

*What We Believe*  
**Doctrinal Statement of the Drouin Baptist Church**  
Adopted November 26, 2000

**1. THE SCRIPTURES**

We believe that the Old and New Testaments, being the complete canon of sixty-six books, are God's revelation given through men and directed by the Holy Spirit. These Scriptures as originally given are verbally and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit and stand free from error in any and all parts. They are the final and supreme authority.

*Scripture references:* 1 Corinthians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:16,17; 2 Peter 1:21

**2. THE DOCTRINE OF GOD**

We believe that God is spirit, eternally existing in three persons – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – and these three are of one essence and equal in power and glory, therefore to be honoured and worshipped equally as true God. God is perfect and distinct from His creation. He continues to be intimately involved with His creation and the preserver of it.

*Scripture references:* Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 57:15; Matthew 28:19; John 4:24

**a. THE FATHER**

We believe that God the Father is the author of one eternal plan that includes all things and He is directing this plan to glorify Himself. As Creator of the universe He is Father of the human race and the spiritual Father only of those who receive Jesus Christ by faith.

*Scripture references:* John 1:12; Romans 8:28-30; 1 Corinthians 8:6, 15:24-28; Ephesians 1:3-13

**b. THE SON: JESUS CHRIST**

We believe that Jesus Christ, the Son of God as true God and true man, is eternal. In his incarnation he was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin. Being sinless in nature and action, he voluntarily gave his life in substitutionary death on the cross for our sins and in the same body was raised from the dead. He appeared in his glorified body and he now sits at the right hand of the Father and will come again in accordance with God's future plan.

*Scripture references:* Genesis 3:15; Luke 1:26-35; Matthew 28:6; John 1:1, 14:3; Acts 15:14-16; Hebrews 2:14, 4:15; 1 Peter 2:24

**c. THE HOLY SPIRIT**

We believe the Holy Spirit is a person, possessing all the attributes and personality of God, the third person of the Godhead. He is co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and the Son. He was active in earth's creation, in revelation and in empowering Old Testament individuals to decree God's purpose. His ministry since Pentecost is: to glorify and testify to the Son of God; to convict the world of sin and righteousness and judgment; to regenerate all believers; to baptise them into the Body of Jesus Christ; to seal believers until the day of redemption; to guide them into all truth; and by His indwelling presence, to enable them to live a holy, godly life.

*Scripture references:* Genesis 1:2; 1 Samuel 16:13; John 15:26; Acts 5:3,4; Romans 8:9-16; 1 Corinthians 6:19, 12:11,13; Ephesians 4:30; Titus 3:5

### **3. SATAN**

We believe that Satan was originally a creature of God of the highest order, but through pride he fell and became the arch-enemy of God, and the deceiver of humanity. He was joined in his fall by a great company of angels, some of which assist him in controlling the ungodly world system. Satan opposes God by influencing unbelievers to substitute other revelations and experiences for those divinely given, and by diverting believers' energies into ungodly channels. His power is particularly manifest in occult practices such as demonic control, Satan worship, fortune telling and astrology. Though his powers are supernatural, they are strictly limited under the rule of a sovereign God. He was judged at the cross and therefore his final doom is certain.

*Scripture references:* Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:12-17; Ephesians 2:2; 2 Thessalonians 2:8,9; 1 Timothy 4:1; James 4:7; 1 John 3:8; Revelation 20:7-10.

### **4. CREATION**

We believe in the Genesis record of creation which states that God created the heavens and the earth in six consecutive days, through the mediation of Jesus Christ and the operation of the Holy Spirit. After God created all other creatures He created man; male and female. Man was created in the image of God; spirit, soul and body.

*Scripture references:* Genesis 1-2; Exodus 20:9,11; Colossians 1:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; John 1:1-3

### **5. MAN**

We believe that man was originally sinless and in perfect fellowship with God, but when tempted by Satan, sinned by disobeying God's revealed will. This act of rebellion resulted in separation from God and in physical death. All members of the human race are born in sin and are sinners by nature and practice.

*Scripture references:* Genesis 3:1-24; Romans 3:23, 5:12

### **6. SALVATION**

We believe that salvation is a free gift of God's grace, offered to us on the basis of Christ's substitutionary death for sin on the cross. It is received personally by repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and is in no way obtained or increased by human effort. This salvation contains within itself deliverance from the guilt and penalty of sin, a perfectly righteous standing before God, the provisions for victory over the power of sin, and the promise of future glorification in God's presence.

