

# THOMAS ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH - DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

## CONCERNING THE SCRIPTURES

We believe that the Bible, sixty-six books in the Old and New Testaments, is without error in its original writing (1), its author was God (2), using Spirit-guided men (3), being thereby verbally and plenary inspired (4), it is the sole authority for faith and practice (5).

Some places where taught: (1) Provo 30:5,6; John 17:17; Rev. 22:18,19. (2) II Peter 1:19-21; Acts 3:21; Jude 3; Heb. 1:1-3. (3) 11 Peter 1:19-21; 11 Sam. 23:2; Acts 1:16; 1 Cor. 2:13,14. (4) II Tim. 3:16; Matt. 5:18; Gal. 3:16. (5) 11 Tim. 3:15 Rom. 1:16; 1 Cor. 10:6-12; Eph. 6:17; 1 Tim. 5:18; 11 Tim. 3:17; 11 Peter 3:15,16; John 10:35; Acts 17:11; 1 John 4:1.

## CONCERNING THE TRUE GOD

We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God (1), an infinite, eternal, self existing, perfect Spirit (2); He is a personal Being, the creator and upholder of the universe (3); in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (4), equal in: essence and in very perfection (5), but having distinct work (6).

Some places where taught: (1) Deut. 6:4,5; Jer. 10:10. (2) John 4:24; James 1:17; Hab. 1:12. (3) Heb. 3:4; Ps. 139:1-16. (4) Matt. 28:19; Matt. 3:16,17; 11 Cor. 13:14; Ps. 2:2; Isa. 48:16 (ASV); Isa. 63:10. (5) John 10:30; John 17:5; Phil. 2:5,6; 1 Cor. 8:6. (6) John 3:16; John 15:16.

## CONCERNING CREATION

We believe in the Genesis account of creation and that it is to be accepted literally and not figuratively (1); that the six days of creation in Genesis chapter one were solar, and that is twenty-four hour, days (2); that all animal and vegetable life was made directly and God's established law is that they bring forth only "after their kind" (3); that man was created directly in God's own image and after His own likeness and did not evolve from any lower form of life (4).

Some places where taught: (1) Gen. 1:1-2:25; Heb. 11:3; John, 3; Col. 1:16,17; Ps. 33:6-9; Neh. 9:6; Rev. 4:11. (2) Ex. 20:11; 31:17. (3) Gen. 1:11,12,21,24,25. (4) Gen 1:26.

## CONCERNING THE FALL OF MAN

We believe that man, although created without sin (1) by one transgression fell (2), so that all mankind are now sinners by state, disposition, and act (3), justly under condemnation.

Some places taught; (1) Gen. 1:27,31; Eccl. 7:29; Gen. 2:16,17. (2) Gen. 3:6,7; Rom. 5:12,19. (3) Eph. 2:2,3; Isa. 53:6; Ps. 51:5; Rom. 3:9-18,23; Rom 5:15,19; Rom. 8:7; John 3:6; Gal. 3:22; John 3:1B; Ezek. 18:20; Rom. 1:20,32; 2:11,6; 3:19; Gal. 3:10; James 2:10.

## CONCERNING THE WAY OF SALVATION

We believe that the only way of salvation for sinners is by grace (1) made possible by the substitutionary death of the Son of God (2), Who, though eternally God (3), was born of the virgin Mary (4), assumed human nature, yet without sin, and lived a perfect, sinless life (5) shed His precious blood on the cross (6), arose bodily from the grave (7), and ascended to reign on high (8).

Some places where taught: (1) Eph. 2:8; I John 4:10; Acts 15:11; John 14:6; Acts 4:12. (2) John 3:16; Isa. 53:4,5, Matt. 18:11; Heb. 2:9,14; Matt. 20:28; Rom. 3:25,26; 1 Cor.15:3; Heb.9:14,15; 11 Cor. 5:14,15. (3) John 8:58; Phil. 2:6,7; John 1:1,14; John 17:5. (4) Matt.1:20-25; Luke 1:30-35; Isa. 7:14; Gal. 4:4,5 (5) 11 Cor.5:21; Heb.5:8,9; Phil. 2:8. (6) Eph.1:7; 1 Peter 1:19 (7) Matt. 28:110; Mark 16:6; Luke 24:6,7; John 20:9; Rom 4:25; 1 Cor.15:4-8. (8) Acts 1:9; Heb. 7:25; Heb. 4:14; Heb.1:3; Heb. 8:1; Heb. 7:25; Rom. 8:34.

