

# Twin Valley Bible Academy

## Student Handbook

2022 Revision



Character. Scholarship. Worldview.

Psalm 1

*“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly...He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth fruit in its season... whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”*

## **HISTORY AND CHURCH AFFILIATION**

Twin Valley Bible Academy is a ministry of Twin Valley Bible Chapel under direction of the Board of Elders. The Academy was only a dream in the minds of our pastor and a few concerned parents of the Chapel until May of 1975. Several of the parents had become interested in the Accelerated Christian Education program they had seen advertised in *The Sword of the Lord*. Our pastor and the elders of the Chapel attended an A.C.E. Rally in Baltimore and became convinced of the quality of the program. There were about 50 students from the Chapel who were already attending area Christian schools and were interested in coming to the Academy; so a ready-made student body was available.

Not until July was ground broken for the Academy facilities. The Chapel claimed the promise that God gave to Nehemiah believing the building project would be completed on time. After 54 working days, on September 10, 1975, the Academy opened its doors to 94 students in grades K-12. During the year the enrollment grew to a high of 107. On June 7, 1976, five seniors received their high school diplomas and went out to face the challenge of God's will for their lives.

In 2018 the board saw the need to pinpoint our focus in education to prepare young Christian students to face the changing world around them. Discussion began about changing the methodology of the school to the Principle Approach®. This vision became a reality as TVBA began its transition to the Principle Approach in the fall of 2020.

We continue to enroll a number of students who do not regularly attend Twin Valley Bible Chapel to bring our enrollment to capacity and make the greatest possible use of our facilities and staff. In addition to our own Chapel families, we will be providing a Christ-centered, quality Christian education for those outside our Chapel who share our spiritual and educational goals. As in the past, we do feel that every student and parent should be faithful in church attendance and involved in church activities.

At Twin Valley Bible Academy we believe that every child deserves a Christian education. It is our mission to inspire children to make God the master of their Character, Scholarship and Worldview advancing the kingdom of God and restoring the Christian foundation of America. We employ degreed teachers and host a well-rounded extracurricular program. All provide the best advantages for spiritual as well as academic development to the best use of our resources at hand.

We at Twin Valley Bible Academy will continue to do all we can, by God's grace, to provide each student with a quality Christian education. The expectations for each new year are high, and the future remains as bright as the promise of God!

## **ADMISSIONS POLICY**

This school considers admission of students of any race, color, and national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to the students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, and national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and programs, athletics, and other school-administered programs.

## **ADMISSIONS PACKET**

Interested parents may contact the Twin Valley Bible Academy office for more information or begin the process at our website [www.twinvalleybibleacademy.org](http://www.twinvalleybibleacademy.org).

### **INTRODUCTION TO PARENTS**

A basic responsibility of Christian parents is to “train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old (literally, while he is growing old) he will not depart from it,” Proverbs 22: 6. Therefore, in Christian education we must train young people to grow “in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man,” Luke 2:52, as Jesus did.

Success can be realized to the fullest extent when home, church, and school stand united in Christ-centered, Bible-centered training of a child. The home, church, and school share this great responsibility.

Parents, Twin Valley Bible Academy pledges to you that we shall present Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and shall provide the highest quality Christ-centered education possible. Our desire is that the home stands with the church and school in a united effort to reach this goal.

### **OBJECTIVES**

Twin Valley Bible Academy was organized to offer students a program where the Bible is not a PART of the classroom but is the CENTER of it. Our specific objectives are:

1. To personally counsel any student whose eternal salvation is in question and lead him to an acceptance or an assurance of that salvation through the person of Jesus Christ.
2. To so effectively teach, that each student will “grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”
3. To teach the students that success in life can be achieved as large areas are broken up into achievable goals.
4. To show by example as well as by precept that life in its fullest sense is a matter of hearing the voice of God and obeying His directives.
5. To cause each child to work effectively, with perseverance, both independently, and cooperatively.
6. To develop strength of Christian Character, Scholarship & Worldview so that the student can excellently explain and retain his convictions under the pressure of the world in which he lives.
7. To release students to commence in activities and ministries meant to advance the kingdom of God and restore America to its Christian roots.

