provided only one means<sup>4</sup> whereby a person can be completely cleansed from his sins. Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh<sup>5</sup> the second member of the triune Godhead, became the sinners substitute.<sup>6</sup> Jesus suffered and died on the cross to bear the penalty for our sins,<sup>7</sup> bearing our sins in His own body on the cross<sup>8</sup> according to the Scriptures and physically rose from the dead.<sup>9</sup> Salvation is obtained by faith alone in the gospel and not of works, and it is the blood of Christ that cleanses us from sin.<sup>10</sup>

 $^{1}$ John 3:18, John 3:36  $^{2}$ Ps. 9:17  $^{3}$ John 3:16  $^{4}$ Acts 4:12  $^{5}$ 1Tim. 3:16  $^{6}$ Isa. 53:6  $^{7}$ Isa. 53:5  $^{8}$ 1Peter 2:24  $^{9}$ 1Cor. 15:1-20  $^{10}$ 1John 1:7

**Satan** - Satan and demons are fallen angels who rebelled against God. They are active in their efforts to cause mankind to rebel against God and work in opposition to God. They plant false Christians among true ones. Satan rules over the unsaved world. He deceives people through lies. Satan's activities are under God's control, and his power was broken by the death and resurrection of Christ. Satan and the demons are to be doomed in the lake of fire. Christians can overcome Satan.

**Christian Living -** Christians are called to a life of separation from sinful practices<sup>1</sup> to live holy lives<sup>2</sup> in order to keep themselves unspotted from the world.<sup>3</sup> Believers are to have good works<sup>4</sup> regularly read their Bibles,<sup>5</sup> pray,<sup>6</sup> and evangelize.<sup>7</sup>

**Church -** The church is the body of Christ<sup>1</sup> and is composed of Jews and Gentiles who have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour.<sup>2</sup> Believers are to be baptized<sup>3</sup> and observe the Lord's supper.<sup>4</sup> The believer should be actively serving the Lord through the Church.<sup>5</sup>

End Times - The personal return of our Lord and Saviour is very near. When Christ returns He will defeat Satan and all those who oppose Him<sup>1</sup> and judge the nations.<sup>2</sup> He will establish His earthly kingdom for 1000 years.<sup>3</sup> At the end of 1000 years Satan will be given one last opportunity to deceive the nations and God will supernaturally defeat Satan.<sup>4</sup> Jesus will judge all unsaved persons and the unsaved along with Satan and the demons will be cast into the lake of fire to receive everlasting punishment and torment.<sup>5</sup> A new earth and heavens will be created and all Christians will dwell with Christ forever.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Rev. 19:20, 20:10 <sup>2</sup>Matt. 25:31-46 <sup>3</sup>Rev. 20:1-6 <sup>4</sup>Rev. 20:7-10 <sup>5</sup>Rev. 20:14.15, Rev. 21:8 <sup>6</sup>Rev. 21:1-27

The Cornerstone Booklet Ministry (Rev 2/11/2000) Copies of this booklet and many others on Biblical answers to contemporary issues are available upon request by writing to the address on the front cover, or via the Internet: <a href="http://greenwichbaptistchurch.org">http://greenwichbaptistchurch.org</a>

# The CORNERSTONE

BIBLICAL ANSWERS TO CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

# BASIC BIBLE TRUTHS



Cornerstone Booklets
PO BOX 52
GREENWICH, NJ 08323

### Why Doctrine is so important

**Saving Faith -** If we are to have our sins forgiven and have eternal life, we must properly believe the gospel because many will believe in vain and still be in their sins. We are to examine ourselves to see if we are in the faith. Many who think they are going to Heaven will be tragically disappointed to find out on judgment day that they were not. 3

<sup>1</sup>1Cor. 15:1-19 <sup>2</sup>2Cor. 13:5 <sup>3</sup>Matt. 7:21-23

**False Teachers -** There are many false prophets and teachers gone out into the world bringing damnable heresies which deny the Lord and many people will follow them.<sup>1</sup> We are not to believe every preacher or teacher but to examine their teaching in light of sound doctrine.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>2Peter 2:1.2 <sup>2</sup>1John 4:1-3

**Christian Living -** The Bible is a light unto our path of life <sup>1</sup> to keep us from sin<sup>2</sup> and Satan's devices.<sup>3</sup> The Bible was written for our example that we might profit from the wrongs of others.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Ps. 119:105 <sup>2</sup>Prov. 2:1-22 <sup>3</sup>2Cor. 2:11 <sup>4</sup>1 Cor. 10:11

#### **BASIC DOCTRINAL TRUTHS**

**Holy Bible -** God is the author of the entire Holy Bible, which was written by holy men, who were inspired by the Holy Spirit<sup>1</sup> so that the original documents are without error of any kind.<sup>2</sup> It's teaching and authority is absolute, supreme, and final in all matters of faith, creeds and human conduct,<sup>3</sup> and God will judge us by the principles revealed to us in the Scriptures.<sup>4</sup> The Holy Scriptures are given to lead us to salvation.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>2Pet. 1:21 <sup>2</sup>Prov. 30:5,6 <sup>3</sup>Phil 3:16 <sup>4</sup>Rom 2:12, 3:19 <sup>5</sup>2Tim 3:15

**God** - There is one true God¹ who exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.² God has created all things,³ rules over the whole creation⁴and sustains all that exists.⁵ He is worthy of all worship, honor, and obedience.⁶

 $^{1} \mbox{Deut.}$  6:4  $\,^{2} \mbox{Matt.}$  28:19  $\,^{3} \mbox{Gen.}$  1:17  $\,^{4} \mbox{Ps.}$  115:3, Daniel 4:35  $\,^{5} \mbox{Job}$  38  $\,^{6} \mbox{Mark}$  12:30

## **Jesus Christ**

**His Humanity -** Jesus was born of a virgin. He had a human body and grew normally, physically and mentally. He experienced hunger, thirst, weariness, and emotions. He was tempted in all human ways, yet He never sinned.

