



REDEEMER

CITY CHURCH

THEOLOGICAL DISTINCTIVES

I. Of the Freeness of Salvation

We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a penitent and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel; which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation. (*Isa. 55:1, Rev. 22:17, Rom. 16:25-26, Mark 1:15, Rom. 1:15-17, John 5:40*)

II. Of God's Purpose of Grace

We believe that Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility. (*2 Tim. 1:8-9; Eph. 1:3-14; 1 Pet. 1:1-2; Rom. 11:5-6; John 15:16; 1 John 4:19*)

III. Of the Perseverance of Saints

We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation. (*John 8:31; 1 John 2:27-28; 1 John 3:9; 1 John 5:18; 1 John 2:19; John 13:18; Matt. 13:20-21; John 6:66-69*)

IV. Of a Gospel Church

We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only scriptural officers are Bishops or Pastors, and Deacons, whose qualifications, claims, and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus. (*1 Cor. 1:1-3; Matt. 18:17; Acts 5:11, 8:1; Acts 11:21-23; 1 Cor. 4:17; 1 Tim. 2:9-14, 3:1-15; Tit. 1:7-9*)

V. Of Baptism

We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, into the name of the Father, and Son, and Holy Spirit; to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, with its effect, in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life. This ordinance is a pre-requisite to the privileges of church membership. (*Matt. 3:13-17; 28:19-20; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3-5; Col. 2:12*)

VI. Of the Lord's Supper

We believe the Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby believers in Christ, through partaking of the bread and the juice, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming. This ordinance is preceded always by solemn self-examination. (*Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; 11:23-29*)

VII. Of the Family

We believe that God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of society. Families are composed of people related to one another by marriage, blood, or adoption. Marriage is the uniting of one man and one woman in covenant commitment for a lifetime. Husband and wife are both made in God's image and have equal value before God; while at the same time possessing distinct roles in the marriage. The husband is to gently lead and sacrificially love his wife as Christ loved the church and the wife is to graciously submit herself to her husband as the church willingly submits to Christ.

We believe that children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and inheritance from the Lord. Parents are to patiently lead their children in the ways of Christ by intentional instruction, gracious discipline, and consistent example based on biblical truth. Children are to honor and obey their parents for the glory of God and their ultimate good. (*Gen 1:26-28; 2:15-25; Deut. 6:4-9; Josh. 24:15; 1 Sam. 1:26-28; Mal. 2:14-16; Matt. 5:31-32; Rom. 1:18-32; Eph. 5:21-33; 1 Tim. 5:8,14; 1 Pet. 3:1-7*)

VIII. Of Civil Government

We believe that Civil Government is of Divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed; except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings of the earth. (*Rom. 13:1-7; Deut. 16:18; 2 Sam. 23:3; Ex. 18:23; Jer. 30:21; Matt. 22:21*)