### **STANDARDS FOR STUDENT CONDUCT - IN SCHOOL**

#### **A. ACADEMICS**

1. Because a Christian is admonished to be diligent in his duties, the student is reminded that his BEST in areas of academics is all God will accept. II Timothy 2:15
2. All students are expected to attend school every day that classes are in session and are to be prompt in arrival at designated areas and activities. *A student who is tardy to school for any reason must report first to the school office for a late slip.*
3. Minimum standards of academic success will need to be maintained by all students. Academic balance **MUST BE** maintained. The minimum passing score is 62%.

## B. BEHAVIOR

1. Students are expected to respect and obey the God-given authority of the Academy staff and administration in all situations. Hebrews 13:17 Since a patriotic emphasis will be promoted throughout the Academy, every student is expected to exemplify a sense of loyalty to our God, our nation, and our school and will participate in morning exercises including pledges, prayer, and Bible reading. Romans 13:1-7
2. Courtesy must be a byword for every student, to those in authority as well as to fellow students. I Peter 3:8
3. Treat all Academy property with respect. Damaged or broken equipment must be replaced or paid for by the student or his parents. Chewing gum is prohibited.
4. Please do not bring any questionable game or reading material to school.
5. Such actions as cheating, lying, stealing, and insubordination are not in keeping with God's Word, nor in accord with Academy standards and could result in suspension from school. Ephesians 4:25 & 28.
6. Since the Christian's body belongs to God, we believe that moral purity of our students is mandatory. During school hours or functions any physical contact with the opposite sex is prohibited and is discouraged at all other times. Infractions of this standard could also result in suspension. I Cor. 7:1, 9:27
7. Adherence to appearance standard is considered to be the **responsibility of the parents**. Any failure to comply with these standards will be passed on to the parents for correction. Should necessary changes not take place, the administration of the Academy reserves the right to request the parents withdraw the student from the school.
8. No horseplay.

## C. EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

1. The social life of the student is important to his complete development; therefore, there will be occasions for students to socialize. On such occasions, "dating" is permitted at the discretion of the parents. The Academy encourages self-government to be exercised in all relationships. We also believe that engagement and marriage should not take place before the student's high school education is complete. Any student who would become pregnant, or married prior to graduation would be required to withdraw from the Academy immediately.
2. Those representing Twin Valley Bible Academy in intramural or inter-scholastic sports must be exemplary in the following areas: (a) spiritual leadership (ex. Saying

Scripture memory, taking notes in weekly chapel sessions, etc.) (b) scholastic average and (c) Christian conduct.

3. In any other areas where the student represents the Academy, such as in musical groups, academic competition, etc., the above three areas are a pre-requisite.
4. All extra-curricular activities (musical selections, socials, plays, fund-raising activities, etc.) must have prior approval of, and supervision by an Academy staff member.

## **STANDARDS FOR STUDENT CONDUCT - OUT OF SCHOOL**

- A. It should be clear to both parents and students that the conduct which is prohibited at school is equally prohibited away from school. It should be explained that the Christian life is not a game, with one set of rules for church and school and another for everyday life. Regardless of whether the proscribed activity takes place at or away from school, the student is subject to discipline for those actions, up to and including expulsion.
- B. The drinking of alcoholic beverages, smoking, taking of any form of habit-forming drugs (without a doctor's direction, or prescription), etc. are considered to be serious violations of Biblical principles (I Corinthians 6:19,20) and may be grounds for indefinite expulsion from the Academy.
- C. The parents will be required to sign a statement acknowledging that they have read, understand, and agree that their child must abide by the Standards of Conduct, and that they will not sue, or threaten to sue, the school for the enforcement of the Standards of Conduct.
- D. The Bible clearly states the principle of faithful attendance to God's House (Hebrews 10:25). School activities will be planned so as not to conflict with the regularly scheduled services of Twin Valley Bible Chapel. Families are encouraged to regularly attend their local church.
- E. Satan is the enemy of God's people and God's work. He will try to make his inroads into the Academy without being invited to do so. Any observed practice that the staff deems Satanic or related to Spiritual darkness will be dealt with accordingly.

