

**AN OUTLINE OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE**  
**BY**  
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**I. Doctrine of Revelation.**

**A. General Revelation - information about God which is commonly available to all men.**

1. External witness in nature testifies to:
  - a.) God's existence - Rom. 1:18-20; Acts 14:16,17.
  - b.) His glory - Ps. 19:1-4.
  - c.) His eternal power - Rom. 1:20.
  - d.) His divine nature - Rom. 1:20.
  - e.) Him as Creator - Ps. 19:1.
  - f.) His beneficent character - Acts 14:17; Mt. 5:43-45; Gen. 2:9.
2. Inner witness in man's heart.
  - a.) Moral law upon the heart - Rom. 2:12-16.
  - b.) An inner awareness of eternity - Ecc. 3:11.
  - c.) An inner longing for knowledge of God - Acts 17:27.
3. Is limited - Rom. 2:12; 10:14,15.
  - a.) Because of ignorance, i.e., information drawn from G.R. is not explicit enough - Acts 17:23,30.
  - b.) Because men choose to suppress the truth - Rom. 1:18-20, Jn. 3:18-20.
  - c.) Because sin darkens the ability to understand - Rom. 1:21-23; Eph. 4:17-19.
  - d.) Because man is blinded by spiritual forces - II Cor. 4:3,4; II Tim. 2:24-26.

**B. Special Revelation - information given directly by God to men which could not otherwise be discerned through general revelation alone. Dt. 29:29.**

1. Communicated in a variety of ways from ancient times - Heb. 1:1.
  - a.) Through spoken words, e.g., Gen. 3:8f.; Ex. 20; Num. 7:89.
  - b.) Through visions and dreams, e.g., Gen. 15:1; Dan. 8:1f.; Mt. 1:20f.
  - c.) Through written words, e.g., Ex. 31:18; 34:1; Dan. 5:1f.
  - d.) Through uniquely inspired prophets - II Pet. 1:19-21; Heb. 1:1.
  - e.) Through providential intervention in history, e.g., Dt. 8:2-5; 28; I Sam. 6:1-18.
  - f.) Through miraculous intervention in history, e.g., II Kg. 5:1-19; Dan. 3.
  - g.) Ultimately, and most perfectly, through His Son, Jesus of Nazareth - Heb. 1:1-3; Jn. 1:14,18; 14:7-11.
2. This special revelation was progressive in nature - Eph. 3:4-6; I Pet. 1:10-12.
3. God has provided a uniquely ordained written record of special revelation.
  - a.) Which consists of the 66 books of the Bible.
  - b.) Which is uniquely inspired, or "breathed", by God - II Tim. 3:16.
    - i. Plenary - This inspiration extends to all parts of the Bible - "all Scripture" (II Tim. 3:16).
    - ii. Verbal - The nature of this inspiration extended to the very choice of the words and letters involved. Mt. 5:17-19;

24:35; I Cor. 4:6; Rev. 22:18,19.

iii. Inerrant - The direction of the Holy Spirit in inspiring the authors kept them from any human errors, guaranteeing accuracy and trustworthiness throughout. I Pet. 1:19-21; Jn. 10:35; 17:17; Rom. 3:2-4.

c.) Which remains continually relevant and unchanging. Mt. 24:35; Isa. 40:8; Ps. 119:89,160.

d.) This record is uniquely profitable - II Tim. 3:14-17.

i. To give us wisdom leading to salvation - II Tim. 3:14,15; I Pet. 1:23-25.

ii. To teach us truth, i.e., what to believe about God, ultimate reality, His moral will, and His redemptive plan for mankind - II Tim. 3:16,17; Jn. 17:17; Ps. 119:160.

iii. To make known to us specific promises which God has offered to His people - II Pet. 1:2-4.

iv. To lead us toward discovering the privileges of our inheritance - Acts 20:32.

v. To edify us - Acts 20:32.

vi. To equip us for ministry - II Tim. 3:17.

vii. To serve as a test for truth - I Cor. 4:6; Isa. 8:20; cf. I Thess. 5:21; Acts 17:11.

viii. To encourage us - Rom. 15:4.

ix. To give us discernment of good and evil - Heb. 5:11-14.

x. To give us guidance in following God's will - Ps. 119:105.

## II. Doctrine of God.

A. Definition - "God is the Supreme Personal Spirit; perfect in all His attributes; who is the source, support, and end of the universe; who guides it according to the wise, righteous, and loving purpose revealed in Jesus Christ; who indwells all things by His Holy Spirit, seeking ever to transform them according to His own will and bring them to the goal of His kingdom." E. Y. Mullins, The Christian Religion in Its Doctrinal Expression [Judson Press: Valley Forge, 1974 Ed.], Pg. 214,215.

### B. His Essential Nature

1. Spirit - Jn. 4:24.

2. Personal - Jn. 17:1-3.

3. Unique - only and incomparable. Isa. 43:10-13; 44:6-8; 45:18,21,22; 46:9,10.

4. Triune.

a.) Definition: "Three-in-oneness"

Within the one divine being there are three personages. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who, although they share the same indivisible essence, are nevertheless revealed to be discernibly distinct in their functions, roles, and relations, both within the Godhead itself and with respect to the created order. This remains a divine mystery, being beyond our comprehension while also being clearly revealed, that these three persons do indeed co-exist simultaneously, yet together make up the one true God.

b.) Evidence for the trinity.

i. There are three distinct personages identified as God.

aa. Father

[1.] Is a person

aaa. With intelligence - Mt. 6:8,18;  
Lk. 24:49; Jn. 12:50.

bbb. With a will - Mt. 5:45; 6:14,15; 7:11;  
20:23; 26:53; Jn. 6:38-40.

ccc. With emotions - Jn. 3:35; 5:20;  
14:21,23; II Cor. 1:3,4.

[2.] Is identified as God - Jn. 8:54; 20:17.

bb. Son [Word] - Heb. 1:8; Jn. 1:1.

[1.] Is a person

aaa. With intelligence - Jn. 10:14; 13:1.

bbb. With a will - Mt. 11:27; 26:39

ccc. With emotions - Jn. 11:33-36; 13:1;  
Mt. 26:38.

[2.] Is identified as God - Jn. 1:1,14; 20:28;  
Heb. 1:8; Tit. 2:13,14.

cc. Holy Spirit

[1.] Is a person

aaa. With intelligence - Jn 16:13; Acts 15:28;  
Rom. 8:26,27.

bbb. With a will - Acts 13:2-4; 16:6,7.

ccc. With emotions - Eph. 4:30; Heb. 10:29

[2.] Is identified as God - Acts 5:3,4.

ii. The three persons are numerically one in essence.

aa. Scripture reveals that there is only one God -

Deut. 6:4; Isa. 43:10-13; 44:6-8; 45:18,21,22;  
46:8-10.

[1.] Yet, this same word, "one" [echad in Heb.]

in Dt. 6:4, can mean a composite unity, not  
necessarily an absolute unity. E.g., the "one  
flesh" union comprised of a husband and  
wife in Gen. 2:24.

[2.] Yet, God uses the first person plural pronoun,  
"us" and "our", for describing His action in  
the creation of man [Gen. 1:26], his  
expulsion from the garden [Gen. 3:22-24],  
and at the confusion of tongues  
[Gen. 11:5-9].

bb. The three persons seem to share a common essence -  
Jn. 1:1; 10:30; 15:26.

cc. They are united together under a common name -  
Mt. 28:19.

iii. The three persons differ in roles and in function.

- aa. Father - Source; originator, and superintendent of the Divine will - I Cor. 8:6; Ps. 2:7-9; Eph. 1:3-6.
- bb. Son - Agent through which the Divine will is expressed revealed; and accomplished - Jn. 1:1-3,14-18; Col. 1:15,16; Heb. 1:1,2; Rom. 3:24; Eph. 1:5.
- cc. Spirit - Makes known and performs the Divine will - Jn. 14:16,26; 15:26; 16:13-15; Ps. 104:30.
- iv. The three persons simultaneously present or working together.
  - aa. In creation - I Cor. 8:6; Gen. 1:2; Ps. 104:30.
  - bb. In the coming of Jesus in flesh - Jn. 8:42; Phil. 2:6-8; Lk. 1:34,35.
  - cc. At Jesus' baptism - Lk. 3:21,22.
  - dd. In the work of redemption - Heb. 9:14.
  - ee. In Jesus' resurrection - Acts 2:32,36; Jn. 10:17,18; Rom. 1:4.
  - ff. In the sending of the Holy Spirit - Acts 2:33; Jn. 14:16,26; 16:7.
  - gg. In the indwelling of the believer - Jn. 14:16,17,23.
  - hh. In the blessing of benediction - II Cor. 13:14.

