

# **What We Believe at Vintage Faith Church**

## **The Scripture**

The sole basis of our beliefs is the Bible, the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments. It was uniquely, verbally and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit and was written without error in the original manuscript. It is the supreme and final authority in faith and life in every age.

II Timothy 3:16, II Peter 1:20-21, Mark 13:31, John 8:31-32, John 20:31, Acts 20:32

## **God**

There is but one God, infinite in power, wisdom, justice, goodness and love, the Creator of the universe, eternally existing in three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - each of whom possesses all the attributes of Deity and the characteristics of personality.

Luke 10:21-22, Matthew 23:9, John 3:16, John 6:27, Romans 1:7, Romans 1:19-20, Ephesians 4:5-6, I Timothy 1:1-2, I Peter 1:3, Revelation 1:6

## **Man**

God created man in His own image, and man, as he was originally created, was innocent before God. But man chose to sin by disobeying God, and therefore was alienated from his Creator and came under divine condemnation. Thus all human beings are born with a corrupted nature and without spiritual life, and are totally incapable of pleasing God in and of themselves.

Genesis 1:26-27, Genesis 2:7, Genesis 3:3-4, Isaiah 53:6, Isaiah 64:6, Romans 1:18-32, Romans 3:10-23, Ephesians 2:1-3

## **Jesus Christ**

God the Father, by His own choice and out of love for sinful men and women, sent Jesus Christ into the world to reconcile sinners to Himself. Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin. He is God in the flesh, both true God and true man.

Jesus Christ lived a sinless life and voluntarily suffered and died as our substitute to pay the penalty for our sins, thus satisfying God's justice and accomplishing salvation for all who trust in Him alone. He arose from the dead in the same body, though glorified, in which He lived and died. He bodily ascended into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God the Father, where He, the only mediator between God and man, makes intercession for His own. He will return to earth - personally, visibly and bodily - to judge all men and establish His Kingdom.

Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 1:26-38, John 1:1, John 20:28, Romans 9:5, II Corinthians 5:21, I Peter 2:21-23, John 20:30-31, Matthew 20:28, Ephesians 1:4, Acts 1:11, Romans 5:6-8, Romans 6:9-10, Hebrews 7:25, Hebrews 9:28, I Timothy 3:16

## **Salvation**

Men and women are freed from the penalty for their sins, not as a result, in whole or in part, of their own works, goodness or religious ceremony, but by the undeserved favor of God alone. God declares righteous all who put their faith in Christ alone for their salvation.

Genesis 1:26, Genesis 2:17, Genesis 3:19, Genesis 5:2, Ecclesiastes 2:11, John 3:14, John 5:24, John 5:30, John 7:13, John 8:12, John 10:26, Romans 9:22, II Thessalonians 1:9, Revelation 19:3, Revelation 19:20, Revelation 20:10-15, Revelation 21:18, Psalm 51:7, Jeremiah 17:9, James 1:14, Romans 3:19, Romans 5:19, Proverbs 28:13, I John 1:9, John 3:16, John 1:13, II Corinthians 5:17, Romans 8:1

## **The Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit has come into the world to reveal and glorify Christ, to convict men and women of their sins, and to impart new life to all who place their faith in Christ. He indwells believers from the moment of spiritual birth, seals them until the day of redemption and empowers them to live a life pleasing to God.

John 14:16-17 & 26, John 15:26-27, John 16:9-14, Romans 8:9, I Corinthians 3:16, I Corinthians 6:19, Galatians 5:22-26

## **Assurance**

All who are born again of the Spirit can be fully assured of eternal life from the very moment they put their faith in Christ. This assurance is not based upon any kind of human merit, but upon the fact of God's election, upon Christ's complete payment for sins and upon the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, who is the deposit guaranteeing our inheritance.

John 5:24, John 10:29, I John 5:13

## **The Resurrection of the Dead**

At physical death, the believer enters immediately into eternal, conscious fellowship with the Lord and awaits the resurrection of his or her own body to everlasting glory and blessing. At physical death, the unbeliever enters immediately into eternal, conscious separation from the Lord and awaits the resurrection of his or her body to everlasting suffering, judgment and condemnation.

Matthew 16:27, Mark 14:62, John 14:3, Acts 1:11, Philippians 3:20, I Thessalonians 4:15, II Timothy 4:1, Titus 2:13, I Corinthians 4:5, I Corinthians 15, II Thessalonians 1:7-10, Revelation 20:4-6 & 11-15

## **Baptism and the Lord's Supper**

Jesus Christ instructed those who believe in Him to be baptized in water as a symbol of their new birth in Christ. Baptism would be by immersion and is only for those who have personally believed in Christ. The Lord also instituted the Lord's Supper as a remembrance of His suffering, death and resurrection. Neither baptism nor the Lord's Supper have any merit in helping a person obtain eternal life.

Matthew 28:18-20, Romans 6:3-5, I Corinthians 11:23-26

## **The Church**

All true believers make up the church worldwide and should assemble together in local churches for worship, prayer, fellowship and teaching, to become conformed to the image of Christ and to become equipped to carry out the "Great Commission" that Christ gave His followers in Matthew 28:19-20.

Ephesians 2:19-22, Acts 1:8, Ephesians 5:19-21, Acts 2:42, Hebrews 10:23-25