## **APPEARANCE STANDARDS**

### **A. Girls & Women-I Peter 3:3**

One's outward appearance is a reflection of the condition of the heart and mind. We also aim to keep a professional environment which includes the proper attire. Through dress, make-up, and hairstyle, attention is drawn to the Lord, or away from Him. Thus, the following are the policies established by Twin Valley Bible Academy for the mode of dress for students and staff.

1. The acceptable standard for girl's dresses or skirts is that they should fall to the middle of the knee or lower when standing. Skirts must be long enough so as not

to rise noticeably above the knee when the girl is seated. Dresses or skirts with slits that are above the knee must be sewn. Parents must pay particular attention to growing girls, so that dresses will not become too short or too tight during the school year. Girls may only wear leggings under dresses/skirts and at no other time or way! I Timothy 2:9,10

2. Sheer blouses will not be permitted in the school. Slips are to be worn under any thin blouse or dress. Blouses, sweaters, and dresses must not show cleavage under any condition, not be sleeveless, not be see-through, not show midriff, and not be too tight. Sweatshirts and tee shirts with screen printing are not appropriate attire for the classroom. Stitched logos are allowable.
3. Loose fitting athletic pants (sweatpants), capris, or fingertip length shorts only are permissible on special occasions such as field days, physical education days, and sports team practices.
4. Students (non-athletes) attending athletic events may wear nice, loose-fitting jeans and an appropriate top. Pioneer school spirit t-shirts are recommended. Modesty rules apply.
5. Students (athletes) who may have practice but no game and attend athletic events may cover their practice clothes with loose-fitting warm-ups (sweatpants). Modesty rules apply.
6. Girls who play on the sports teams may wear their uniforms to and from games. Warm-ups or loose-fitting sweatpants (not jeans or pajama pants) are appropriate.
7. All hair fashions must be in good taste. Hair must remain a natural color.
8. Moderation is expected with makeup, cosmetics, eye shadows, nail polish, lipstick, etc. Jewelry must be kept to a minimum. No tattoos are acceptable for students.
9. Sandals in good taste are permissible except for sports/Phys Ed. This is required in the interest of safety and personal hygiene. Extreme high heels are not permitted. Boots intended for outdoor wear should not be worn during the entire day of school, but dress boots (in good taste) are allowable. If outdoor boots are worn to school, the student must bring along shoes to wear during school hours.
10. Coats, jackets, and hooded sweatshirts are permitted for **breaks and outdoor use only**. Snow boots are permissible! **If a student is cold they may wear a sweater or 1-2 colored, low key, light jacket.**

Note: Any appearance standard not specifically mentioned in this section will be evaluated at the discretion of the faculty and administration of the Academy.

## B. Boys & Men

Godliness coupled with manliness should characterize the dress and demeanor of a Christian young man. We aim to keep a professional environment which includes the proper attire. Good grooming habits and cleanliness are necessary to present a positive testimony for the Lord. Therefore, the following is the mode of dress for all male students and staff members of Twin Valley Bible Academy.

1. Dress shirts or polo shirts, with either long or short sleeves will be required. All shirts must be tucked in and buttoned up except the top button. Shirts must have a full collar.
2. **Coats, jackets, or hooded sweatshirts are permitted for breaks and outdoor use only. If a student is cold they may wear a sweater or 1-2 colored, low key, light jacket.**
3. Shoes and socks must be worn at all times. Dress boots are allowable.
4. Boys must wear modest, neat dress pants. Oversized pants are not permitted. Appropriateness is the key word in determining the clothing to be worn.
5. Boys' hairstyles must be well-kept and maintained. No shaved heads are permitted. Hair must be a natural color.
6. Extreme fads of any nature are prohibited in the school. No jewelry may be worn other than wrist watches and finger rings. No tattoos are acceptable for students.
7. No beards or mustaches will be permitted. Older boys must be clean shaven at all times. Male staff members are permitted to wear neatly trimmed mustaches or beards.
8. A belt must be worn at all times. Some exceptions are made for kindergarten and first grades.
9. Students (non-athletes) attending athletic events may wear nice jeans and an appropriate top. Pioneer school spirit t-shirts are recommended.
10. Students (athletes) who may have practice but no game and attend athletic events may cover their practice clothes with warm-ups (sweatpants).
11. Boys who play on the sports teams may wear their uniforms to and from games. Warm-ups or loose-fitting sweatpants (not jeans or pajama pants) are appropriate.