C. Natural Attributes - characteristics of God's nature.

1. Self-existent - Jn. 5:26; Ex. 3:14,15.
2. Eternal - Ps. 90:2; Dt. 33:27.
3. Infinite - I Kg. 8:27; Isa. 66:1,2.
4. Immutable - Num. 23:19; Mal. 3:6; Jas. 1:7.
5. Immortal - I Tim. 6:15,16.
6. Omniscient - Heb. 4:13; I Jn. 3:20; Isa. 48:3-5.
7. Omnipotent - Jer. 32:17,27; Mt. 19:26; Ps. 135:6; Gen. 28:3.
8. Omnipresent - Ps. 139:7-12; Acts 17:27; 28.
9. Inscrutable - Isa. 40:28; 55:8,9; Rom. 11:33.
10. Sovereign - Isa. 46:9,10; Ps. 33:10,11; Eph. 1:11; I Tim. 6:15.

D. Moral Attributes - descriptions of God's character.

1. Holy - Isa. 6:3; Ps. 22:3; Rev. 4:8.
2. Righteous - Ps. 11:4-7; 145:17; Rom. 3:23-26.
3. Loving - I Jn. 4:8,9; Rom. 5:8; Ex. 34:6; Mic. 7:18-20.
4. Gracious - Tit. 2:11ff.; Eph. 2:7-9; Ex. 34:6.
5. Merciful - II Cor. 1:3; Lam. 3:22,23; Ex. 34:6.
6. Truthful - Heb. 6:18; Num. 23:19; Ex. 34:6.
7. Good - Ps. 5:5,6; 31:19; 145:9; Nah. 1:7; Job 34:10; Jas. 1:13.
8. Impartial - Rom. 2:11; I Pet. 1:17; Acts 10:34.
9. Just - Ps. 89:14; Ex. 34:6; Dt. 32:4.
10. Faithful - Ps. 33:4; 36:5; 89:8; Lam. 3:22,23.

E. God the Father, First Person of the Trinity.

1. Fatherhood of the First Person
  - a.) Father of all creation - I Cor. 8:6.
  - b.) Father of all men - Mal. 2:10; Acts 17:29.

- c.) Father of Israel - Ex. 4:22; Jer. 31:9.
- d.) Father of Christians - Jn. 1:12,13; Gal. 4:4-7.
- e.) Father of Christ - II Cor. 11:31; Jn. 1:14,18; 5:17-26; 8:54; 17:1ff; 20:17.

## 2. Place of the First Person

- a.) Exalted in Heavenly glory - Isa. 6; Ezk. 1:10; Dan. 7:9,10; Rev. 4:5.
- b.) Ruler over all other authorities or powers - Eph. 1:15b-23.
- c.) In relation to the Son:
  - i. Previous to incarnation, shared His glory with the Son - Phil. 2:6; Jn. 17:5,10,24.
  - ii. Currently, not only shares His glory, but works to:
    - aa. Subject all things to Jesus - Eph. 1:9,10,20-22; Acts 2:32-36; Heb. 10:12,13.
    - bb. Magnify Jesus - Phil. 1:9-11; Heb. 2:9.
  - iii. In the future, Jesus will subject Himself to the Father - I Cor. 15:22-28.
- d.) In relation to the Holy Spirit.
  - i. H.S. proceeds from the Father - Jn. 15:26.
  - ii. The Spirit's indwelling of believers was the promise of the Father - Lk. 24:49; Acts 1:4,5.
  - iii. The Holy Spirit reveals the things of God the Father - I Cor. 2:10,11; Jn. 16:13-15.

## 3. Works of the First Person.

- a.) Ultimate source of creation - I Cor. 8:6.
- b.) Ultimate revealer of His redemptive plan to men - Heb. 1:1,2.
- c.) Ultimate provider of all spiritual blessings - Eph. 1:3.
- d.) Predetermined the content of our salvation heritage - Eph. 1:4-12.
- e.) Giver of spiritual insight - Eph. 1:17f.; II Tim. 2:24-26.
- f.) Sent Jesus on His redemptive mission - Jn. 5:23; 7:28,29; 8:42.
- g.) Indwelt Jesus - Jn. 14:9,10.
  - i. To lead Him in His ministry - Jn. 5:19,30,36; 7:16,17; 8:28,29.
  - ii. To empower Him for ministry - Jn. 14:9,10; Acts 2:22; 10:38.
- h.) Sent the Holy Spirit - Jn. 14:16,26; 16:26,27; Acts 2:33.
- i.) Indwells the believer - Jn. 14:23.
- j.) Determines and prepares works for us - Eph. 2:10.
- k.) Comforts believers in their afflictions - II Cor. 1:3.

## F. Doctrine of Christ, Second Person of the Trinity.

### 1. His Humanity - I Tim. 2:5.

- a.) He came in human flesh - Jn. 1:1-14; Heb. 2:9-18; Rom. 8:3; I Jn. 4:2,3.
  - i. Having existed prior to His incarnation from eternity past - Jn. 1:1-3,15; 8:58; 17:5; Phil. 2:5-7; Isa. 9:6; Mic. 5:2.
  - ii. Being born of a woman - Mt. 1:18; Lk. 2:1-7; Gal. 4:4.
    - aa. Who remained a virgin until after His birth - Mt. 1:22-25; Lk. 1:26,27.
    - bb. In fulfillment of O.T. prophecy - Isa. 7:14; Mt. 1:18-23;

- cf. Gen. 3:15.
    - iii. As a physical descendant of David - Lk. 1:31,32,69; 3:29-31; Mt. 1:1; cf. Mt. 22:41-46; II Sam. 7; Jer. 23:5,6.
  - b.) He experienced a process of growth physically, mentally, and spiritually - Lk. 2:40,52.
  - c.) He experienced human needs and limitations:
    - i. Love - Jn. 15:9.
    - ii. Sympathy - Jn. 11:35.
    - iii. Sorrow - Isa. 53:3
    - iv. Grief - Isa. 53:3; Mk. 3:5.
    - v. Compassion - Mk. 6:34.
    - vi. Apprehension - Jn. 12:27.
    - vii. Anger - Mk. 3:5.
  - e.) He was tempted in all ways that other men are - Heb. 2:15, 4:15.
  - f.) He experienced death - Jn. 19:30; Lk. 23:46; Heb. 2:9.
  - g.) He was necessarily like us in all respects - Heb. 2:17.
- 2. His Deity
  - a.) Direct claims to Deity:
    - i. By Jesus Himself - Jn. 5:17,18; 8:53-59; 10:24-33.
    - ii. By N.T. writers - Jn. 1:1; Col. 2:9; Phil. 2:6; Titus 2:13; II Pet. 1:1; Rom. 9:5.
  - b.) Attested by O.T. prophecy - Jn. 5:39; Lk. 24:27,44; e.g., Isa. 7:14; 9:6; Mic. 5:2-5; Mt. 1:18-23.
  - c.) Attested by the Father - Heb. 1:8; Jn. 5:36,37; 8:17,18.
  - d.) Attested by evil spirits - Mk. 1:24; 3:11.
  - e.) Attested by His right to receive worship - Lk. 4:8; cf. Heb. 1:6; Phil. 2:10-11; Jn. 5:23; 20:26; Rev. 5:6-14; 7:9-17.
  - f.) Attested by His resurrection from the dead - Rom. 1:4; Acts 2:32-36.
  - g.) He possesses Divine attributes.
    - i. Eternal - Jn. 8:58; 17:5; Col. 1:7; Heb. 1:10-12.
    - ii. Immutable - Heb. 13:8.
    - iii. Omnipotent - Mt. 28:18.
    - iv. Omnipresent - Mt. 18:20; 28:20; Jn. 14:23.
    - v. Omniscient - Jn. 21:17; Col. 2:3.
  - h.) He performs Divine works:
    - i. Creator - Jn. 1:3; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:2.
    - ii. Sustainer - Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3.
    - iii. Able to forgive sin - Lk. 7:48,49.
    - iv. One who raises the dead - Jn. 6:39.
    - v. The judge of all men - II Tim. 4:1; Jn. 5:22; Acts 17:31.
  - i.) He shares Divine titles.
    - i. First and last - Isa. 41:4; 44:6; 48:12; cf. Rev. 1:17; 22:13.
    - ii. Alpha and Omega - Rev. 1:8; cf. Rev. 22:13.
    - iii. Shepherd (of God's people) - Ps. 23; 78:52,53; Ezk. 34: cf. Jn. 10:11-16.
    - iv. Savior - Ps. 106:21; Isa. 43:3,11; 45:15,21,22; cf. II Pet. 2:20;

II Tim. 1:10.

v. Lord - Dan. 9:3,4; Mic. 4:13; Zech. 4:14; 6:5; cf. Jn. 13:13; Acts 10:36; Rom. 10:9; Phil. 2:9-11.

vi. Lord [Yahweh] - Note: in the following passage, a quotation from the O.T. where the name, Yahweh, was used in the Hebrew original is attributed to Jesus, thus identifying Him with Yahweh. Rom. 10:9-13 (Joel 2:32); cf. Jn. 8:58 (Ex. 3:14,15).

vii. Lord of lords - Dt. 10:17; Ps. 136:1-3; I Tim. 6:13-16; Rev. 17:14; 19:16.

