

OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Wyatt Family

- **GOD the Father**

We believe...

- ...there is one God in three persons, (the Trinity) God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (John 14:16; Matthew 3:16,17; 28:19,20).
- ...there are levels of subordination in the Godhead. The Son yields to the will of the Father (John 4:34) and the Spirit yields to the Father and the Son (John 14:26). It is a functional arrangement designed to facilitate the operation of the Godhead.
- ...that God always was and always will be (Micah 5:2; Genesis 21:33; Psalms 90:2).
- ...God alone is worthy of our complete love and devotion (Mark 12:30).
- ...God is Spirit (John 4:24).
- ...God is the creator, sustainer and supreme ruler of heaven and earth (Genesis 1:1; Psalms 83:18; Jeremiah 32:17).
- ...God is immutable - unchanging (Malachi 3:6).
- ...God is omniscient - all knowing (Psalms 147:5).
- ...God is omnipresent - everywhere present (Psalms 139:7-12).
- ...God is omnipotent - all powerful (Jeremiah 32:17).
- ...God is holy (Psalms 99:9; I Peter 1:15).
- ...God is love (I John 4:8).

- **JESUS CHRIST**

We believe...

- ...Jesus is "the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16).
- ...Jesus is fully God and fully man (John 1:14).
- ...Jesus was virgin born (Matthew 1:16-25).
- ...Jesus assumed human limitations such as: fatigue (Matthew 8:24), thirst (John 19:28), sorrow (Isaiah 53:3), death (Matthew 27:50), etc...
- ...Jesus lived a perfect sinless life and was therefore the only acceptable sacrifice to atone for man's sins (Matthew 20:28; I Timothy 2:6; II Corinthians 5:21).
- ...that the Gospel is the life changing "good news" that Jesus Christ died, was buried, and physically arose again the third day (I Corinthians 15:3,4).
- ...Jesus sits at the right hand of God the Father as our "advocate" (I John 2:1) and mediator (I Timothy 2:5).
- ...Jesus will be our judge (John 5:22).

- **THE HOLY SPIRIT**

We believe...

- ...the Holy Spirit is the divine third person of the Trinity and as such is coequal with God the Father and the Son (Matthew 28:19).
- ...the Holy Spirit was involved in creation (Genesis 1:2).
- ...the Holy Spirit was involved in inspiration (II Peter 1:20-21).
- ...the Holy Spirit is involved in salvation through conviction of sin (John 16:8) regeneration (John 3:1-8), and assurance of salvation in that He is our "seal" and "earnest" (II Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13,14).
- ...the Holy Spirit helps the believer in sanctification (Romans 8:16; Gal. 5:16-26).
- ...the Holy Spirit was active in the life of Christ, in His virgin birth (Luke 1:35), His life (Luke 4:18), His death (Hebrews 9:14), and His resurrection (I Peter 3:18).
- ...the Holy Spirit came upon certain individuals in the Old Testament to empower them for particular service at a specific time (Judges 13:5).
- ...the Holy Spirit permanently indwells the New Testament believer (I Corinth. 6:19), and teaches (John 16:12-15), guides (Romans 8:14), assures (Romans 8:16) and intercedes (Romans 8:26) for them.

- **THE BIBLE**

We believe...

- ...the Bible was written by men who were literally carried along in their writing by the Holy Spirit (II Peter 1:21).
- ...the Bible was inspired by God, that is, "God breathed" the very words (II Timothy 3:16).
- ...the Bible has no errors (Psalms 119:160) (John 17:17).
- ...the Bible is the supreme or final authority for determining human conduct, creeds, and opinions (II Timothy 3:16).
- ...the Bible is eternal (Psalms 119:89).
- ...the English Bible as well as its inspiration has been preserved down through the years in the form of the King James Version and that the Bible does not merely contain or convey the Word of God, but is the very Word of God (John 5:39).

- **THE CHURCH**

We believe...