Note: Any appearance standard not specifically mentioned in this section will be evaluated at the discretion of the faculty and administration of the Academy.

All students are reminded they are **TO ARRIVE** at school in school dress and **TO LEAVE** the premises in school dress. Students who end the day with **PE** will not be required to change back into school clothes.

\* It will be the sole responsibility of the administration of Twin Valley Bible Academy to decide what is acceptable in appearance standards. These standards shall apply in any organized classroom situation, Kindergarten through grade 12, at Twin Valley Bible Academy. Elementary Teachers may moderate the rules at their own discretion. Students should remember that, as representatives of our school, they must carefully maintain proper standards of dress and behavior wherever they may be.

## **Transportation Information**

### **A. Buses**

Once again, busing will be provided by the area public school districts.

Proper behavior on the bus is a must. We ask you as parents to talk with your child concerning safety and consideration for the rights of others. If a child is disruptive enough to be brought to the office by the driver, the principal will notify the parents. A second offense may result in suspension from the bus for a period of three to five days and possible

permanent suspension. Students being transported are under the authority of the driver. They are expected to govern themselves under the rules of the bussing company and are representatives of the Lord and the school.

## **B. Private Cars**

It is the understanding that, unless a student is riding a school-provided bus, he is being transported to school by his parents.

1. If any student desires to drive to school, he must obtain and complete a registration form at the school office. Cars should be parked in designated areas only and should be locked.
2. Any misuse of private cars may result in the revoking of the privilege to drive to school.
3. After cars are parked at school, they are not to be re-entered until school is dismissed.
4. **NO STUDENT DRIVER MAY LEAVE THE PREMISES DURING THE DAY WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE SCHOOL'S ADMINISTRATOR.**
5. Any student who rides to school with another student is also subject to these rules for transportation. Also, students riding to school with another student other than immediate family must have parental permission recorded on file in the Academy office.

## **The Classrooms**

### **A. General Supplies for all Students**

1. Personal Bible (KJV)
2. Pencils
3. Blue and/or black pens
4. College ruled (loose leaf) notebook paper
5. File box or school box to hold personal items
6. Colored Pencils (not crayons)
7. Ruler
8. Kleenex
9. 3-ring binders (2-3 inches) Quantity 4-6 for the year

### **B. General Guidelines**

1. Students are not permitted to communicate or be out of their seats without permission.
2. Use restroom and get drink during break time.
3. Water with a closable lid is permitted. No other types of drinks are allowed during student work time.
4. No chewing of gum at any time or at any place during the school day.
5. No sleeping during school hours.



## **Homework**

Our goal for homework is to include the parents in the learning process of their children. We hope that you would cherish moments of learning together as a family. We also hope that homework amounts will accommodate family time and church. There shall be no homework on Wednesdays, and we will strive to have homework commensurate to age level.

## **Grade & Progress Reports**

Report cards will be issued within one week of the end of quarter. The first quarter is always followed by parent teacher meetings (appointments to be made in the office). Progress Reports will be issued in the middle of each of the 2-4 quarters to update the parent what their child is learning academically as well as introduce what they will look forward to learning. Often these reports are accompanied by grades to measure their success or lead to improvement.

## **Parental Involvement**

Parent orientation, Parent-Teacher Fellowships (PTF), and parent conferences promote a good understanding between parents or guardians and the faculty/administration of the Academy. Every parent is required to participate in these informative and helpful programs.

The first PTF will be held at the opening of school. Parent conferences with the supervisor are scheduled following the first quarter.

Parents will be asked to complete the parent orientation program upon enrolling their children. In doing so, they will experience the routine and procedures in order to better understand our program.

## **Field Studies**

In connection with their studies in the arts and sciences, students may have a number of field studies scheduled during the year. Although such off-campus learning experiences are of real enjoyment for the students, it is to be realized that these experiences are designed primarily to enrich learning. Teachers may ask students to take notes and tests upon returning to school. Participation in some field studies may be based on achievement, behavior, incentive, at the staff's discretion.

Student accounts for payment assistance of such trips will be opened at participation of their first fundraiser. Students will earn money at the rate of their involvement in said fundraisers.

