Corinthians 5:14; Galatians 6:15; Ephesians 2:8-10; I Timothy 4:10; Titus 3:4-7; Hebrews 10:10; I John 5:11-12; Revelation 21:8).

Section 2 - The Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers

We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever (John 6:37-40; 10:27-30; Romans 8:1; 8:38-39; I Corinthians 1:4-8; I Peter 1:5).

We believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word; which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion to the flesh (Romans 13:13-14; Galatians 5:13; Titus 2:11-15).

9 Section 3 - The Two Natures of the Believer

We believe that every saved person possesses two natures, with provisions made for victory of the spiritual nature over the carnal, fleshly, soulish nature through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit, and, that all claims to the eradication of the old nature in this life are unscriptural (Romans 6:13; 8:12-13; Galatians 5:16-25; Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:10; I Peter 1:14-16; I John 3:5-9).

Section 4 - Sanctification

We believe in the positional sanctification of each believer in Christ at the time of salvation, and a practical sanctification which is progressive, depending upon the believer's appropriation of divine means; and all without a second work of grace (John 17:17; I Corinthians 1:2, 30).

ARTICLE VIII - THE CHURCH

Section 1 - The Body of Christ

We believe that the Church, the body of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all born-again believers of this present age; that it was constituted and empowered by the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost; that it was purchased with the blood of Christ; that it was founded upon Christ; that its mission is to bear to the ends of the earth a Spirit-filled testimony to the judgment of God against sin and the salvation of sinners who repent towards God and exercise faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 16:17-18; 28:18-20; Acts 2;

I Corinthians 3:11; 12:12-14; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 5:25-27; Colossians 1:18). Section 2 - The Local Church

We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures; that a local New Testament church is a body of believers in Christ that have followed the Lord through the waters of baptism, associated together under the direction and government of the Holy Spirit for worship, instruction, fellowship, service, and the spread of the gospel to the uttermost part of the earth; that it is absolutely sovereign, under the administration of the Holy Spirit, in the handling of its own affairs and in determining its own relationship; that its relationship with other ecclesiastical bodies is one of fellowship only (Matthew 16:17-18; 28:18-20; Acts 14:27; 20:17, 28-37;

I Corinthians 3:9-17; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 5:25, 27; Colossians 1:18; I Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-11).

Section 3 - Spiritual Gifts

We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowment of all His gifts; and, that the gifts of evangelists, pastors, and teachers are sufficient for the edification and perfecting of the saints today. Prophesying and the giving of knowledge beyond that revealed in Scripture ceased as the New Testament Scriptures were completed and their authority became established; therefore we will not allow the exercising of any so-called gift of speaking in tongues, extra-Biblical prophesying, or healing (Ephesians 2:19-22; 4:7-12; Hebrews 2:2-4).

We believe that God does hear and answer the prayer of faith, in accord with His own will, for the sick and afflicted, but that healing is not in the atonement (reconciliation) (John 15:7;

I John 5:14-15; James 5:13-18).

10 Section 4 - The Blessed Hope

We believe in the pre-tribulation rapture of living church saints and resurrection of dead church saints - at which time both companies will meet the Lord in the air to forever be with Him (I Thessalonians 4:13-18; 5:9; Revelation 3:10).

We believe that all the Old Testament saints and the martyred Tribulation saints will be resurrected at the end of the Tribulation at the Second Advent (Daniel 12).

Section 5 - Dispensationalism

We accept the dispensational view of Bible interpretation but reject the extreme teaching known as "Hyper Dispensationalism" such as that teaching which opposes either the Lord's Table or water baptism as a Scriptural means of testimony for the Church in this age (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:41-42; 18:8; I Corinthians 11:23-26).

ARTICLE IX - THE ORDINANCES

We believe that there are two Christian ordinances and that they are symbolical, not sacramental: Baptism and the Lord's Supper (Matthew 28:19-20; I Corinthians 11:23-26).

Section 1 - Baptism

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water into the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy

Spirit; that it sets forth in picture the essential facts in redemption--the death and resurrection of Christ, the essential facts in the experience of the believer--death to sin and resurrection to walk in newness of life, and the essential facts in the hope of the believer--that should he experience physical death he will be raised from the dead to participate in the eternal glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 6:4).

Section 2 - The Lord's Supper

We believe that the Lord's Supper is a commemoration of the Lord's death to be observed till He comes; that the elements--the bread and the fruit of the vine - are only symbols of His broken body and shed blood, and that our observance of it is a pictorial testimony of the believer's fellowship with the Crucified Savior and should be preceded by solemn heart-searching and self-judgment (Matthew 26:26-30; I Corinthians 10:16-21; 11:17-34).

