



PROVIDENCE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Soli Deo Gloria

DOCTRINAL PREAMBLE

Throughout its history, in order to better propagate the truth of the faith once for all delivered to the saints and to refute pernicious error, the Christian Church has attempted to summarize the teachings of the Bible in statements commonly called confessions of faith. The doctrines of the Christian faith, held by orthodox churches throughout the ages, express the central truths concerning the triune God and his works of creation and redemption, particularly as they confess the saving work of Jesus Christ as revealed in Scripture.

To counter theological destabilization and drift, we affirm the need for these Biblical doctrinal summations, though undertaken by imperfect beings and vulnerable thus to error. Particularly, we value the Reformed theological confessional tradition as embodied in sixteenth and seventeenth-century orthodox confessions derived from Scripture and created by the Reformed churches. Furthermore, we value these doctrines as truth derived from the Bible, God's sole authoritative, inerrant Word, which can most powerfully transform the lives of those we are attempting to reach. We wish for these theological truths to inform all aspects of our work and any methodology that we utilize.

In addition to the following brief Doctrinal Synopsis, this organization holds to *The Second London Baptist Confession of 1689*. We hold this confession, in the form adopted by this organization at its founding, as subordinate to the Scriptures, yet as a summary and just exhibition of that system of doctrine and religious belief contained in Scripture.

DOCTRINAL SYNOPSIS

- I. We believe and teach that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, breathed out by the Spirit of God through human authors, are the very Word of God written—the only infallible, inerrant, and authoritative rule of faith, worship, and Christian obedience.**
- II. We believe and teach that there is one God, eternal and self-existing in three persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), all fully God, equal in power and glory who are to be equally loved, honored, and adored.**
- III. We believe and teach that all humanity participated in Adam's fall from his original sinless state and is thus lost in sin and totally helpless, dead in trespasses and sins. All are sinners both by their nature and by their acts, deserving God's wrath and condemnation. All are wholly unable to save themselves by good works and are unable to change themselves without God's work.**

- IV. We believe and teach that our Sovereign God, for no other reason than His own unfathomable love and mercy, has chosen, before the foundation of the world, a people for Himself, not because of any good He foresaw in them, but of His own free grace and love. These elect, undeserving sinners from every nation, are redeemed by the quickening power of the Holy Spirit through the atoning death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ.**
- V. We believe and teach that God effectually calls each one He saves, sending His Spirit in regeneration to draw them unto Himself and give them the gifts of faith and repentance.**
- VI. We believe and teach that faith and repentance are gifts that God must bring through His Spirit in regeneration before any can confess their sins and believe in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved.**
- VII. We believe and teach further that Jesus Christ died to save His people from their sins, and He will not lose any of those for whom He has shed His blood.**
- VIII. We believe and teach that justification is by grace alone through faith alone by virtue of Christ's finished work alone, and through it, the undeserving sinner is clothed with the righteousness of Christ.**
- IX. We believe and teach that those sinners whom the Spirit quickens, come to believe in Christ as Savior by the Word of God, are born again, become sons of God, and will persevere to the end. While we believe and teach that God will preserve to the end all whom He has elected, called, and saved, we also believe and teach that all whom God preserves will persevere in Christ to the end, bearing the fruits of repentance and faith with a godly life.**
- X. We believe and teach that at death, the Christian's soul passes immediately into the presence of God, and the unbeliever's soul is eternally separated from God unto condemnation.**
- XI. We believe and teach that Jesus Christ will return to earth, visibly and bodily, at a time when He is not expected, to consummate history and the eternal plan of God.**
- XII. We believe and teach that God elects and saves men from every tribe, tongue, people, and nation. We are commanded to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and invite all to come to Him for salvation, trusting that God will accomplish His own will. His Word will not return to Him void. The Gospel of God's salvation in Jesus Christ must be published to all the world as a witness before Jesus Christ returns.**
- XIII. We believe and teach man's chief purpose is to glorify God alone and enjoy a relationship with Him forever. We see worshipping God and the pursuit of holiness as priorities in fulfilling this purpose.**
- XIV. We believe and teach that God has established marriage as a lifelong, exclusive relationship between one man and one woman and that all intimate sexual activity outside the marriage relationship, whether heterosexual, homosexual, or otherwise, is immoral and therefore sin (Gen. 2:24-25; Ex. 20:14, 17, 22:19; Lev. 18:22-23, 20:13, 15-16; Matt. 19:4-6, 9; Rom. 1:18-31; I Cor. 6:9-10, 15-20; I Tim. 1:8-11; Jude 7). We believe that God created the human race male and female and that all conduct with the intent to adopt a gender other than one's birth gender is immoral and therefore sin (Gen. 1:27; Deut. 22:5).**