## **Physical Education**

It is our policy that no student be excused from the required Physical Education course offered without a doctor's excuse. Every student is expected to participate in physical education activities. Students may not be permitted to stay in the classrooms to catch up on schoolwork or take tests. All students must wear appropriate PE attire including shoes.

## **Graduation Requirements**

A minimum of twenty-three units of credit are required for high school graduation. The Credits should be as follows:

English	4 units
Mathematics	3-4 units
Science	3-4 units
History & Geography	3-4 units
Bible Courses	3+ units
Physical & Health Education	2 units
Electives	3+ units
Total	23 units

### **Tuition Policy**

Tuition for the school year is due and payable the first of each month.

Any balance which falls three months in arrears will require consultation with the Administrator. Unresolved delinquent tuition payments could result in the withdrawal of students from the school.

Accounts must be current before a student is allowed to begin the next school year.

**For Graduating Seniors:** Accounts must be received in full before participating in graduation ceremonies or receiving a diploma.

### **Counseling**

When students request help, advice, or prayer each member of our faculty and staff will be available.

Also, our Pastor has kindly offered to be available for counseling. Any student may arrange an appointment with him by contacting the school office.

Our pastor's wife is available for counseling the girls. You may arrange an appointment with her by contacting the school office.

### **External Government (Discipline)**

Twin Valley Bible Academy is not a corrective institution. Consequently, we ask that you do not enroll your child with the idea that we will reform him. We are here to work with the home, but not to take the place of parents who have experienced difficulty in fulfilling their role.

The staff of the Academy welcomes the constructive comments from students and parents, but will not permit destructive, negative comments which only divide and destroy God's purpose for our school. Such comments warrant a conference with parents.

God has CALLED every member of the Academy faculty and staff to his position of service. We are where God has directed us to be. However, this does not mean that we will perform all of our duties perfectly. Should we make an error in judgment or an

indiscretion in a decision, please call us to clear up the matter. Please recognize that we are human, and therefore prone to make errors. We need your prayers as well as your cooperation and support.

Students must at all times conduct themselves in a manner becoming to a Christian. Gripping is not tolerated! If your child does come home complaining about a policy or discipline, please follow this procedure:

1. Give the staff the benefit of the doubt.
2. Realize that the student's reporting is emotionally biased without all information.
3. Realize that we have reasons for all rules and that they are enforced without favor.
4. **SUPPORT THE ADMINISTRATION** and call on us for all the facts.

When a student's ATTITUDE or CONDUCT is not in accord with school policies or principles, the student will be placed on probation; both parents are to be called and notified of the violation. The probationary period will be at the discretion of the administration or board (usually one year from the offense). During this probationary period, the student may be restricted from extracurricular activities depending on the nature and severity of the offense. If the administration feels the situation has not changed, or if repeated violations occur, the parents may be asked to withdraw the child.

This school is dedicated to the training of children in a program of study, activity, and living that is Christ-centered. We believe that "all things should be done decently and in order" and that our students should be taught to accept a given responsibility to "walk honorably before all men." Here, a discipline is maintained which is firm, consistent, fair, and tempered with love. Our faculty maintains standards of behavior in the classroom through kindness, love, and a genuine regard for their students. However, when disciplinary action becomes necessary, it is firmly carried out, tempered by good judgment and understanding.

High school students in particular, because of their testimony before younger children, are expected to adhere to the school's philosophy and Christ-centered program. Such includes abstinence from smoking, alcoholic beverages, use of narcotics, or any other questionable lifestyle that might compromise a Christian testimony. This should involve outside of school as well as school related activities.