### 3. The Work of Jesus Christ:

a.) To reveal the Father - Jn. 1:14:18; 12:45; 14:9; Mt. 11:27.

b.) To glorify the Father on earth - Jn. 14:13; 17:4.

c.) To be the promised Messiah.

i. Claimed by Jesus - Jn. 4:25,26; Mk. 14:61,62.

ii. Confirmed by miracles - Mt. 11:2-5; Jn. 20:30,31.

d.) To do God's will - Jn. 6:38.

e.) To save sinners - Lk. 19:10.

f.) To bring in everlasting righteousness - Dan. 9:24.

g.) To destroy Satan's works - Heb. 2:14; I Jn. 3:8.

h.) To fulfill Old Testament - Mt. 5:17; Rom. 3:31; 15:8.

i.) To mediate a New Covenant - Heb. 7:22; 8:6; 9:15,16.

j.) As a redemptive payment - Rom. 3:24; Col. 1:14.

k.) As a propitiation - Rom. 3:25; I Jn. 2:2.

l.) As a substitute - I Pet. 2:24; 3:6; Isa. 53:4-6.

m.) As our Corporate Head - Rom. 5:12-21; 6:1-11; 7:4; Col. 2:11-13.

i. To free us from the power of sin - Rom. 6:1-11.

ii. To free us from obligation to the Law - Rom. 7:1-6; Gal. 2:19,20.

iii. To free us from bondage to the fleshly nature - Col. 2:11; Gal. 5:24.

iv. To free us from the domination of evil spiritual forces - Col. 2:11; Heb. 2:9,14,15.

n.) In His resurrection.

i. Prophesied by Jesus - Mk. 8:31; 9:9; 10:32-34.

ii. Historical occurrence - I Cor. 15; Jn. 20-21; Luke 24; Mk. 16; Matt. 28.

iii. Sign of His victory over sin, death, and Satan - Acts 2:24; Col. 2:12-15; cf. Heb. 2:9,14,15.

iv. Basis of our justification - Rom. 4:25.

v. Basis of new life - Rom. 6:4; 7:4-6.

vi. Essential to Christian message and faith - I. Cor. 15:1-19; Rom. 10:9.

o.) Ascension into Heaven - Acts 1:9-11.

i. Prophesied

aa. In the O.T. - Ps. 68:18; cf. Eph. 4:8-10.

- bb. By Christ - Jn. 6:62; 8:21-24; 14:1-3,28,29; 16:5-20; 17:13; 20:17; Mt. 26:62.
    - ii. Historical event - Acts 1:9-11; Rom. 8:34.
    - iii. Sign of His victory and finished work over sin, death, and Satan - Acts 5:30,31; Heb. 1:2; 10:10-13; I Pet. 3:22.
    - iv. To send the Holy Spirit - Jn. 16:7; Acts 2:33.
    - v. To be our High Priest - Heb. 6:19,20; 7:26.
  - p.) Present Work:
    - i. Prepare a place for His followers - Jn. 14:2.
    - ii. Is our High Priest - Heb. 2:17; 4:14-16.
      - aa. He is our mediator before God - I Tim. 2:5; Jn. 14:6; Heb. 8:6; 12:24.
      - bb. He intercedes for believers - Heb. 9:11,24; I Jn. 2:2; Rom. 8:34.
    - iii. Head of the Church - Eph. 1:22,23; Col. 1:17,18.
    - iv. Exalted in victory over all earthly and spiritual powers - I Cor. 15:24-25; Eph. 1:20,21.
  - q.) Future Work:
    - i. Will return to earth:
      - aa. To gather His people - Mt. 24:31; Heb. 9:28.
      - bb. To end this evil age - Rev. 19,20.
      - cc. To establish His millennial kingdom - Rev. 19,20:1-6.
    - ii. Will judge all mankind - Matt. 25:31-46; Jn. 5:22,27; Acts 10:42; 17:31.
    - iii. Will restore the Kingdom to the Father - I Cor. 15:24,28.
- G. The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit, Third Person of the Trinity.
1. Titles applied to the Holy Spirit:
    - a.) The Holy Spirit - Jn. 14:26; I Thess. 4:8; Ps. 51:11.
    - b.) The Spirit of your Father - Mt. 10:20.
    - c.) The Spirit of God - Mt. 12:29; Rom. 8:29.
    - d.) The Spirit of the Lord - Luke 4:18.
    - e.) The Spirit of Jesus - Acts 16:7.
    - f.) The Spirit of Christ - Rom. 16:7.
    - g.) The Spirit of God's Son - Gal. 4:6; cf. Rom. 8:15-17.
    - h.) The Spirit of life - Rom. 8:2.
    - i.) The Spirit of wisdom and understanding - Isa. 11:2.
    - j.) The Spirit of counsel and power - Isa. 11:2.
    - k.) The Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord - Isa. 11:2.
    - l.) The Spirit of glory - I Pet. 4:14.
    - m.) The Spirit of grace and supplication - Zech. 12:10.
    - n.) The Spirit of truth - Jn. 14:17.
    - o.) The Spirit of adoption - Rom. 8:15.
    - p.) The Spirit of holiness - Rom. 1:4.
    - q.) The Promise of the Father - Lk. 24:49; Acts 1:4,5; cf. Ezk. 36:26,27; Joel 2:28-32.
    - r.) The Helper - Jn. 14:16,26.



## 2. The Personality of the Holy Spirit:

- a.) Possesses personal characteristics:
  - i. Intelligence - I Cor. 2:10-11; Jn. 16:13; Acts 15:28.
  - ii. Will - Acts 16:6,7; I Cor. 12:11.
  - iii. Emotions - Eph. 4:30; Rom. 8:26.
  - iv. Can be lied to - Acts 5:3,4
  - v. Is referred to by the masculine personal pronoun, "He" - Jn. 14:16,17,26; 15:26,27; 16:7,8,13,14.
- b.) Performs works requiring personality:
  - i. Guiding - Jn. 16:13.
  - ii. Teaching - Jn. 14:26.
  - iii. Counseling - Isa. 11:2; Jn. 14:16.
  - iv. Speaking - Acts 10:19,20; 13:2, 28:25.
  - v. Helping - Rom. 8:26,27.
  - vi. Interceding - Rom. 8:26,27.
  - vii. Comforting - Acts 9:31.
  - viii. Consciously distributing spiritual gifts - I Cor. 12:11.
  - ix. Bearing witness:
    - aa. Of Jesus to unbelievers - Jn. 15:26,27; Acts 9:31.
    - bb. That Christians are children of God - Rom. 8:15-17; Gal. 4:6,7.

## 3. The Deity of the Holy Spirit:

- a.) He is called God - Acts 5:1-4.
- b.) He possesses Divine attributes:
  - i. Omnipresence - Ps. 139:7-10.
  - ii. Omnipotence - I Cor. 12:11; Rom. 8:11; Acts 8:39,40.
  - iii. Omniscience - I Cor. 2:10-11.
  - iv. Eternal - Heb. 9:14.
- c.) He performs Divine works:
  - i. Creation - Gen. 1:2; Ps. 104:30; Job. 33:4.
  - ii. Miracles - Matt. 12:28; Acts 10:38.
  - iii. Regeneration - Jn. 3:5-7; Titus 3:3-5.
  - iv. Sanctification - Rom. 15:16.
- d.) He is named with the Father and Son - Matt. 28:19; II Cor. 13:14.
- e.) Speaking against Him is an eternal, unforgivable sin - Mt. 12:31,32; Mk. 3:28,29.
  - i. Any other blasphemy is forgivable - Mt. 12:31; cf. Lev. 24:16.
  - ii. Even what is spoken against Jesus is forgivable - Mt. 12:32.

