

# Statement of Faith

We, the Members of Grandview Baptist Church, believe the following to be true.

## 1. The Bible

We believe the Bible to be the complete Word of God; that the sixty-six books, as originally written, comprising the Old and New Testaments, were verbally inspired by the Spirit of God and were entirely free from error. We further believe that the Bible is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice and the true basis of Christian union.

## 2. God

We believe in one God, Creator of all, holy, sovereign, eternal, existing in three equal Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

## 3. Christ

We believe in the absolute and essential deity of Jesus Christ, in His eternal existence with the Father in Pre-incarnate glory, His full and genuine human nature through His virgin birth, sinless life, substitutionary death, bodily resurrection, triumphant ascension, mediatorial ministry and future personal return.

## 4. The Holy Spirit

We believe in the absolute and essential deity and personality of the Holy Spirit who convicts of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; who indwells, regenerates, sanctifies, illuminates and empowers all those who believe in Jesus Christ.

## 5. Satan

We believe that Satan exists as an evil personality, the originator of sin, the arch-enemy of God and man.

## 6. Man

We believe that man was divinely created in the image of God; that he sinned, becoming guilty before God, resulting in total depravity, thereby incurring physical and spiritual death.

## 7. Salvation

We believe that salvation is by the sovereign, electing grace of God; that the voluntary death of Christ was a substitute for us whereby He paid the full penalty before God which our sins deserved, and thus made it possible for God to be favourable to us, that God declares a person to be righteous in His sight on the basis of faith alone in the all-sufficient sacrifice and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, and that those whom God has effectually called shall be divinely preserved and finally perfected in the image of the Lord.

## 8. Future Things

We believe in the personal, bodily and glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ, in the bodily resurrection of the just and unjust, in the eternal blessedness of the redeemed, and in the judgment and conscious, eternal punishment of the wicked.

## 9. The Church

We believe in the universal church which is composed of all who are united to Jesus Christ by faith. We believe that the local church is a manifestation of the universal church, a company of believers called to be the distinct people of God in the world, who are voluntarily associated for the ministry of the Word, the mutual edification of its members, the evangelization of the world, and the observance of the ordinances of Christ. The servant-leaders of the local church are elders (who teach and govern) and deacons (who lead in practical ministries).

**10. Ordinances**

We believe that there are two ordinances instituted by Christ for the church as visible signs of the gospel: Baptism, which is the immersion of a believer in water as a confession of personal commitment to Jesus Christ and a sign of union with Him in His death, burial and resurrection, and the Lord's Supper, which is the memorial wherein believers partake of the two elements, bread and wine, which symbolize the Lord's body and shed blood, proclaiming His death until He returns.

**11. The Church and State**

We believe in the entire separation of the church and state.

**12. Religious Liberty**

We believe in religious liberty; that all persons have the right to practice and propagate their beliefs.

**13. The Lord's Day**

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, and that, in a special sense, it is the divinely appointed day for worship and spiritual exercise.

**14. Civil Government**

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good order of society; that civil authorities are to be prayed for, conscientiously honoured and obeyed, except only in the things opposed to the revealed will of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who is the only Lord of the conscience and Ruler of the kings of the earth.

September 24, 1997