



Canaan Bible Chapel Doctrinal Statement

1. We believe in the **Verbal, Plenary Inspiration Of Scripture**: We believe that “all Scripture is given by Inspiration of God”, by which we mean and understand all parts of the 66 books comprising the Greater Book called “The Bible”. The Bible, therefore, we believe to be the verbally inspired and accurate Word of God, written by Holy men moved and writing under the direct leading of the Holy Spirit. This Book is the only sufficient and perfect rule of authority for faith and practice of life in Christ. (II Timothy 3:16, 17; II Peter 1:21).
2. We believe in the **Triune Godhead**: We believe there is one God Who is self-existent, eternal and infinite in every excellence, and Who has revealed Himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Although different in personality, these three have the same nature, attributes, and perfection and are therefore worthy of precisely the same homage, confidence and obedience. They are co-equal and co-eternal (Isaiah 45:21,22; Jeremiah 10:10; Deuteronomy 6:4; John 1:1-3; Matthew 28:19; Acts 5:3,4; II Corinthians 13:14; Hebrews 1:1-3).
3. We believe in the **Sinful State of Man**: We believe that man was created innocent by God, and in God’s image, and reject any theories on evolution. By disobedience to the command of God, man sinned and fell, becoming thereby totally depraved, separated from God and in need of a Saviour. We believe further that all men were in Adam and were therefore partakers in the original sin, and are guilty before God and in real need of the same Saviour. (Genesis 1:26-27; Matthew 26:46; Romans 5:12)
4. We believe in the **Person and Work of Christ**: We believe that in keeping with God’s promise in Genesis 3:15 of a future Saviour, that Jesus Christ was born miraculously by the virgin birth; that Jesus is both true God and true man coming into this world to save men from the guilt and condemnation of sin, dying on the cross for man’s sin and making salvation available to those who by faith receive Him. We believe in the actual bodily resurrection of Christ and His ascension into heaven where He now serves as our High Priest and Advocate, the only Mediator between God and man. (John 1:14; Luke 1:26-35; Acts 4:12; Acts 16:31; Book of Hebrews)
5. We believe that **Salvation** is all of God’s grace and can in no way be earned by any man. To be saved a man must admit to God that he is a sinner and acknowledge his utter dependence upon Jesus Christ as his personal sin bearer. The result of such faith is the salvation of one’s soul. (John 1:12; 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9; Hebrews 7:25; Romans 10:9-10)
6. We believe in the **Security of the Believer**: We believe that true believers are kept by the power of God for all eternity and cannot lose their salvation, and have an inheritance in heaven. (John 10:28-29; I Peter 1:4-5; Ephesians 1:14; Romans 8:35-39)
7. We believe that **Satan** is a person, unholy but powerful as controller of the evil forces of this world. HE is the enemy of God and man, and his destiny, in justice, will be the lake of fire. (Matthew 4:1-3; II Corinthians 4:3&4; Revelation 20: 2-10)

8. **Church Ordinances:** We believe that the ordinances of the church in obedience to Jesus Christ are Baptism (for believers only by immersion) and the Lord's Supper. (Romans 6:4; I Corinthians 11:23-29)
9. **The Church:** We believe that the church is the body of Christ, composed of all believers in the gospel of Jesus Christ, for the salvation of their soul. The church local is a visible company of believers observing the forms, ordinances, and principles laid down in the Word of God. (Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 5:27; I Timothy 1:13)
10. **The Lord's Day:** The first day of the week is to be observed as the Lord's Day. (John 20:19; Acts 20:4; I Corinthians 16:1-2)
11. We believe in the separation of **Church and State**, and also that civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good order of human society. Its magistrates are to be prayed for and honored and obeyed except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord, Who is the only Lord of the conscience and is also "the prince of the kings of earth." (Matthew 22:21; Acts 5:29; Acts 4:18-20; I Timothy 2:1-3)
12. **The Lord's Return:** We believe in the pretribulation, premillennial return of Christ. We hold to the blessed hope of His personal, visible, imminent return. (I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Titus 2:13; Acts 1:11; John 14:103; Revelation 1:7; Revelation 20:1-6)
13. **Eternity:** We believe that there will be a resurrection of the just and the unjust – the just as the first resurrection, will be raised for blessedness and reward; the unjust, for judgment and eternal doom in the lake of fire. (Daniel 12:2 I Corinthians 15:22-24; Revelation 20; Matthew 25: 31-46; II Corinthians 5:10)
14. **Spiritual Gifts:** We believe that the Holy Spirit administers spiritual gifts to Christians, not for ostentatious display, but for the glorification of God by the building up of the church (John 16:13-14); Acts 1:8; I Corinthians 12:4-11; II Corinthians 3:18). We believe that speaking in tongues and the working of sign miracles in the beginning days of the church were for the purpose of pointing to and authenticating the apostles as revealers of divine truth, and were never intended to be perpetual. With the New Testament revelation now complete, Scripture becomes the sole test of the authenticity of one's message, and confirming gifts of a miraculous nature are not longer necessary to validate a believer's witness. (I Corinthians 13: 8-10) II Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 4:7-12; Hebrews 2:1-4)
15. **Ecclesiastical separation:** We believe that it is imperative to the testimony of the Lord and His church that we stand firmly against any and all attempts to pervert the gospel message. We therefore shall not knowingly partner in ministry efforts where the gospel is not carefully guarded. (Galatians 1:6-9; II Timothy 4:2-5; Jude 3) We will only support various non-religious civic organizations so long as we can do so without compromising our doctrinal convictions.