*Scripture references:* John 3:14-18; Acts 20:21; Romans 6:23; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Ephesians 2:8,9; 1 John 1:9

### **7. THE CHURCH** (Greek 'Ekklesia': meaning a 'called-out' company of people)

#### **a. THE BODY**

We believe that the Church, as established by the Lord Jesus Christ, began at Pentecost, and is composed of all those who by faith have accepted him as Saviour and Lord. All believers are baptised into Christ by the Holy Spirit at conversion and become a part of His spiritual body for his purpose.

Christ is the sole authority and head of the Church; for this reason the Church under his direction, assembles for worship, instruction in the Word, fellowship, prayer, and ministry; as joint heirs in covenant with Christ

As ministers together, we are called to encourage one another to build Christ-centred relationships and to continue the Great commission of Christ to all people regardless of race, creed, gender or age.

*Scripture references:* Matthew 16:18; 28:18-20; Acts 2:41-47; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:3-6, 9-20; 4:4-7; 5:1-7; Hebrews 10:25

#### **b. ORDINANCES**

There are only two ordinances the Lord Jesus Christ commands us to observe:

- i. Believer's baptism, by full immersion after a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus, symbolizing the death, burial and resurrection of the believer with their Saviour;
- ii. The Lord's Supper commemorates the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ. The bread, symbolising his broken body and the wine symbolising his shed blood.

*Scripture references:* Matthew 28:19; Romans 6:4; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Colossians 2:12

#### **c. PRACTICES**

- i. Regarding children, we believe they are precious in God's eyes. Parents should train their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, in the home and in the Church community, therefore we support the presentation of children to God.

*Scripture references:* Deuteronomy 6:1-9; 1 Samuel 1:22; Matthew 19:14; Mark 9:37; 10:14; Luke 18:16

- ii. We believe that we should strive to keep unity and harmony of the Spirit within the body of Christ and always in conformity with the Scriptures.

*Scripture references:* Psalm 133:1-3; Acts 2:41-42, 46-47; Romans 14:1 to 15:7; 1 Corinthians 1:10; Ephesians 4:1-3; Philippians 1:27; 2:1-4; 2 Timothy 1:13,14

### **8. CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY**

We believe that the Christian is to glorify God in personal conduct in relation to his/her family, vocation, neighbour, and government. The responsibility of the Christian is fulfilled by submission to the Lordship of Christ and obeying the Scriptures through the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Scripture references:* Romans 13:1-7; 1 Corinthians 6:19,20; Philippians 2:5-11; Titus 2:11-14; 1 Peter 2:5,9

### **9. SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

We believe that spiritual gifts are divinely given and distributed by the Holy Spirit to every member of the body of Christ. The purpose of these gifts is to glorify God, to proclaim the gospel, and build the church. Gifts are given to enable every believer to share in the ministry of edification and growth of the Church.

The miraculous gifts were used to confirm that the starting events of the Cross, Resurrection and Pentecost were of God, and the purpose of these gifts being signs to confirm the Word. We believe that specific gifts such as speaking in tongues were never the common or necessary sign of conversion, spirituality or the filling of the Spirit, and Christ's atonement does not demand physical healing. The exercise of spiritual gifts must always be consistent with Scripture.

*Scripture references:* Mark 16:20; Acts 4:8, 31; Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians chap's. 12 to 14; Ephesians 4:7-16; 2 Timothy 3:16,17; Hebrews 2:3,4; 1 Peter 4:10,11

## **10. GOD'S PLAN FOR THE FUTURE**

### **a. JESUS CHRIST**

We believe that the return of Christ for his Church is imminent, being the Rapture of the Church. There are seven years of Tribulation. There will be a physical return of Christ. He will defeat all his enemies and establish his kingdom on earth for 1000 years. The fulfillment of all prophecy will be the Great White Throne of Judgment, where all the dead will be judged before Christ and those not found in the Book of Life will be cast into the Lake of Fire to suffer for eternity, while all believers will enjoy the presence of God forever in the new heaven and the new earth.

*Scripture references:* Acts 1:11; Romans 11:25-32; 1 Corinthians 15:22-28; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 6:16

### **b. ISRAEL**

We believe the nation of Israel is God's chosen covenant people, set apart for God's special purposes. God will restore His relationship with Israel, in accordance with Scripture.

*Scripture references:* Genesis 12:1-3; Deuteronomy 26:16-19; 2 Samuel 7:16; Jeremiah 31:31-40; Romans chap's. 9 to 11

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