

**Dispensationalism.** We believe the Scriptures interpreted in their natural, literal sense reveal divinely determined dispensations or rules of life, which define man's responsibilities in each age. These dispensations are not ways of salvation, but divinely ordered stewardships by which God directs man according to His purpose. Three of these the age of law, the age of the Church, and the age of the millennial kingdom are the subjects of detailed revelation in Scripture. (John 1:17; 2 Corinthians 3:9-18; Galatians 3:13-25; Ephesians 1:10; 3:2-10; Colossians 1:24,25; Hebrews 7:19; Revelation 20:2-6)

**The Personality of Satan.** We believe that Satan is a person, the author of sin and the cause of the fall; that he is the open and declared enemy of God and man; and that he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire. (Job 1:6,7; Isaiah 14:12-17; Matthew 4:2-11; 25:41; Revelation 20:10; Ezekiel 28:12-19)

**The Second Advent of Christ.** We believe in that "Blessed Hope," the personal, imminent, pre-tribulational, and pre-millennial coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His redeemed ones and in His subsequent return to earth with His saints to establish His Millennial Kingdom. (Zechariah 14:4-11; Revelation 19:11-16; 20:1-6; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 4:13-18; 5:9; Revelation 3:10)

**The Eternal State.** 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)

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 will 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; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:23; 3:20,21; 1 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 will appear at the Great White Throne 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; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; Jude 6,7; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 20:11-15)



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# Things That Matter



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**Fellowship International Mission believes that DOCTRINE DOES MATTER. FIM missionaries indicate their agreement with the following statement annually.**

**The Holy Scriptures.** We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the verbally inspired Word of God, inerrant in the original writings, infallible and God-breathed, the final authority for faith and life. (2 Timothy 3:16,17; 2 Peter 1:20,21; Matthew 5:18; John 16:12,13)

**The Godhead.** We believe in one Triune God, eternally existing in three Persons Father, Son and Holy Spirit co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, co-equal in power and glory and having the same attributes and perfections. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

**The Person and Work of Christ.** We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God, and redeem sinful men, and forever continues true God and true man. (John 1:1,2,14; Matthew 1:21; Luke 1:35)

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a representative, substitutionary sacrifice and that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead. (Romans 3:24,25; 4:24,25; 1 Peter 1:3-5; 2:24; Ephesians 1:7; 1 Corinthians 15:3,4)

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God, where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate. (Acts 1:9,10; Hebrews 1:3; 9:24; 7:25; Romans 8:34; 1 John 2:1,2)

**The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.** We believe that the Holy Spirit is a Person who convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment and that He is the supernatural Agent of regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ and indwelling and sealing them unto the day of redemption. (John 16:8-11; 2 Corinthians 3:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 1:13,14; 1 Corinthians 6:19)

We believe that He is the Divine Teacher who guides believers into all truth and that it is the privilege and duty of all the saved to be filled with the Spirit. (John 16:13; 1 John 2:20,27; Ephesians 5:18)

**The Total Depravity of Man.** We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God but that in Adam's sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God and that man is totally depraved and, of himself, utterly unable to remedy his lost condition. (Genesis 1:26,27; Romans 3:22,23; 5:1,2; Ephesians 2:1-3,12)

**Salvation.** We believe that salvation is the gift of God, brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, Who shed His precious blood on Calvary and rose again that our sins might be forgiven and that we might have eternal life. (Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-10; 2 Timothy 2:8; John 1:12; 1 Peter 1:18, 19)

**The Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers.** We believe that, once saved, all of the redeemed are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever. (John 6:37-49; 10:27-30; Romans 8:1,38,39; 1 Corinthians 1:4-8; 1 Peter 1:5; 2 Tim. 1:12)

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)

**The Two Natures of the Believer.** We believe that every saved person possesses two natures, with provision made for victory of the new nature over the old 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 12:1,2; 14:13; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 John 9,11; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1; Ephesians 5:7-11)

**Separation.** We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord and that separation from all religious apostasy and all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices, and association is commanded by God. (2 Timothy 3:1-5; Romans 12:1, 2; 14:13; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 John 9,11; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1; Ephesians 5:7-11)

**Missions.** We believe that it is the obligation of the saved to witness by life and by work to the truths of Holy Scripture and to obey our Lord's commandment to make disciples as we proclaim the Gospel to all mankind. (Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21; Matthew 28: 18-20; Luke 24:46-48; John 20:21)

**The Ministry and Spiritual Gifts.** We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowing of all His gifts for the edification of the Body of Christ. The gifts of evangelist, pastor, and teacher are given for the perfecting of saints today. Gifts such as faith, ministry, teaching, exhortation, giving, ruling, and mercy are also functional in the Church. Each individual believer should look to the Lord to bestow and develop His gifts. Sign gifts, such as the office of apostle and the gifts of prophecy, speaking in tongues, interpretation, healing, and special wisdom and knowledge on a par with Scripture revelation, gradually ceased as the New Testament Scriptures were completed and their authority became established. (Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11,27-31; 13:8-10; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 4:7-12; Mark 16:20; Hebrews 2:3,4)

We believe that God does hear and answer the prayer of faith for the sick and afflicted in accord with His own will. (John 15:7; 1 John 5:14,15; James 5:14,15)

**The Church.** We believe that the Church, which is the body and the espoused bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all born-again persons of this present age. (Ephesians 1:19-23; 5:25-27; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 2 Corinthians 11:2)

We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures. Believers are to be encouraged to unite with a Bible-believing church. (Acts 14:27; 20:17,28-32; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-11)

We believe in the autonomy of the local church free of any external authority or control. (Acts 13:1-4; 15:19-31; 20:28; Romans 16:1,4; 1 Corinthians 3:9,16; 5:4-7,13; 1 Peter 5:1-4)

We recognize the ordinances of believer's water baptism and the Lord's Supper as a Scriptural means of testimony for the Church in this age. (Matthew 28:19,20; Acts 2:41,42; 18:8; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)