- ...the church is the local "ekklesia" or called out assembly.
- ...the church by definition is not universal; however, there is universal unity between those born-again of God's Spirit because all are baptized into the body of Christ (I Cor. 13:13).
- ...the church is a congregation of baptized believers (Acts 2:41).
- ...the church has two Biblical offices, Bishop/Elder/Pastor and Deacons (I Timothy 3).
- ...the church has as its mission a command from Jesus Christ to be "witnesses" beginning "in Jerusalem" and extending "to the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).
This "Great Commission" is clearly defined in Matthew 28:19 & 20.
- ...the church is to administer two ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper (Matthew 28:19,20 & I Corinthians 11:23-34).
- ...the church is to be self-governing (answering only to God) (Matthew 18:15-17).
- ...the church is to be self-supporting (by the tithes and offerings of its members) (I Corinthians 16:1,2 & Malachi 3:10).

- **BAPTISM and THE LORD'S SUPPER**

We believe...

- ...baptism, one of the two ordinances to be carried out by the church, is a beautiful picture of what has taken place in the believer's heart (Rom. 6:4,5; Matthew 28:19).
- ...since baptism is a picture of belief in Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, it must occur after that belief has occurred (Acts 8:36-39).
- ...since baptism is a picture of the death, burial and resurrection, and by the definition of the word itself, the mode of baptism must be immersion (Romans 6:3,4).
- ...baptism is to be carried out by the church in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19).
- ...baptism is the first step in a believer's obedience to Christ, and is a prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and the Lord's Supper (Acts 2:41).
- ...the Lord's Supper, the other ordinance to be carried out by the church, is to be observed as a commemoration of the shed blood and broken body of Christ (I Corinthians 11:23-28).
- ...the Lord's Supper, which uses unleavened bread and the fruit of the vine, is not to be entered into light heartedly, but rather should be preceded by a time of self examination (I Corinthians 11:23-28).

- **SIN**

We believe...

- ...to sin is to "miss the mark" of absolute perfection which is the very character of God (Romans 3:10 & 23).
- ...all men are sinners (Romans 3:23).
- ...sin originates in the heart (Ecclesiastes 9:3; Jeremiah 17:9).
- ...there are sins of omission and sins of commission, both of which can be done willfully or in ignorance.
- ...the only remedy for the sin nature, which is passed from parents to children, is redemption (which brings a new nature) (Psalms 51:5) (Ephesians 1:7).
- ...that there is a severe and tragic penalty for sin; death (Romans 6:23).

SALVATION

We believe...

- ...salvation is God's gracious plan for man to receive deliverance from sin and its resulting judgment (Ephesians 2:8; 3:11).
- ...that God's love is what prompted His actions (I John 4:10).
- ...Jesus Christ is the focal point of salvation.
- ...Jesus Christ was our vicarious substitute, who turned away the wrath of God, through His death and shed blood on the cross, so that we might be set free (Romans 5:6 & 8; I John 1:7; Ephesians 1:7).
- ...that Christ's death and atonement is sufficient for all, but is effective only to those who receive it (Hebrews 2:9; I Timothy 2:6).
- ...faith in Christ is the only "condition" for salvation (Acts 16:31; Ephesians 2:8,9).
- ...that at salvation we receive eternal life which is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8,9; Romans 6:23).
- ...that a true believer is "kept by the power of God" and thus is incapable of losing his/her salvation (I Peter 1:5).

• MAN

We believe...

- ...that by a divine creative act, God formed man out of the dust of the ground and breathed into man the breath of life, thus he became a living soul (Genesis 2:7).
- ...that man was created with dignity and privilege. He was created in the "image" and "likeness" of God (Genesis 1:26,27).
- ...through voluntary transgression, man fell from his sinless and happy state, and now all of mankind are sinners, not by constraint, but of choice (Romans 3:10-19; 5:12).
- ...that man is under just condemnation of physical, spiritual and eternal death, and is without defense or excuse (Romans 6:23; Romans 1:18-20).

• SATAN

We believe...