ARTICLE X - CIVIL GOVERNMENT

We believe that all governmental authority is ordained of God for the good of the citizens under its jurisdiction, that believers in Christ are to be the most ardent to obey its every ordinance for the Lord's sake, and that we are to faithfully pray for those who occupy positions of civil authority. We believe, however, in the absolute separation of church and state, that each has been ordained of God to render service in entirely different spheres and for different purposes, and therefore neither is to dictate to the other nor are they to form any organic union whatsoever (Matthew 22:21; Romans 13:1-7; I Timothy 2:1-6).

ARTICLE XI - WORLD EVANGELISATION

We believe that it is the heart's desire of Almighty God to save sinners, that He has committed Himself to the faithful witness of His redeemed children to reach them with the gospel, and that He has commissioned His people to be diligent and zealous in publishing the saving message of Jesus Christ throughout all the world so that sinners may be persuaded to repent of their sins,

believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and be saved (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:46- 48; Acts 1:8; I Timothy 2:3-6; II Peter 3:9).

ARTICLE XII - THE SEPARATED LIFE

We believe in the separation of believers unto Christ and from the world so as to maintain good works and to have no fellowship with the evil works of darkness but rather reprove them; that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon our Savior and Lord; and, that separation from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices, and associations is commanded by God. We therefore urge upon every member of Emmanuel Baptist Church to abstain from every questionable thing, keeping himself/herself from “every appearance of evil” in religion, dress, conversation, amusement, business, habit, etc., according to the teachings of God’s Holy Word (Romans 12:1-2; 14:13; II Corinthians 6:14-7:1; 17-23; Ephesians 2:8-10; 4:1-32; Philippians 2:12-16; II Thessalonians 3:11-12; II Timothy 3:1-5; Titus 3:1-11; James 4:4; I Peter 4:12-19; I John 2:15-16; II John 9-11).

We believe that marriage is an inseparable union until death parts, in spite of divorces allowed by society; our Lord Himself teaches that at the beginning, God made them male and female for which cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they two shall become one flesh. We believe, further, that whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causes her to commit adultery; and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced commits adultery. Believers should not marry unbelievers, which creates an unequal yoke (Matthew 5:32; 19:9; Mark 10:2-12; Romans 7:2-3; I Corinthians 7:15, 39; II Corinthians 6:14-15).

ARTICLE XIII - APOSTASY

We believe that men and conditions will become worse and worse until this age ends in a widespread apostasy from the “faith once delivered to the saints”; that when man’s rebellion against God reaches its awful climax in the worship of Satan, the Lord Jesus Christ shall come to earth, bring to end every wicked device of man,

chain Satan, and take His Messianic throne to reign in righteousness over the earth for one thousand years (Matthew 24:37-38; II Timothy 3:1-7; 4:3-4; Revelation 19:11 - 20:6).

ARTICLE XIV - THE RESURRECTION

We believe that there will be two resurrections and that all the dead will be raised: that the righteous dead will have part in the first resurrection which will issue in eternal life, and that the wicked dead will have part in the second resurrection which will issue in eternal damnation (Luke 14:14; John 5:28-29; I Corinthians 15:20-26; Revelation 22:4-6, 11-15).

ARTICLE XV - ETERNITY

We believe that eternity will be composed of Heaven and Hell: that Heaven is a place of eternal blessedness and that Hell is a place of eternal suffering; that all true believers in Jesus Christ will be fully redeemed from sin's penalty, power, and presence, will be glorified with the Lord when He comes, and will enjoy the blessing of unbroken fellow-ship with God in Heaven forever; that all unrepentant sinners and rebels against God will be judged by the Lord Jesus Christ according to their deeds, without respect of persons, by the glorious Gospel of God, and will be cast out from God's presence to suffer the torments of the lake of fire in Hell forever (Matthew 25:46; Luke 16:19-31; Romans 2:1-16; II Corinthians 5:1-10; Philippians 3:20; Revelation 20:1-15; 21:22). We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life, and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment (Matthew 25:46; John 5:28-29; 11:25-26; Revelation 20:5, 6, 12, 13).

12 We believe that the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection, when spirit, soul, and body are reunited to be glorified forever with the Lord (Luke 23:43; Revelation 20:4-6; II Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23; 3:21; I Thessalonians 4:16-17).

We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain, after death, in conscious misery until the second resurrection, when with soul and body reunited they shall appear at the Great White Throne of Judgment, and shall be cast into the lake of fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscious punishment (Luke 16:19-26; Matthew 25:41-46; II Thessalonians 1:7-9; Jude verses 6, 7; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 20:11-15).