

On Things Doctrinal

Our theology can best be described as Evangelical, with Reformed roots. While not overtly Charismatic, we are not Cessationist. We prefer to consider ourselves “Non-Denominational”, as we believe God is. A *brief* synopsis of our understanding of the major doctrines of Evangelical Christian Theology follows.

- **Scripture...** We hold the high view of the Full Inerrancy of Scripture. “The Bible, when correctly interpreted in light of the level to which culture and the means of communication had developed at the time it was written, and in view of the purposes for which it was given, is fully truthful in all that it affirms.”¹
- **God...** We believe, maintain and teach that God possesses the attributes of Self-existence, Triunity, Sovereignty, Omnipotence, Omniscience, and Omnipresence, is Infinitely Loving, Infinitely Merciful and Infinitely Just. He is personal, relational and has revealed Himself, sovereignly, to humankind.
- **Christ...** He is Fully God and Fully Man, and in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead, bodily. He was born of a literal virgin, was crucified and died for the sins of humankind at approximately age 33, rose bodily from the dead, ascended into Heaven and will return at a time of the Father’s choosing.
- **Humankind...** it is the chief end of Man to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. Man was created by God to be in full, unbroken fellowship with God. This can now be accomplished through the atoning work of God in the form of His son Jesus Christ, born Himself as a man, that He might be touched with the feelings of our infirmities, and suffer as a man, in our stead.
- **The Church...** it is the body of Christ, ordained thus to do His work on this Earth. As such, it must hold to Christ’s Kingdom of God views and must be about the work of announcing and affirming the Kingdom to the world as Christ commanded His followers.

¹ Erickson, Millard J.(2007), *Systematic Theology*, 2nd Ed, Grand Rapids, MI. Baker Books (p.253)

- **Sin...** that which offends God and separates humankind from Him, that which hurts, harms or offends humans, and that which is not of faith, is sin. Additionally, omission of good is sin.
- **Salvation...** Jesus the Christ is the cornerstone of salvation for there is no other name under Heaven given among people, whereby we must be saved. While the Grace of God actually saves a person, *Personal* faith in Christ's stated mission of taking all human sin upon Himself at the cross, and His subsequent death, burial and resurrection, are essential for salvation.
- **The Holy Spirit...** the third person of the Trinity is personal and divine, possessing all the attributes of God. He has been sent to humankind to regenerate, teach, lead, guide, comfort, empower and bestow gifts for the building up of the Kingdom of God.
- **Last Things...** Christ will (at some point of the Father's choosing) return to the Earth and gather His people from all time in a resurrection. Humans still living in true Faith will also be gathered to Christ at that time. What we know as the Heavens and the Earth will be done away with, and God will establish His New Heavens, New Earth (in whatever form these may take), and will then reveal His plans for His own and their future (if indeed there is any such thing as time, at that time).