## CONCERNING THE LOCAL CHURCH

We believe that a local, visible church (1) is a congregation of baptized believers (2) associated together by a common faith and fellowship in the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ (3) and governed by His Word (4); seeking to extend the Gospel to the ends of the earth; 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 (5).

Some places where taught: (1) Matt.18:17;Acts5:11 ;Acts8:1;. (2) Acts 2:41,42. (3) Matt. 28:19,20; 1 Cor.11:23,24; Heb.10:25. (4) II Tim.3:15,16. (5) I Tim.3:1-16; Titus 1 :5-9.

## CONCERNING BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

We believe that both Christian baptism and the Lord's Supper are each a memorial, a symbol and a prophecy (1). We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer (2), in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost (3), to show forth, in a solemn and beautiful figure, our faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Savior, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life (4), that it is a prerequisite to the privileges of church membership; and a prerequisite to the Lord's Supper (5); in which the members of the Church by the use of bread and fruit of the vine commemorate together the death of Christ (6); preceded always by a solemn self-examination (7),

Some places where taught: (1) Rom, 6:3,4; I Peter 3:21, (2) Acts8:36-39; John 3:22,23; 4:1,2; Matt, 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 8:12; 16:32-34; 18:8, (3) Matt.28:19, (4) Rom,6:4;Col.2:12;1 Peter3:20,21 ;Acts22:16, (5) Acts 2:41,42; Matt, 28:19,20, (6) 1 Cor.11 :26; Matt. 26:26-29, (7) 1 Cor. 11 :28; 5:1; 8; 11:17-32.

## CONCERNING CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society (1); and that civil authorities are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed (2); except only in the things opposed by the Word of God, which reveals the will of our Lord Jesus Christ (3), Who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings of the earth (4); and that church and state should be separate, the state owing the church protection and full freedom; no ecclesiastical group or denomination should be preferred above another by the state (6); the state should not impose taxes for the support of any form of religion; a free church in a free state is the Christian ideal.

Some places where taught: (1) Rom, 13:1-7, (2) Matt, 22:21 ;Titus 3:1; I Peter 2:13,14; ITim.2:1-3, (3) Acts5:29;Acts4:18-20, (4) Matt.23:1 0;Ps.72:11; Ps. 2; Rom,14:9-13, (5) 1 Tim. 2:1,2, (6) James 4:12, (7) Matt.22:21.

## CONCERNING FUTURE EVENTS

We believe the Scriptures teach that at death the spirit and soul of the believer pass instantly into the presence of Christ and remain in conscious joy until the resurrection of the body when Christ (1 ) comes for His own (2); the blessed hope of the believer is the imminent, personal, pre-tribulational, premillennial appearance of Christ to rapture the church (3), His bride; His righteous judgements will then be poured out on an unbelieving world during the Tribulation (the seventieth week of Daniel), the last half of which is the Great Tribulation (4); the climax of this fearful era will be the physical return of Jesus Christ to the earth in great glory to introduce the David's kingdom (5); Israel will be saved and restored as a nation (6); Satan will be bound and the curse will be lifted from the physical creation (7); following the Millennium, the Great White Throne judgement will occur, at which time the bodies and souls of the wicked shall be reunited and cast into the Lake of Fire (8),

Some places where taught: (1) II Cor. 5:8. (2) I Cor. 15:51-57. (3) Titus 2:13; 1 Thess.4:14-17. (4) Matt.24:21. (5) Rev.19:11-16. (6) Rom.11 :26,27. (7) Rev. 20:2,3. (8) Rev. 20:11-15.

## CONCERNING MISSIONS AND MISSIONARIES

We believe that all men everywhere are lost and condemned and that the command to go and preach the Gospel to the world is clear and unmistakable and this commission was given to the churches. Following New Testament precedent and example, we believe that all missionary endeavors should be under the ultimate sponsorship of the local congregation which may utilize the facilities and services of mission boards, but that no mission board should ever misconstrue its purpose to attempt to hold or to assign authority to itself.

Some places where taught: Matt. 9:37-38; Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 16:15- 16; Acts 13:2-14; Acts 14:27; Acts 15:3-4; 111 John 6; Luke 24:47; John 20:21; Acts 1:8; Rev. 21:24.