## 4. The Work of the Holy Spirit:

- a.) Involved in creation of the world - Gen. 1:2; Ps. 104:30; Job 33:4.
- b.) Creates and sustains life - Job 33:4; Isa. 32:15; Ps. 105:29,30; Ezk. 37:1-14.
- c.) At work in the OT.
  - i. Dwelt in the midst of the people of God, but did not commonly indwell the believers - Jn. 7:37-39; 14:17; cf. Ex. 25:8; 29:45,46.

- ii. Would come upon some believers
    - aa. To empower them for certain tasks - e.g., Bezalel [Ex. 31:3]; Samson [Judg. 14:6,19; 15:14-20]; David [I Sam. 16:12,15].
    - bb. Was not a permanent indwelling - Judg. 16:20; I Sam. 16:14; 18:12; cf. Ps. 51:11.
- d.) Responsible for the inspiration of Scripture - II Pet. 1:20,21; II Tim. 3:16; Acts 1:16; 28:25.
- e.) At work in Jesus' life and ministry - Acts 10:38; Mt. 12:28.
  - i. In His conception - Lk. 1:34,35; Mt. 1:20.
  - ii. Came upon Him at His Baptism - Lk. 3:21,22.
  - iii. Jesus filled with the Spirit - Lk. 4:1.
  - iv. Led by the Spirit - Lk. 4:1; Mt. 4:1.
  - v. Empowering Him for ministry - Lk. 4:14,15.
    - aa. Preaching - Lk. 4:14,15.
    - bb. Healing - Acts 10:38; cf. Lk. 5:17.
    - cc. Casting out demons - Acts 10:38; Mt. 12:28.
  - vi. In His atoning death - Heb. 9:14.
  - vii. In His resurrection - Rom. 1:4.
- f.) At work in unbelieving world
  - i. To restrain the expanse and expression of sin - II Thess. 2:6-7; cf. Gen. 6:3.
  - ii. To convince men of their sin and the truth of Jesus Christ - Jn. 16:7-11.
- g.) At work in the lives of Christians.
  - i. To give them new birth - Jn. 3:3-8; Tit. 3:3-5.
  - ii. To baptize them into Christ's body - I Cor. 12:13.
  - iii. To indwell them - I Cor. 6:19; Jn. 14:16-17 [Note permanent nature of this indwelling!].
  - iv. To seal them - Eph. 1:13,14.
    - aa. At conversion - Eph. 1:13,14.
    - bb. As a downpayment on full redemption by God - II Cor. 1:22; Eph. 1:13,14.
    - cc. Unto the day of redemption - Eph. 4:30.
  - v. To sanctify them - II Thess. 2:13.
  - vi. To fill or control - Eph. 5:18; e.g., Acts 2:4; 4:8; 13:9.
  - vii. To teach them - Jn. 14:26.
    - aa. By enlightening their minds - Eph. 1:17,18; 3:14-19.
    - bb. By revealing the things of God - Jn. 16:13-15; I Cor. 2:10-13.
    - cc. By recalling truth to their minds - Jn. 14:26.
  - viii. To direct them - Matt. 10:19,20; cf. Acts 10:19; 13:2; 16:6,7.
  - ix. To comfort them - Acts 9:31; Jn. 14:16-26.
  - x. To empower for ministry - Mic. 3:8; Acts 1:8; 4:29-31.
  - xi. To assist and lead in prayer - Rom. 8:26,27; Zech. 12:10.
  - xii. To witness to our sonship - Rom. 8:14-17; Gal. 4:6.

- xiii. To produce the fruit of godliness - Gal. 5:22,23; cf. Rom. 7:4-6.
- xiv. To administer spiritual gifts - I Cor. 12:1-11.
- xv. To raise them from the dead - Rom. 8:11.

### III. The Doctrine of Angels.

#### A. General Characteristics:

1. Created by God - Ps. 2-5.
2. Spirit beings - Heb. 1:14.
3. Powerful - Ps. 103:20; II Thess. 1:7.
4. Wise - II Sam. 14:17,20.
5. Immortal - Luke 20:35,36.
6. Not sexual beings - Mt. 22:30.
7. Invisible - Num. 22:22-31; Judg. 6:1-21.
8. Can appear in human form - Gen. 18:2-8; Judg. 6:11-22.
9. Possess emotions - Lk. 15:10.
10. Interested in human affairs - I Pet. 1:12; Eph. 3:8-10.
11. Obedient to God - Ps. 103:20.
12. Capable of error or sin - Job. 4:18; II Pet. 2:4.
13. Exist in great numbers - Heb. 12:22; Rev. 5:11.
14. Different varieties or ranks:
  - a.) Archangels - I Thess. 4:16; Jude 9; Dan. 10:13.
  - b.) Cherubim - Ezk. 1:5-14.
  - c.) Seraphim - Isa. 6:1,2.

#### B. The work of righteous angels:

1. Give praise to God - Ps. 148:2; Isa. 6:1-4; Rev. 4,5.
2. In Christ's life and ministry - Lk. 1:26-38; 2:8-14; Mt. 1:20,21; 4:11; Lk. 22:43; Mt. 28:2-7; Acts 1:10.
3. Ministered to the nation of Israel - Dan. 10:10-11:1; 12:1.
4. Care for children - Mt. 18:10.
5. Mediators of the Law - Gal. 3:19; Acts 7:53; Heb. 2:2.
6. Ministry to believers - Heb. 1:14.
  - a.) Protection - Ps. 34:7; 91:1.
  - b.) Deliverance from danger - Ps. 34:7; cf. Acts 6:19-20; 12:1-11; Dan 6:22.
  - c.) Provide for needs - I Kg. 19:5-8.
  - d.) Direct activities - Acts 8:26.
  - e.) Comfort - Acts 27:23,24.
  - f.) Involved in bringing answers to prayer - Dan. 10.
  - g.) Will gather the elect at Christ's return - Mt. 24:31; cf. Mt. 13:41,42,49,50.
7. Ministry toward unbelievers - agents of judgement - Gen. 19:1-22; II Kg. 19:35; I Chr. 21:15; Acts 12:23.

#### C. Evil Angels

1. Satan
  - a.) His creation and fall - Ezk. 28:12-17.
    - i. Created by God - vss. 13,15.

- aa. Without any imperfections or sin - vs. 13.
      - [1.] Full of wisdom - vs. 12.
      - [2.] Full of beauty - vs. 12.
      - [3.] Blameless in all his ways - vs. 15.
    - bb. As a guardian cherub - vss. 14,16.
  - ii. Became evil - vss. 15-17.
    - aa. At some point in time - vs. 15.
    - bb. Through pride - vs. 17.
    - cc. By desiring to exalt himself to be like God - Isa. 14:12-14.
  - iii. Is now characterized as:
    - aa. Unrighteous - Ezk. 28:15.
    - bb. Full of violence - Ezk. 28:16.
    - cc. Corrupted in thought - Ezk. 28:17.
    - dd. A liar - Jn. 8:44; Rev. 12:9.
    - ee. A murderer - Jn. 8:44.
    - ff. Full of wrath - Rev. 12:12.
  - iv. Was driven out of his heavenly place - Ezk. 28: 16,17; Rev. 12:3,4.
  - v. Cursed by God - Gen. 3:15.
  - vi. Now has dominion in this world - Lk. 4:5,6.
    - aa. Is referred to as the god of this world - II Cor. 4:4.
    - bb. Is called the prince of the power of the air - Eph. 2:2.
    - cc. Is called the ruler of this world - Jn. 12:31; 14:30.
    - dd. Is the spiritual influence behind the world system - Eph. 2:2.
  - vii. Has been defeated by Christ:
    - aa. Disarmed by the cross - Col. 2:14,15.
    - bb. His power to hold under bondage to sin is broken - I Jn. 3:5-8; cf. Rom. 6:1-11.
    - cc. Lost all ground of accusation - Col. 4:14; cf. Rom. 8:1-5:31-39; Rev. 12:11.
    - dd. Power of death and intimidation broken - Heb. 2:14,15.
    - ee. Christians set in a position of safety and authority over him - Eph. 1:18-23; 2:4-6.
    - ff. Christians possess means to withstand his attacks and to oppose him - Eph. 6:10-20; I Pet. 5:8,9; Jas. 4:7.
- b.) His work:
  - i. Deceives men - Rev. 12:9.
    - aa. Blinds their minds to the Gospel - II Cor. 4:3,4.
    - bb. Snatches the message of the Gospel out of the minds of those who do not understand - Mt. 13:19.
    - cc. Leads astray into false religion - II Cor. 11:3.
      - [1.] By appearing as an angel of light - II Cor. 11:14; cf. Gal. 1:6-9; Col. 2:18,19.
      - [2.] By using men who appear righteous -

II Cor. 11:12-15.