Students are reminded that the Lord Jesus Christ expects us to be disciplined in all of life:

- *"Children, obey your parents in all things; for this is well-pleasing unto the Lord."* Colossians 3:20
- *"Let every soul be subject to the higher powers."* Romans 13:1a
- *"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourself."* Hebrews 13:17a
- *"He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction; but he that refuseth reproof erreth."* Proverbs 10:17
- *"Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying."* Proverbs 19:18

- *“Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.” Proverbs 22:15*

### **General Comments**

1. Marked on or defaced property is to be replaced at the offending student’s expense with the cost added to the monthly billing statement.
2. Guns, matches, lighters, knives, and any other items which the school feels are dangerous are not permitted on campus. Violations may result in suspension from school.
3. Cellular phones, ipods, mp3 players, or any other electronic entertainment device must be kept in the cell phone box, turned off and kept off, from the student’s arrival at school until 2:30pm. First offense: Teacher will keep the item until the end of the day. Second offense: Parent must come to school to pick the item up. Third offense: The Teacher will keep the item until the end of the school year.
4. Language: use only words which glorify the Lord.
5. High School students: “hands off elementary students”
6. Elementary students: “no back talk to high school students;”

**MUSIC:** Christian music-only that which glorifies the Lord is permitted. Instruments are to be played only in supervised music classes or designated areas.

**CHURCH ATTENDANCE:** We believe the church, school, and families are essential units in the education of the child, therefore, we expect faithful attendance at a recognized Bible preaching church.

**PARTIES:** Parties are not school-sponsored unless parents receive notification from the principal. Any party designated as a school party on these grounds must be coordinated through the school office.

**OFF LIMITS:** Certain areas of the school campus and the surroundings area are considered off limits, and no permission will be granted to students to go there. Students may not leave the grounds during school hours without permission.

**VISITORS:** A visitor is anyone who is neither a member of the Academy staff, nor an enrolled student. All visitors are to report to the Chapel or Academy offices. Students are encouraged to bring friends who are interested in our school. Visitors must keep appearance standards and get student passes from office before entering the Learning Center.

**TELEPHONE USE:** The school phone is reserved for official school business and emergencies only. Students desiring to place emergency calls will give the name and number to school personnel who in turn will place the call. Calls should not be made during class hours unless deemed necessary by a staff member.

**ABSENCES:** When a student is absent, a signed absentee form must be turned in to the supervisor. Any student absent for 3 or more days in succession due to illness must include a doctor's excuse with the form.

Concerning family trips, parental permission must be written and signed and given to the office in **advance** of the absence. Students must sign out and in if leaving other than 2:30 p.m. No student may leave campus without having followed this procedure. Such trips are discouraged during the regular school year as it disrupts the flow of education.

**SEARCHES BY THE SCHOOL:** The administration reserves the right to search the student's person and belongings in the event the school suspects the student possesses an illegal or unapproved item. This includes automobiles, backpacks, purses, pockets, offices, and lockers. Such a search may be conducted without the student's or parents' permission.

*\*Any standards that are not specifically mentioned in the preceding pages will be maintained at the discretion of the faculty and administration of the Academy. Our goal is to train the total person. If we teach only academic skill we have failed in our responsibility to educate our students.*

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## **TWIN VALLEY BIBLE CHAPEL AND ACADEMY STATEMENT OF FAITH**

(A) **The Holy Scriptures.** We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the verbally and plenary inspired Word of God. The Scriptures are inerrant, infallible and God-breathed and, therefore, are the final authority for faith and life. The sixty-six books of the Old and New Testament are the complete and divine revelation of God to Man. The Scriptures shall be interpreted according to their normal literal-grammatical-historical meaning, and all issues of interpretation and meaning shall be determined by the pastor and elder board. (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:20-21)

(B) **The Godhead.** We believe in one triune God, eternally existing in three persons-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit-each co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, coequal in power and glory, and having the same attributes and perfections. (Deut. 6:4; Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14; John 14:10,26)

(C) **The Person and Work of Christ.**

1. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful men. (Isa. 7:14; 9:6; Luke 1:35; John 1:1-2, 14; 2 Cor. 5:19-21; Gal. 4:4-5; Phil. 2:5- 8)

2. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice; and all that believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed blood, and that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead. (Acts 2:18-36; Rom. 3:24-25 5:18-19; 1 Cor 15:3; 1 Pet. 2:24; Eph. 1:7; 1 Peter 1:3-5)

3. We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His ascension to Heaven and in his exalted position  
at the right hand of God where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of Representative, Intercessor, and

Advocate. (Acts 1:9-10; Heb.9:24; 7:25; Rom. 8:34; 1 John 2:1-2)

**(D) The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.**

1. We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person who convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration (being born again), baptizing all believers into the body of Christ, indwelling and sealing them unto the day of redemption. (John 16:8-11; Rom. 8:9; 1Cor. 12:12-14; Cor. 3:6; Eph. 1:13-14)

