

JENISON BIBLE CHURCH 6360 14th Avenue Hudsonville, MI 49426



Affirmation of Doctrine and Practice

Article IV - Statement of Doctrine

Section A - The Holy Scriptures

We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the verbally inspired Word of God, the final authority for faith and life, inerrant in the original writings, infallible and God-breathed. (2 Tim. 3:16,17; 2 Peter 1:20,21; Matt. 5:18; John 16:12,13)

Section B - The Godhead

We believe in one Triune God, eternally existing in three persons -- Father, Son and Holy Spirit -- co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, co-equal in power and glory and having the same attributes and perfections. (Deut. 6:4; 2 Cor. 13:14)

Section C - The Person and Work of Christ

- 1. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful men. (John 1:1,2,14; Luke 1:35)
- 2. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice, and that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead. (Rom. 3:24,25; 1 Peter 2:24; Eph. 1:7;

1 Peter 1:3-5)

3. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of Representative, Intercessor and Advocate. (Acts 1:9, Heb. 9:24; 7:25; Rom. 8:34; 1 John 2:1,2)

Section 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, and that He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ, indwelling and sealing them unto the day of redemption. (John 16:8-11; 2 Cor. 3:6; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; Rom. 8:9; Eph. 1:13,14)
- 2. We believe that He is the Divine Teacher who guides believers into all truth, and that it is the privilege and duty of all the saved to be filled with the Spirit. (John 16:13; 1 John 2:20,27; Eph. 5:18)

Section 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 race fell, inherited a sinful nature and became alienated from God, and that man is totally depraved and of himself utterly unable to remedy his lost condition. (Gen. 1:26,27; Rom. 3:23; 5:12; Eph. 2:1-3,12)

Section 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. (Eph. 2:8-10; John 1:12; Eph. 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19)

Section C - The Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers

- 1. 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 Peter 1:5)
- 2. We believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word; which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion to the flesh. (Rom. 13:13,14; Gal. 5:13; Titus 2:11-15)

Section H - The Two Natures of the Believer

We believe that every saved person possesses two natures, with provision made for victory of the new nature over the old nature through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit, and that all claims to the eradication of the old nature in this life are unscriptural. (Rom. 6:13; 8:12,13; Gal. 5:16-25; Eph. 4:22-24; Col. 3:10; 1 Peter 1:14-16; 1 John. 3:5-9)

Section I - Separation

We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord, and that separation from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices and associations is commanded of God. (2 Tim. 3:1-5,

Rom. 12:1,2, 14:13; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 John 9-11; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1)

Section J - Missions

We believe that it is the obligation of the saved to witness by life and by word to the truths of Holy Scripture and to seek to proclaim the Gospel to all mankind. (Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8; 2 Cor. 5:19-20)

Section K - The Ministry and Spiritual Gifts

- 1. We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowment of all His gifts and that the gifts of evangelists, pastors and teachers are sufficient for the perfecting of the saints today and that speaking in tongues and the working of sign miracles gradually ceased as the New Testament Scriptures were completed and their authority became established. (1 Cor. 12:4-11; 2 Cor. 12:12; Eph. 4:7-12)
- 2. We believe that God does hear and answer the prayer of faith, in accord with His own will, for the sick and afflicted. (John 15:7; 1 John 5:14,15)

Section L - The Church

- 1. We believe that the Church, which is the body and the espoused bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all bornagain persons of this present age. (Eph. 1:22-23; 5:25-27; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; 2 Cor. 11:2)
- 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 Peter 5:1-4)

4. We recognize the ordinances of Water Baptism and the Lord's Supper as a scriptural means of testimony for the church in this age. (Matt. 28:19,20; Acts 2:41,42; 18:8; 1 Cor. 11:23-26)

Section M - Dispensationalism

We believe that the Scriptures interpreted in their natural, literal sense, reveal divinely determined dispensations or rules of life which define man's responsibilities in successive ages. These dispensations are not ways of salvation, but rather divinely ordered stewardships by which God directs man according to His purpose. Three of these -- the age of law, the age of grace (the church), and the age of the millenial kingdom -- are the subjects of detailed revelation in Scripture. (John 1:17; 1 Cor. 9:17; 2 Cor. 3:9-18; Gal. 3:13-25; Eph. 1:10; 3:2-10; Col. 1:24,25; Heb. 7:19; Rev. 20:2-6)

Section N - The Personality of Satan

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

Section O - The Second Advent of Christ

We believe in that "blessed hope," the personal, imminent, pre-tribulation and pre-millenial coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His redeemed ones and in His subsequent return to earth with His saints to establish His millenial kingdom.

(1 Thess. 1:10; 4:13-18; 5:9; Zech. 14:4-11; Rev. 19:11-16; 20:1-6; 3:10)

Section P - 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; Rev. 20:4-6; 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23; 3:21; 1 Thess. 4:16,17)
- 3. We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain after death in conscious misery 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. (Luke 16:19-26; Matt. 25:41-46; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; Jude 6,7; Mark 9:43-48; Rev. 20:11-15)

Article V - Ordinances

We recognize two ordinances of the church for this age - the Lord's Supper and Water Baptism. They are not to be regarded however as a means of salvation, nor as means of grace by which special merit is obtained.

Section A - The Lord's Supper

This ordinance shall be observed at least once each quarter and as often as the Pastor and Elders shall decide on special occasions. All who have accepted Jesus Christ as personal Savior and are walking in fellowship with the Lord shall be welcome to join in this service -- unless they are under

the discipline of the church, as defined in Article VI, Section D, Part 2. (1 Cor. 11:17-34)

Section B - Water Baptism

When administered by this church, baptism shall be by immersion at the request of those who have personally acknowledged Christ as Savior. This ordinance shall not be a requirement for membership in this church. (Acts 8:36-39; 10:47,48; 1 Cor. 1:14-17)

Section C - Dedication Service for Children

While it is not an ordinance of the Lord, this church shall practice allowing a Christian parent or parents to present his child before the Lord in a service of public dedication. (1 Sam. 1:27,28)

Articles IV & V Statement of Faith and Constitution Jenison Bible Church

statement of Jenison Bible Church Name (please print): If you are not a member, reason not a member: Position(s) of Service: I commit to regular attendance at the services of Jenison Bible Church in order to be involved in the C.E. Program. Exceptions must be approved by the elder board along with a pastoral letter from the church attended if other than JBC. Yes No Date: Signature: *An annual affirmation statement is to be signed by all those involved as leaders, teachers and helpers in the various Christian education ministries of Jenison Bible Church (Elders, Deacons, staff, committee members, AWANA, Sunday School, Children's Church, Youth Groups, etc.) Please initial and date to signify your continued agreement: Initials Date

By signing below, I am indicating unreserved agreement with both the constitution and doctrinal