[3.] By producing supernatural phenomena and miracles - Mt. 24:23,24; II Thess. 2:8-10; Rev. 13:1-3,11-15.

dd. Holds men captive to do his will - II Tim. 2:24-26.

ii. Accuses Christians before God - Rev. 12:10.

iii. Works within the minds of unbelievers - Eph. 2:2,3.

iv. Tempts men to sin.

aa. Tempted Christ - Mt. 4:1-11.

bb. Tempts Christians - I Cor. 7:5; Acts 5:3,4;  
cf. Eph. 4:26,27.

cc. Tempts unbelievers - Eph. 2:2; Jn. 13:2,27.

v. Works to attack, disable, and destroy Christians - Eph. 6:10-17;  
I Pet. 5:8; II Cor. 2:6-12; Rev. 12:1-13:10.

c.) Future judgement:

i. Will be imprisoned for 1,000 years during Christ's millennial reign - Rev. 20:1-3.

aa. So that he cannot deceive the nations - Rev. 20:3.

bb. He will be released for a short time to test the nations -  
Rev. 20:3,7-9.

ii. Will be cast into the lake of fire - Rev. 20:10.

aa. Punishment prepared for him and for those who are  
his - Mt. 25:41.

bb. Will be tormented forever - Rev. 20:10; Mt. 25:41,46.

## 2. Demons

a.) Evil angels - Mt. 25:41; II Pet. 2:4; Jude 6; cf. Lk. 10:17-20.

b.) Their fall

i. Through sin - II Pet. 2:4.

ii. Through presumption against their proper position - Jude 6.

iii. In conjunction with Satan's rebellion - Rev. 12:3,4; cf.  
Isa. 14:12,13.

c.) Under Satan's authority - Mt. 12:24-26.

d.) Their work

i. Oppose Christians - Eph. 6:10-12.

ii. Indwell some men - Mt. 8:28,29; Acts 16:16-18.

aa. To afflict them - Mk. 5:5.

bb. To destroy them - Mk. 9:17-22.

iii. Instigate false religion - I Tim. 4:1-3; I Cor. 10:19,20;  
Dt. 32:16,17.

e.) Their ultimate judgement with Satan - Mt. 25:41.

## IV. The Doctrine of Man

A. Created by God - Gen. 1:26.

1. For His glory and pleasure - Isa. 43:7; Rev. 4:11.

2. Formed from the dust of the earth - Gen. 2:7.

3. Given life from God's breath - Gen. 2:7.
4. Made in the image of God - Gen. 1:27.
  - a.) Endowed with intelligence - Gen. 2:20.
  - b.) Endowed with ability to rule over the earth - Gen. 1:26-29.
  - c.) Endowed with ability to make choices - Gen. 2:16,17.
  - d.) Endowed with ability to commune with God - Jn. 4:24; cf. Gen. 3:8-10.
5. Originally made upright - Ecc. 7:29.
6. All men descended from this original pair - Acts 17:26.
- B. Fallen through sin - Gen. 3.
  1. Caused by Adam's choice - Gen. 3; Rom. 5:12-21.
    - a.) A voluntary act of the will - Gen. 3:6; I Tim. 2:14.
    - b.) A direct transgression of God's command - Gen. 3:1.
  2. Resulting in
    - a.) A bent toward evil - Gen. 6:5; 8:21.
    - b.) Loss of communion with God - Gen. 3:7-10.
    - c.) Loss of access to the tree of life - Gen. 3:22-24.
    - d.) Loss of dominion to Satan - Jn. 12:31; Lk. 4:5,6.
    - e.) Death and decay in a fallen world - Rom. 5:12; 8:18-22; Jer. 12:4; Isa. 24.

## V. The Doctrine of Sin

- A. Sin is a lack of conformity to the perfect righteousness of God.
  1. Manifested by direct willful transgression of God's law [sin of commission] - Gen. 3, I Jn. 3:4.
  2. Manifested by unwillingness to do what is known to be the right thing [sin of omission] - Jas. 4:17.
  3. Manifested by any and all imperfections of character, i.e., falling short of God's intended glory for man - Rom. 3:23; Mt. 5:48.
- B. The origin of sin
  1. Began in heaven with Satan - Ezk. 28:14-16; Isa. 14:12-14.
  2. Entered the world through Adam - Gen. 3:6; Rom. 5:12-14.
- C. The extent and consequences of sin
  1. All men become sinners - Rom. 3:23; 5:19.
    - a.) By nature
      - i. Sinful nature inherited - Rom. 5:19; Ps. 51:5; 58:3; Isa. 48:8; Eph. 2:1-3.
      - ii. Sinful nature affects all of man's motivations and choices - Gen. 6:5; 8:21; Jer. 17:9; Mt. 15:18-20; Jn. 8:44; Eph. 2:1-3.
      - iii. The sinful nature is at enmity with God and cannot possibly please Him - Rom. 5:10; 8:7,8; cf. Jas. 4:4.
    - b.) By choice - Rom. 1:18-23; 3:23; Ecc. 7:20; I Jn. 1:8,10.
  2. Sin produces spiritual blindness - Rom. 1:21-23; Eph. 4:17-19.
  3. Sin enslaves men - Jn. 8:34; Rom. 6:16-22; II Pet. 2:19.
  4. Sin makes us unclean and abominable in God's sight - Ps. 5:4; Hag. 1:13;

Rev. 21:8,27; Isa. 6:1-7; 64:6; Prov. 6:16-19.

5. Sin brings God's condemnation and wrath - Rom. 1:18; 2:1-6; 5:16-18; Col. 3:6.
  6. Penalty for sin is death - Rom. 5:12-14; 6:23; Dr. 24:16; Ezk. 18:4; I Cor. 15:21,22; Jas. 1:15.
    - a.) Spiritual death [separation of relationship with God] - Gen. 2:16,17; 3:6-11; Isa. 59:2; Eph. 2:1; Col. 2:13; cf. Jn. 5:24.
    - b.) Physical death [separation of spiritual self from one's body] - Rom. 5:12-14; I Cor. 15:21,22.
    - c.) The second death [consisting of separation from God and eternal punishment in the lake of fire] - Rev. 20:10-15; II Thess. 1:6-10; Mt. 25:41,46; cf. Rev. 14:9-11.
- D. Individual responsibility for sin - Dt. 24:16; Ezk. 18:4.
1. Sin grows out of a personal lust - Jas. 1:13-15.
    - a.) Cannot blame God for our sin - Jas. 1:13.
    - b.) Cannot claim that anyone "made me" sin - I Cor. 10:13.
    - c.) Cannot blame our family background or society for our sin - Ezk. 18:1-4.
    - d.) Cannot say we are powerless to turn from sin - Ezk. 33:10,11.
  2. Everyone is accountable to God for their own sin - Rom. 3:19,20; 14:10-12.
  3. God will repay each individual for his own sin - Rom. 2:1-8; Ezk. 18:4; Dt. 24:16.

## VI. The Doctrine of Salvation

### A. The divine side

1. God must take the initiative to draw men to Jesus - Jn. 6:40,44,45.
2. Regeneration - it is only God who can give the life of new birth to those who were dead - Jn. 1:12,13; 3:3-8; 6:63; II Cor. 3:6; Eph. 2:4,5.
3. Justification, i.e., the upright legal standing before God which He grants those who trust in the redemptive work of Christ - Rom. 3:24-28; 5:1.
4. Redemption, i.e., the payment of Christ's death which buys the believer back from debt to the Law and from the slavery of sin - Rom. 3:24; Eph. 1:7; Gal. 3:13; 4:5.
5. Adoption - God has predetermined that those who respond to Christ will become a part of His family by adoption with the consequent privileges of communion and inheritance - Jn. 1:12; Eph. 1:4; Gal. 4:4-7.
6. Sanctification - a "set-apartness", "other-ness", or "holiness" having three aspects:
  - a.) A once-for-all cleansing and setting apart by virtue of sharing in Christ's finished work - Heb. 9:13,14.
  - b.) A continual growing in grace and personal holiness - Heb. 2:11; Jn. 17:17; I Thess. 3:11-4:5.
  - c.) An ultimate completed sanctification whereby we will be as pure and holy as Jesus Himself - I Thess. 5:23,24; I Jn. 3:2.