2. We believe that He is the divine Teacher who assists believers to understand and appropriate the Scriptures and that it is the privilege and duty of all the saved to be filled with the Spirit (Eph. 1:17-18; 5:18; 1 John 2:20, 27)

3. We believe that the sign gifts of the Holy Spirit, such as speaking in tongues and the gift of healing, were temporary. Speaking in tongues was never the common or necessary sign of the baptism or filling of the Holy Spirit, and that ultimate deliverance of the body from sickness or death awaits the consummation of our salvation in the resurrection, though God frequently chooses to answer the prayers of believers for physical healing. (1 Cor. 1:22; 13:8; 14:21-22)

**(E) The Total Depravity of Man.** We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God; but that in Adam's sin the human race fell, incurred not only physical death but spiritual death which is separation from God, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God. Man is totally depraved and, of himself, utterly unable to remedy his lost condition. (Gen. 1:26-27; Rom. 3:22-23; 5:12; 6:23; Eph. 2:1-3; 4:17-19)

**(F) Salvation.** We believe that salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, Whose precious blood was shed on Calvary for the forgiveness of our sins. (John 1:12; Eph. 1:7; 2:8-10; 1 Pet. 1:18-19; 1 John 1:9)

**(G) The Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers.** We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are thus secure in Christ forever. (John 6:37-40; 10:27-30; Rom. 8:1; 38-39; 1 Cor. 1:4-8; 1 Pet. 1:4-5)

**(H) The Church.**

1. We believe that the local church, which is the body and the espoused bride of Christ, is solely made up of born-again persons, and

is distinct from Israel. Its business is to complete itself through the winning of lost souls to Christ.

(Acts 2:1-4; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; 2Cor. 11:2; Eph. 1:22-23; 4:11-13; 5:25-27)

2. We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament

Scriptures. (Acts 14:27; 20:17, 28-32; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-11)

3. We believe in the autonomy of the local church free of any external authority or control. (Acts 13:1-4; 15:19-31; 20:28;

Rom. 16:1, 4; 1 Cor.3:9, 16; 5:4-7, 13; 1 Pet. 5:1-4)

4. We recognize water baptism and the Lord's Supper as the Scriptural ordinances of obedience for the church in this age. (Matt.

28:19-20; Acts 2:41- 42; 18:18; 1 Cor. 11:23-26)

**(I) The Second Advent of Christ.** We believe in that *blessed hope*, the personal, premillennial, pre-tribulational, and imminent return of Christ, to establish His earthly Messianic Kingdom which was promised to the nation of Israel. (Ps. 89:3-4; Dan. 2:31-45; Zech. 14:4-11; I Thess. 1:10; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Titus 2:13; Rev. 3:10; 19:11-16; 20:1-6)

**(J) The Eternal State**

1. We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life, and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting

punishment. (Matt. 25:46; John 5:28, 29; 11:25-26; Rev. 20:5-6, 12-13)

2. We believe that the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss

they await the first resurrection, when spirit, soul, and body are reunited to be glorified forever with the Lord. (Luke 23:43;

2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23; 3:21; I Thess.4:16-17; Rev. 20:4-6)

3. We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain, after death, in conscious punishment and torment until the second resurrection,  
when with soul and body reunited, they shall appear at the Great White Throne Judgment, and shall be cast into the Lake of Fire,  
not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscious punishment and torment. (Matt. 25:41-46; Mark 9:43-48; Luke 16:19-26; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; Jude 6-7; Rev. 20:11-15)

(K) **The Personality of Satan.** We believe that Satan is a created being, the author of sin, and the cause of the Fall of Man. He is the  
open and declared enemy of God and man, and he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire. (Job 1:6-7; Isa. 14:12-17; Matt. 4:2-11; 25:41; Rev. 20:10)

(L) **Creation.** We believe that God created the universe in six literal, 24-hour periods. We reject any other theory of origin as unscriptural. (Gen. 1-2; Ex. 20:11)