- ...that Satan, once a beautiful angel, enjoyed heavenly honors (Isaiah 14:12).
- ...through pride and ambition to be like God Himself, Satan fell and drew a host of angels after him (Isaiah 14:13-15; Revelation 12:9).
- ...Satan has been allowed to be the prince and power of the air, the god of this world (Ephesians 2:2).
- ...Satan is the great tempter (Matthew 4:1-3).
- ...Satan is God's enemy.
- ...Satan is the accuser of the saints (Revelation 12:10).
- ...Satan is our adversary and seeks to destroy us (I Peter 5:8).
- ...Satan can be resisted through submission to God (James 4:7).
- ...Satan is destined to final defeat by Jesus Christ and will be condemned to the Lake of Fire for eternity (Revelation 20:10).

• LAKE OF FIRE

We believe...

- ...the lake of fire is a literal place of everlasting fire originally prepared for the devil and his fallen angels (Matthew 25:41).
- ...the lake of fire is a place of everlasting punishment (Matthew 25:46).
- ...the lake of fire is a place of complete darkness and is full of sounds of despair and grief (Matthew 25:30).
- ...whoever has not received Christ as their personal Savior and had their name written in the Book of Life will be cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:15).

• ANGELS

We believe...

- ...the angels as originally created, before the world began (Job 38:6,7), were holy (Jude 6).
- ...angels possess intellect (I Peter 1:12), emotion (Luke 2:13), and will (Jude 6).
- ...angels are often used as God's messengers (Matthew 2:19).
- ...an host of angels followed Satan in his revolt against God (Matthew 25:41; II Peter 2:4).
- ...that because of the revolt there are both good and demonic angels.
- ...the good angels are ministering spirits to believers (Hebrews 1:13,14).
- ...there is an innumerable amount of angels, and there is a sort of angelic hierarchy

(Hebrews 12:22; I Thessalonians 4:16; Jude 9).

- FUTURE EVENTS

We believe...

- ...the second advent of Christ will occur in two increments. The "Rapture" will be the first to occur, with Christ coming in the clouds to catch up all believers both dead and alive, to meet Him in the air (I Thessalonians 4:15-17).
- ...that in between the two increments of Christ's second coming will be a period of seven years known as the Great Tribulation (Revelation 4-19; Daniel 9:27).
- ...in heaven, during the Great Tribulation the Bema judgment (I Corinthians 3:11-15) and the marriage supper of the Lamb will take place (Revelation 19:7).
- ...that at the end of the Great Tribulation the Anti-Christ will assemble a world force that gathers at the plain of Armageddon (Revelation 16:16).
- ...Christ will return to the earth, defeat the Anti-Christ and set up a literal kingdom that will last for one thousand years (Revelation 20:6).
- ...that at the end of the millennium, Satan who had been bound during the preceding one thousand years, will be loosed for a short season to gather an army that he can bring against Christ one last time (Revelation 20:7, 8).
- ...that the army assembled by Satan will be destroyed by fire and Satan will be cast into the Lake of Fire (Revelation 20:9, 10).
- ...immediately following this end time battle that the Great White Throne judgment of all the unsaved will take place (Revelation 20:12-15).
- ...according to Revelation 21:1-6, that upon completion of the White Throne judgment, a new eternal heaven and earth will be unveiled.

Personal separation: "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord and in His law doth he meditate day and night." (Psalms 1:1, 2) "Enter not into the path off the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away." (Proverbs 4:14, 15) "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you," (II Corinthians 6:17)

From these verses it is very clear that God intends for there to be a very noticeable difference between the Christian and the world. The most evident way in which this is to occur is in our actions and appearance. Everything that we are involved in ought to be Christ honoring.

Personal holiness: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, HOLY,..." (Romans 12:1) "For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto HOLINESS" (I Thess. 4:7) "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." (Philippians 4:8) Our very thoughts ought to be Holy, not just our outward actions.

King James Issue : We believe that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is infallible and the final authority in faith and practice, and that God has preserved it for the English-speaking world in the Authorized King James Version.