### B. The human side - the response to God's provision.

1. Repentance

- a.) The first word of the Gospel admonition
  - i. In John the Baptist's ministry - Mt. 3:1,2; Mk. 1:4,5; Lk. 3:3.
  - ii. In Jesus' ministry - Mt. 4:17; Mk. 1:14,15; Lk. 5:31,32; 13:1-5.
  - iii. In the disciples' ministry before Jesus' death - Mk. 5:7-13; Lk. 10:1-16.
  - iv. In Jesus' post-resurrection instructions - Lk. 24:46,47.
  - v. In the preaching of the early church - Acts 2:37,38; 3:19; 17:30.
- b.) Greek word, metanoia, essentially means "a change of mind".
- c.) Genuine repentance is volitional, not just intellectual, and will result in a change of behavior - Lk. 3:7-14.
- d.) Opens the way to
  - i. Forgiveness of sins - Mk. 1:4.
  - ii. Spiritual life - Acts 11:18.
  - iii. Salvation - II Cor. 7:10.
- 2. Confession - expressed agreement [homologeō - "one word"] with God's Word regarding one's personal
  - a.) Sin - I Jn. 1:8-10; Ps. 32:3-5.
  - b.) Faith - Rom. 10:9,10; I Jn. 2:23; 4:15.
- 3. Faith - entrusting or committing oneself to the truth that Jesus Christ is the living, risen Lord.
  - a.) Necessary channel for appropriating God's saving grace - Eph. 2:8,9.
  - b.) Faith alone, not faith plus works of merit - Eph. 2:8,9; Rom. 3:28; Gal. 3:1-14.
    - i. "Faith alone" removes all ground for boasting - Rom. 3:27.
    - ii. "Faith alone" makes the promise sure, because it is based on grace, not on performance - Rom. 4:16.
  - c.) A faith that is genuine will produce a change in lifestyle - Jas. 2:14-26; Eph. 2:8-10.
- C. Eternal security of the regenerate - salvation can never be lost or destroyed.
  - 1. Clearly stated - "And I will give to them eternal life, and not never shall they perish unto eternity, and not anyone will snatch them out from My hand." [A literal translation of Jn. 10:28]; cf. Jn. 3:16; 5:24; 6:39,40.
  - 2. Based solidly upon the transformation of the new birth in Christ.
    - a.) I Jn. 3:9 - That which is born of God is not able to sin by virtue of God's seed which has begotten him. Therefore, he cannot fulfill any conceivable condition for the loss of his salvation.
    - b.) I Pet. 1:23 - This seed of God is imperishable, and thus the new life which comes from it is imperishable - Cf. I Cor. 15:47-57.
    - c.) The essence of the New Covenant is a transformed heart, one which is righteous by nature and will therefore produce the fruit of righteousness - Ezk. 36:26,27; Eph. 4:24; Jer. 31:31-33; Heb. 10:10-18; cf. Mt. 7:17,18; 12:35.
    - d.) Being in Christ brings to us all the benefits of His atoning work
      - i. Providing more than enough grace to deal with sin - Rom. 5:12-21.
      - ii. Bringing the promise of resurrection at His return -



- I Cor. 15:21-23.
- iii. Guaranteeing that we will bear His glorified image -  
I Cor. 15:45-49; Rom. 8:28-30.
- iv. In spite of what now appears in our experience - I Jn. 3:1,2.
- 3. Confirmed by the sealing of the Holy Spirit as a pledge of our inheritance -  
II Cor. 1:21,22; Eph. 1:13,14.
- 4. God's judicial decision has been rendered on behalf of those who are His. We  
are justified and God is for us - Rom. 8:28-31.
  - a.) No one can challenge that - Rom. 8:31-24.
  - b.) No one is able to bring a charge against us - Rom. 8:33.
  - c.) Nothing shall separate us from His love - Rom. 8:35-38.
    - i. Nothing in our life - vs. 38.
    - ii. Nothing in our future - vs. 38.
- 5. To be differentiated from "assurance" of salvation, i.e., the knowledge that a  
particular individual is in fact a Christian.
  - a.) Eternal security is a revealed fact, assurance is a subjective perception.
    - i. It is possible to be deceived about one's spiritual state -  
e.g., Mt. 7:21-23.
    - ii. We are exhorted to make certain that we are in Christ -  
II Cor. 13:5,6; II Pet. 1:10,11; I Jn. 5:11-13.
    - iii. Ultimately, only God knows those who are His - II Tim. 3:19.
  - b.) God desires that we do have assurance of salvation; i.e., that we  
know that we have eternal life - I Jn. 5:11-13.
  - c.) Since assurance is a by-product of our perception of the reality of our  
relationship with God, He has revealed that the reality of our faith  
can be seen and tested - I Jn. 5:11-13.
    - i. By a new obedience to His commands - I Jn. 2:3.
    - ii. By a new love for others - I Jn. 2:9,10; 3:14-15.
    - iii. By the inner witness of the Holy Spirit - I Jn. 3:24; 4:13;  
Rom. 8:16.
    - iv. By the theological content of our faith - I Jn. 2:19-24; 5:1;  
II Jn. 9.

## VII. The Doctrine of the Church

- A. Definition - the Church, in the broadest context, consists of those who have been  
"called out" of the world and are united both by their faith in Christ and by the  
indwelling life of the Holy Spirit to become a spiritual organism, the Body of  
Christ, a new people of God dedicated to accomplish His will.
- B. Made up of regenerate believers - Acts 2:41-47; I Cor. 1:2; Heb. 10:24,25.
- C. Began at Pentecost - Acts 1:2.
- D. Various dimensions of the Church.
  - 1. Believers assembled in a home - Rom. 16:5; Col. 4:15.
  - 2. Believers in a city - Acts 8:1; 13:1; Col. 1:2; 4:16.
  - 3. Believers in a larger area - Acts 9:31; I Cor. 16:19.
  - 4. All believers on earth at a given time [Universal Church] - I Cor. 1:2.
  - 5. All believers from all times [Invisible Church] - Heb. 12:23; Eph. 3:10; 4:4

(one body); Col. 1:18.

E. In relation to Christ.

1. He prophesied its existence - Mt. 16:18.
2. He purchased it with His blood - Acts 20:28.
3. He is the cornerstone upon which it is built - Eph. 2:19-22; I Pet. 2:4-10.
4. He continues to nourish and to cherish it - Eph. 5:29; cf. Eph. 4:15,16; Col. 2:19.
5. He continues as the head of the Church, His Body - Col. 1:18; Eph. 4:15,16.
6. The Church is being prepared for Him as a Bride - Eph. 5:22-32; Rev. 19:7,8.

F. Its government.

1. Scripturally designated offices:

a.) Elders (pastor, bishop, overseer).

i. Duties

- aa. Able to teach - I Tim. 3:1.
- bb. Exhort in sound doctrine - Tit. 1:9.
- cc. Refute those who contradict sound teaching - Tit. 1:9.
- dd. Shepherd the flock by oversight and guidance - I Pet. 5:2,3; I Tim. 3:5; 5:17.
- ee. Be devoted to prayer and ministry of the word - Acts 6:4.

ii. Qualifications - I Tim. 3:1-7; Tit. 1:5-9.

b.) Deacons (Literally, "Servants")

i. Duties - assistance in the practical aspects of ministry. They are given particular tasks to do and manage, rather than general oversight of the spiritual life of the Body. Acts 6:1-8.

ii. Qualifications - Acts 6:3; I Tim. 3:8-13.

iii. To be tested to see if they can do the job - I Tim. 3:10.

2. Local body is autonomous.

- a.) No other ecclesiastical bodies or offices are mentioned in Scripture.
- b.) Each local body had its own officers - Acts 14:23; Tit. 1:5.

3. N. T. churches were related to other local churches.

- a.) In theological discussion and counsel - Acts 15.
- b.) In ministry from church to church - Acts 11:27-30.
- c.) In collaborative ministry efforts - Rom. 15:25-27; II Cor. 8,9.