(M) **Civil Government.** We believe that God has ordained and created all authority consisting of three basic institutions: the home, 2) the church, and 3) the state. Every person is subject to these authorities, but all (including the authorities themselves) are answerable to God and governed by His Word. God has given each institution specific Biblical responsibilities and balanced those responsibilities with the understanding that no institution has the right to infringe upon the other. The home, the church, and the state are equal and sovereign in their respective Biblically assigned spheres of responsibility under God. (Rom.13:1-7; Eph. 5:22-24; Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 2:13-14)

(N) **Human Sexuality.**

1. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a  
woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and  
pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one's  
gender by surgery or appearance. (Gen. 2:24; Gen.19:5, 13; Gen. 26:8-9; Lev. 18:1-30; Rom. 1: 26-29; Cor. 5:1; 6:9;  
1Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4)

2. We believe that the only legitimate marriage is the joining of one man and one woman. (Gen. 2:24; Rom. 7:2; 1 Cor. 7:10;  
Eph. 5:22-23)

(O) **Family Relationships**

1. We believe that men and women are spiritually equal in position before God but that God has ordained distinct and separate  
spiritual functions for men and women in the home and the church. The husband is to be the leader of the home, and men are to be  
the leaders (pastors and elders) of the church. Accordingly, only men are eligible for licensure and ordination by the church.  
(Gal. 3:28; Col. 3:18; 1 Tim. 2:8-15; 3:4-5, 12)

2. We believe that God has ordained the family as the foundational institution of human society. The husband is to love his wife as  
Christ loves the church. The wife is to submit herself to the Scriptural leadership of her husband as the church submits to the  
headship of Christ. Children are an heritage from the Lord. Parents are responsible for teaching their children spiritual and moral  
values and leading them, through consistent lifestyle example and appropriate discipline, including

Scriptural corporal correction.

(Gen. 1:26-28; Ex. 20:12; Deut. 6:4-9; Ps. 127:3-5; Prov. 19:18; 22:15; 23:13-14; Mk. 10:6-12; I Cor. 7:1-16; Eph. 5:21-33; 6:1-4, Col. 3:18-21; Heb. 13:4; I Pet. 3:1-7)

(P) **Divorce and Remarriage.** We believe that God disapproves of divorce and intends marriage to last until one of the spouses dies. Although divorced and remarried persons or divorced persons may hold positions of service in the church and be greatly used of God for Christian service, they may not be considered for the offices of pastor, elder or deacon. (Mal. 2:14-17; Matt. 19:3-12; Rom. 7:1-3; 1 Tim. 3:2, 12; Titus 1:6)

(Q) **Abortion.** We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of unborn human life. Abortion is murder. We reject any teaching that the abortions of pregnancies due to rape, incest, birth defects, gender selection, birth or population control, or the physical and/or mental well-being of the mother are acceptable. (Job 3:16; Ps. 51:5; 139:14-16; Isa. 44:24; 49:1,5; Jer. 1:5; 20:15-18; Luke 1:44)

(R) **Lawsuits between Believers.** We believe that Christians are prohibited from bringing civil lawsuits against other Christians or the church to resolve personal disputes. We believe the church possesses all the resources necessary to resolve personal disputes between members. (1 Cor. 6: 1-8; Eph. 4:31-32)

(S) **Giving.** We believe that every Christian, as a steward of that portion of God's wealth entrusted to him, is obligated to support his local church and its ministries financially. We believe that God has established the tithe as a basis for giving, but that every Christian should also give other offerings sacrificially and cheerfully to the support of the church, the relief of those in need, and the spread of the Gospel. We believe that a Christian relinquishes all rights to direct the use of the tithe or offering once the gift has been made. (Gen. 14:20; Provo 3:9-10; Acts 4:34-37; 1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 9:6-7; Gal. 6:6; Eph. 4:28; 1 Tim. 5:17-18; 1 John 3:17)

(T) **Music.** We believe the church should hold to the highest standard of music for worship and ministry. We believe the traditional, God-honoring hymns and choruses of conservative Christianity best reflect those standards. We are glad to use the works of modern day writers who offer new and fresh music without giving in to the questionable sounds and compromising associations of the contemporary "Christian" music movement. We believe individual Christians have the liberty to select music of their own preference which should honor the Lord, but may be different from that used in the church. (1 Cor. 10:31)