**His deity -** The Bible clearly declares Jesus to be God.<sup>1</sup> Jesus said He was God.<sup>2</sup> He created and sustains all things.<sup>3</sup> He is eternal, <sup>4</sup> omnipotent,<sup>5</sup> and omniscient.<sup>6</sup> He is able to do things only God is able to do: give life,<sup>7</sup> forgive sins,<sup>8</sup> raise the dead,<sup>9</sup> and execute judgment.<sup>10</sup> He is to be worshipped as God.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>1</sup>John. 1:1, Rom. 9:5, 1Tim. 3:16, Titus 2:13, Heb. 1:8 <sup>2</sup>John 10:30-33 <sup>3</sup>Col. 1:17 <sup>4</sup>John 8:58 <sup>5</sup>Rev. 1:8 <sup>6</sup>John 16:30 <sup>7</sup>John 5:21 <sup>8</sup>Mark 2:1-12 <sup>9</sup>John 6:39,40,54; 11:38-44 <sup>10</sup>John 5:27,22 <sup>11</sup>John 5:23, Phil. 2:9-11

**Holy Spirit** - The Holy Spirit is the third person of the triune God, co-equal with the Father and the Son. <sup>1</sup> He participated in the creation, <sup>2</sup> brings conviction to sinners, <sup>3</sup> baptizes believers into the church, <sup>4</sup> hinders evil in the world, <sup>5</sup> and guides us into all truth. <sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Matt. 28:19, Acts 5:3,4, 2Cor. 13:14 <sup>2</sup>Gen. 1:2 <sup>3</sup>John 16:8-11 <sup>4</sup>1Cor. 12:13 <sup>5</sup>2Thess. 2:7-12 <sup>6</sup>1John 2:20-27

**Man -** Man is created in the image and likeness of God¹ to have fellowship with God² and to know Him personally through the revelation of God internally³ and externally⁴ and man is to have dominion over the earth.⁵ God continues His creative process through human reproduction and He personally designs each of us in the womb and determines the days of our life.⁶ Man is an eternal being possessing a body, soul and spirit.⁶ Man is a moral being knowing right and wrong with God's laws written in his heart and his conscience bearing witness.⁶ God has complete knowledge of every thought, word, and deed,⁶ and all must give an account of themselves to their Creator on judgment day.¹¹0

<sup>1</sup>Gen. 1:26 <sup>2</sup>Gen. 3:8 <sup>3</sup>Rom. 1:21 <sup>4</sup>Ps. 19:1-6, Rom. 1:19,20 <sup>5</sup>Gen. 1:28 <sup>6</sup>Ps. 139:13-18 <sup>7</sup>1Thess 5:23 <sup>8</sup>Rom. 2:14,15 <sup>9</sup>Ps. 139:1-12 <sup>10</sup>Heb. 9:27

**Fall of Man -** God created Adam and Eve in innocence, however they deliberately chose to disobey God and sin against their creator. Man's moral nature was grievously injured, but he totally lost all spiritual life and is now spiritually dead in trespasses and sins and subject to the power of the devil. Man now finds himself born a sinner and he must be born again in order to have the forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life. Man is unable by works of any kind to reconcile himself to God.

<sup>1</sup>Gen 2:17, 3:17 <sup>2</sup>Jer. 17:9, Mk. 7:21 <sup>3</sup>Eph. 2:1 <sup>4</sup>Rom. 8:7,8 <sup>5</sup>Rom. 3:10-23 <sup>6</sup>John 3:1-19 <sup>7</sup>Eph. 2:8,9

#### Life After Death

**Saved -** The souls of those who have believed on Christ for salvation <sup>1</sup> do at death immediately go to Heaven<sup>2</sup> and remain in a conscious state of happiness awaiting the resurrection of their body at the coming of the Lord, <sup>3</sup> judgment, <sup>4</sup> and eternal reward. <sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Acts 16:31 <sup>2</sup>2Cor. 5:8 <sup>3</sup>1Cor. 15:51-54 <sup>4</sup>Rom. 14:10-12 <sup>5</sup>Matt. 16:27

**Unsaved -** The souls of those who have died in their sins<sup>1</sup> because they refused to believe on Christ for salvation shall upon death immediately go to Hell and remain in a conscious state of torment<sup>2</sup> until the day of resurrection of their bodies when they shall stand in judgment<sup>3</sup> before Christ at the great white throne. Thereafter, they shall be cast into the lake of fire which is the second death<sup>4</sup> to be punished with everlasting punishment and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.<sup>5</sup>

John 8:24 <sup>2</sup>Luke 16:23-24 <sup>3</sup>Rev. 20:11-15 <sup>4</sup>Rev. 21:8 <sup>5</sup>Rev. 14:9- 11

**Salvation -** Man in his sins stands under the wrath and condemnation of God<sup>1</sup> and faces eternal punishment in Hell.<sup>2</sup> God in His great love and mercy for the world<sup>3</sup>