G. Responsibilities of the local church.

1. To edify the saints - Eph. 4:11-16; Heb. 10:24,25.

- a.) Through the interaction of fellowship - Acts 2:42; Heb. 3:12-14; 10:24,25; Eph. 4:15,16; 5:18-21; Col. 3:16.
- b.) Through exercising spiritual gifts - I Cor. 12; 14; Rom. 12:3-8; I Pet. 4:10,11; Eph. 4:11,12.
- c.) Through the teaching of the Word - Acts 2:42; I Tim. 4:13; II Tim. 3:14-4:5.
- d.) Through the intercessory prayer - Acts 2:42; Eph. 6:18-20; Col. 4:2-4; Jas. 5:13-18; II Cor. 1:10,11.
- e.) Through ministry to physical needs - II Cor. 9:11-14; Jas. 2:15,16;

- I Jn. 3:17,18; Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-35.
- f.) Through corporate worship - I Cor. 14:26; Acts 2:46,47; Heb. 13:15; Eph. 5:1-20.
  - g.) Through the observing of the ordinances
    - i. Baptism.
      - aa. Commanded - Mt. 28:19; Acts 2:38,41.
      - bb. In water - Acts 8:36-38; 10:47,48.
      - cc. By immersion - Rom. 6:4; cf. Jn. 3:23.
      - dd. After faith - Acts 2:38,41; 16:31-34.
      - ee. Outward symbol of an inner spiritual event - Rom. 6:1-11; Col. 2:12.
    - ii. The Lord's supper.
      - aa. Commanded - Lk. 22:19; I Cor. 11:24,25.
      - bb. For believers of right heart - I Cor. 11:27-34.
      - cc. To be a memorial of Christ - I Cor. 11:24,25.
      - dd. To be a proclamation of His death by this symbolic re-enactment - I Cor. 11:26.
      - ee. A symbolic statement of our unity in Christ - I Cor. 10:16,17.
      - ff. Not to be understood in literal, physical terms. [See Jesus' clarification of a similar misunderstanding in Jn. 6:52ff, culminating in vs. 63. It is words of truth received by faith which the Spirit uses to give life, not a literal eating of flesh.]
      - gg. To be observed until Jesus returns - I Cor. 11:26.
  - 2. To judge the sins of believers in the body - I Cor. 5:1-13; Mt. 18:15-20; Gal. 6:1-5; II Thess. 3:6-15.
  - 3. To settle disputes among Christians - I Cor. 6:1-8.
  - 4. To minister to the unbelieving world.
    - a.) By the demonstration of godly lives - II Cor. 3:2,3; 4:2; Acts 2:43-47; I Pet. 2:11-12; Mt. 5:14-16.
    - b.) By the testimony of the spoken word - Acts 1:8; 5:42; Col. 4:2-6; I Pet. 1:9.
    - c.) By supporting and assisting those called to minister in a full-time capacity - I Cor. 9:3-14; II Jn. 5-8; I Thess. 5:12,13; Gal. 6:6.
    - d.) By intercessory prayer - Eph. 6:18-20; Col. 4:2-4; cf. Acts 4:23-31.
    - e.) In fulfillment of the Great Commission - Mt. 28:18-20.

## VIII. Eschatology - The Doctrine of Last Things

### A. Intermediate state of the dead.

1. The righteous dead are alive and in the presence of God.
  - a.) The righteous who died before Christ
    - i. Went to Abraham's bosom in Sheol [Heb.] or Hades [Gk.] - Lk. 16:19-22; Gen. 37:35; Job 3:17-19; cf. Jn. 3:13.
    - aa. Where they were conscious - Lk. 16:25-31.
    - bb. Where they found rest and comfort - Lk. 16:25;

- Job 3:13,17,18.
      - cc. Because their sins were covered, but not fully removed until Christ's propitiatory sacrifice - Ps. 65:3; 85:2; Rom. 3:25,26.
    - ii. Are now in the presence of God.
      - aa. Redemption from Sheol was promised - Ps. 49:15; Hos. 13:14.
      - bb. Payment having been paid by Christ - Rom. 3:25,26.
      - cc. Christ took them to Heaven after His resurrection - Eph. 4:8-10.
  - 2. The unrighteous dead are in a place called Sheol [Heb.] or Hades [Gk.] - Lk. 16:19-23; Job 26:5,6; Rev. 20:13,14.
    - a.) Are conscious - Lk. 16:23; Ezk. 32:19-21; Isa. 14:9-11.
    - b.) Have lost all their earthly status - Ps. 49:16,17.
    - c.) Are in torment - Lk. 16:23-25,28; Ps. 49:14,19.
- B. The second coming of Christ.
  - 1. A major Christian doctrine
    - a.) Taught by Jesus - Mt. 16:27; 24; 25; Mk. 13; 14:61,62; Lk. 12:35-48; 17:22-37; 18:8; 21:5-36; Jn. 14:1-3.
    - b.) Prophesied by angels - Acts 1:9-11.
    - c.) Proclaimed by the apostles - Acts 3:18-21; I Cor. 11:26; 15:20-28,50-57; 16:22; Phil. 3:20,21; I Thess. 1:9,10; 2:19; 3:11-13; 4:13-5:11,23; II Thess. 1:6-10; 2:1-12; I Tim. 6:13-16; II Tim. 4:1; Tit. 2:11-13; Heb. 9:27,28; 10:36-39; Jas. 5:8; I Pet. 1:13; 4:13; II Pet. 3:3-13; I Jn. 2:28-3:3; Rev. 1:4-7; 2:25; 3:3,11; 16:15; 19:11-20:7; 22:6,7,12,13,20.
    - d.) Prophesied in the Old Testament - Dan. 7:7-14; Zech. 14:1-7.
  - 2. A literal event in future time/space history - Acts 1:9-11.
  - 3. Timing, i.e., when will He come?
    - a.) Specific time unknown to men - Mt. 24:36,42.
    - b.) Not presented as an imminent, immediate event.
      - i. Will occur after a long time - Mt. 24:48; 25:19.
      - ii. Master must go "to a distant country" - Lk. 19:11,12.
      - iii. The Bridegroom will delay in coming - Mt. 25:5.
    - c.) He will come suddenly and unexpectedly - Rev. 22:7,12,20; Mt. 24:44.
      - i. Like a thief in the night - I Thess. 5:1-3; Rev. 3:3; 16:15.
        - aa. Will come as sudden destruction - I Thess. 5:3; Lk. 17:26-30.
        - bb. Will come like birth pangs upon a woman with child - I Thess. 5:3.
        - cc. While they (non-Christians) are assuring themselves of peace and safety - I Thess. 5:3.
        - dd. But Christians should not be taken by surprise as if by a thief - I Thess. 5:4-8.
          - [1.] We are in light, not in darkness - I Thess. 5:4,5
          - [2.] We have been given signs to make us aware

- of His coming - Mt. 24:32,33; Lk. 21:28-31.
  - [3.] We are exhorted to be alert and watchful -  
Mt. 24:42-44; Mk. 13:33-37; Lk. 21:34-36;  
I Thess. 5:4-8; Rev. 3:2,3.
  - [4.] We are to avoid involvement in worldly things  
that would cloud our minds - Lk. 21:34-36;  
I Thess. 5:4-8.
- ii. Like a catastrophic event - Lk. 17:26-30.
  - aa. Like the flood overcame the men of Noah's time -  
Lk. 17:26,27.
  - bb. Like the fire and brimstone destroyed Sodom in Lot's  
time - Lk. 17:28,29.
  - cc. Coming upon men in their normal daily pursuits:
    - [1.] Marrying, eating, and drinking - Lk. 17:27;  
Mt. 24:37-41.
    - [2.] Buying, selling, planting, and building -  
Lk. 17:28.
- d.) Following a number of observable historical signs.
  - i. Destruction of Jerusalem by armies - Lk. 19:41-44; 21:20-24.
  - ii. Dispersion of the Jews - Lk. 21:20-24.
  - iii. Destruction of the temple buildings - Mt. 24:1,2.
  - iv. Times of the Gentiles fulfilled - Lk. 21:24; cf. Rom. 11:25-31.
  - v. General signs throughout the age:
    - aa. Wars - Lk. 21:10.
    - bb. Earthquakes - Lk. 21:11.
    - cc. Plagues - Lk. 21:11.
    - dd. Famines - Lk. 21:11.
    - ee. Signs in the heavens - Lk. 21:11.
    - ff. Persecutions - Lk. 21:12; Mt. 24:9.
    - gg. Christians will testify before kings and governors -  
Lk. 21:12-19.
    - hh. False Christs and false prophets will appear -  
Mt. 24:11, 23-25.
    - ii. These will intensify like birth pangs - Mt. 24:8;  
cf. Rom. 8:18-22; Rev. 6-9.
  - vi. The Gospel must be preached as a witness to all nations -  
Mt. 24:14; Mk. 13:10.
  - vii. The great tribulation - Mt. 24:21,22; Mk. 13:19,20; Rev.  
7:9-17; 12:17-14:13; cf. Dan. 7:21-25.
    - aa. A time of God's wrath - Rev. 6:15-17; 14:19; 15:1; 16:1
    - bb. Saints remain through that time - Rev. 6:11; 7:3; 9:4;  
13:7-10; 14:9-13; 18:4,5; Dan. 7:19-26;  
I Thess. 4:13,17; Mt. 24:22.
    - [1.] They will be protected from the wrath of God -  
Rev. 7:1-3; 9:4; cf. II Pet. 2:9.
    - [2.] It is because they are there that total

