

Doctrines & Distinctives

DOCTRINES

The Bible is God's very word to man, is without error in the original writings, and is the final authority for what we believe and how we live.

There is one true God, eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who are equal in every way.

Man was created in God's image but rebelled against his Creator, thus all men are sinners by nature and practice, deserving of death and hell.

Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, is fully God and fully man, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, was born of the virgin Mary, lived a sinless life, died, was buried, bodily rose from the grave, and ascended into heaven.

Jesus Christ's life, substitutionary death and resurrection provide the only means sinful men have to gain a right standing before the one true, holy God. By God's grace alone, man must respond through faith alone, in Christ alone in order to be forgiven of his sin and be reconciled to God.

The Holy Spirit glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ by working conviction, regeneration, repentance, assurance, guidance, obedience and gifts in men so they too might glorify the Savior.

The Church is composed of all who are trusting in Christ. As His church we have been called by God to gather regularly for worship, for observance of ordinances, for prayer, and for mutual encouragement.

Jesus Christ will return to earth to welcome those trusting in Him to the eternal joy of His presence, and to condemn unbelievers to eternal punishment.

DISTINCTIVES

Bethesda joyfully holds to the supreme authority of the Bible and believes it should be studied and taught with care, humbly depending on God's Spirit.

Bethesda believes God's Word teaches radical depravity, unconditional election, particular redemption, efficacious and persevering grace.

Bethesda is led by a plurality of pastors who have been called by God and recognized by the congregation to prepare God's people with the gospel for involvement in the church and the world.