destruction does not take place - Mt. 24:22.

viii. The Antichrist must appear first - Mt. 24:15; II Thess. 2:1-12;  
Rev. 13:1-18; 14:9-12; 19:11-21; cf. Dan. 7:7-27.

4. Events accompanying His return:

- a.) Sun, moon, and stars will be darkened - Mt. 24:29.
- b.) Sign of the Son of Man will appear in the heavens - Mt. 24:30.
- c.) Men will gather at Armageddon to fight against Jesus - Rev. 16:13-16;  
19:19.
- d.) All men will see Him coming on the clouds - Mt. 24:30; Lk. 21:25-27.
  - i. There will be no secret or hidden coming - Mt. 24:23-27.
  - ii. He will come in power and great glory - Mt. 24:30.
- e.) He will come with armies of angels - Rev. 19:14,19; Mt. 16:27.
- f.) He will come with the shout of the archangel - I Thess. 4:16.
- g.) He will come with the sound of the trumpet of God - I Thess. 4:16;  
Mt. 24:31.
  - i. The trumpet in Mt. 24:31 is chronologically the last trumpet mentioned in the Scriptures.
  - ii. At the signal of this trumpet He sends out His angels to gather His elect from the earth - Mt. 24:31; cf. Mt. 13:41-43, 49,50.
- iii. Paul declares that it is also the last trumpet that hails the resurrection, rapture, and glorification of Christians - I Cor. 15:22,23,50-52; I Thess. 4:13-17.
  - aa. Those who are dead in Christ will rise first - I Thess. 4:14-16.
  - bb. Those who are still alive will be caught up - I Thess. 4:17.
  - cc. We will meet Him in the clouds at His coming - I Thess. 4:15,17.
  - dd. We will be gloriously transformed - I Cor. 15:50-53.
    - [1.] We will no longer be perishable flesh and blood - I Cor. 15:20.
    - [2.] We will receive spiritual bodies - I Cor. 15:35-54.
      - aaa. Imperishable - vs. 42,53,54.
      - bbb. Glorious - vs. 43.
      - ccc. Powerful - vs. 43.
      - ddd. Heavenly - vs. 48,49; II Cor. 5:2.
      - eee. Immortal - vs. 53,54.
    - [3.] We will be like Jesus - I Cor. 15:48,49; I Jn. 3:1,2; cf. Lk. 24:36-43.
  - ee. We will always be with the Lord from that time - I Thess. 4:17.
- h.) Jesus will destroy His enemies at Armageddon - Rev. 19:19-21.

C. The Millennial reign of Christ.

- 1. Christ will rule an earthly kingdom for 1,000 years - Rev. 20:1-10.

2. Christians will rule with Him.
    - a.) Participants of the first resurrection - Rev. 20:4-6; cf. I Thess. 4:13-18.
    - b.) Called priests of God and of Christ - Rev. 20:6; cf. Rev. 5:9,10; I Pet. 2:8.
    - c.) Will reign with Christ - Rev. 20:6; cf. Rev. 5:9,10.
    - d.) Will be judges - Rev. 20:4; I Cor. 6:2; cf. Mt. 19:28.
  3. Over the nations.
    - a.) Remnants of those alive at the time of Christ's return - Dan. 7:12.
    - b.) Will fall prey to Satanic deception - Rev. 20:7-10.
    - c.) A considerable portion will rebel - Rev. 20:8.
    - d.) Rebels will be destroyed in judgement - Rev. 20:9.
  4. Satan's future role:
    - a.) He will be bound and imprisoned during this time - Rev. 20:3.
      - i. So that he cannot deceive the nations - Rev. 20:3.
      - ii. But will be released at the end of this period - Rev. 20:3,7,8.
    - b.) He will incite the nations to war against Christ - Rev. 20:8.
      - i. They will gather from every part of the world - Rev. 20:8.
      - ii. They will be destroyed - Rev. 20:9.
    - c.) He will be thrown into the lake of fire - Rev. 20:10.
- D. Final Judgement - Rev. 20:11-15.
1. Destruction of old heavens and earth - Rev. 20:11; II Pet. 3:7,10-12.
  2. Second resurrection, i.e., a general resurrection of all the remaining dead - Rev. 20:12,13; Dan. 12:1,2; cf. Rev. 20:5,6.
    - a.) At Jesus' voice of command - Jn. 5:28,29.
    - b.) Includes OT saints.
      - i. This general resurrection is the same one depicted in the OT - Dan. 12:1-3,13; Job 14:12.
      - ii. It was the hope of believing Jews of Jesus' day - Jn. 11:23,24; Acts 24:14,15.
      - iii. The privileges of those "in Christ" are greater than those under the old covenant - Mt. 11:11.
    - c.) Includes the unrighteous dead - Job 14:12; Dan. 12:11,2; Acts 24:14,15; Jn. 5:28,29.
  3. Judgement based on books - Rev. 20:12,13.
    - a.) Book of Life - Rev. 20:12,15; 21:23-27; cf. Lk. 10:20.
    - b.) Books of deeds - Rev. 20:12,13; cf. Mt. 11:20-24; II Cor. 5:10.
  4. Determines final destiny.
    - a.) Lake of fire - Rev. 14:9-11; 19:20; 20:10,15.
      - i. Created for Satan and the rebel angels - Mt. 25:41,46.
      - ii. Not the same as Hades - Rev. 20:14.
      - iii. Called eternal punishment - Mt. 25:41,46.
      - iv. Called the second death - Rev. 20:6,14.
      - v. Called eternal destruction - II Thess. 1:9.
      - vi. Called outer darkness - Mt. 8:12; 22:13.
      - vii. A place of conscious sorrow and torment - Mt. 8:12; 13:42,50; Mk. 9:43-49; Rev. 14:9-11; 20:10.

- b.) The Heavenly City, the New Jerusalem - Rev. 21:1; Heb. 12:22.
- i. Located on the new earth - Rev. 21:1,2; Isa. 65:17; II Pet. 3:13
  - ii. God will dwell with His people - Rev. 21:3; cf. Jn. 14:2,3.
  - iii. No more death, mourning, crying or pain - Rev. 21:4; Isa. 25:8.
  - iv. No more hunger or thirst - Rev. 7:16,17.
  - v. All things made new - Rev. 21:5.
  - vi. Place of great beauty - Rev. 21:10-23.
  - vii. Illuminated by the glory of God and Christ - Rev. 21:23; 22:5.
  - viii. No night there - Rev. 21:25; 22:5.
  - ix. Nothing unclean or evil there - Rev. 21:8,21.
  - x. Access to water of life - Rev. 22:2,14.
  - xi. Access to the tree of life - Rev. 22:2,14; cf. Gen. 3:22-24.
  - xii. There will be no more curse - Rev. 22:3; cf. Gen. 3:17-19.
  - xiii. God Himself will comfort His people - Rev. 7:17; 21:3,4; Isa. 25:8.
  - xiv. We shall see the face of God - Rev. 22:4; cf. Mt. 5:8; I Cor. 13:12.
  - xv. Fullness of joy and pleasure - Ps. 16:11; Isa. 65:17-19.
  - xvi. Continual revelations of the surpassing grace of God toward us - Eph. 2:4-7; I Cor. 2:9.