

## **TRUTH BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH**

Currently meeting at the Oregon Heritage House, Lake Oswego  
Address: 398 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lake Oswego, OR 97034

### **SUMMARY**

Truth Bible Baptist Church is a King James Bible believing independent baptist church. We are Evangelistic, “Pre-Trib”, Pre-Millennial, Non-Calvinistic, and Non-“Baptist Brider”.

### **Church Constitution**

#### **ARTICLE 1 – NAME AND PURPOSE**

##### **Section 1.01—Name**

This congregation of believers shall be known as Truth Bible Baptist Church.

##### **Section 1.02—Purpose**

This congregation is organized as a local church for the following purposes ( 1) To glorify God in public worship. (2) To edify those who have received Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. (3) To help those who are lost to understand scriptural salvation to the end that they might also experience saving grace. These purposes are to be accomplished and sustained in a Biblical Manner which glorifies God and exalts the Holy Scriptures.

#### **ARTICLE 2 – STATEMENT OF FAITH AND COVENANT**

##### **Section 2.01—Statement Of Faith**

The following represent the fundamental Scriptural beliefs of this church and its members; as such, these beliefs are essential --not exhaustive.

##### **A. DIVINE REVELATION**

We believe that God can only be known as He reveals Himself. God has revealed Himself through His creation (Ps. 19:1, Rom. 1:20), by His words (Ps. 119:169), and in the incarnation of Christ (John 1:1, 14). Because Christ is no longer with us bodily (Acts 1:11), and because God no longer speaks audibly and directly to mankind as a whole, we believe that the 66 books of the Holy Scriptures are the only means by which we may know God personally, and His will for mankind (II Tim. 3:16). These writings are the

infallible, authoritative, sufficient, perfect, written words of God (Rev.1:2, 11; John 19:35; I John 5:10; II Peter 1:20-21). II Timothy 3:16 clearly reveals that ALL SCRIPTURE is given by inspiration of God, and 2 Peter 1:20-21 states that holy men of God were used by God as the human mediums to speak forth these scriptures --not according to their own wisdom or understanding but according to the leading and direction and ultimately the “movement” of the Holy Ghost (1 Cor.2:13).

Because God is true and perfect, and because the Scripture came not “by the will of man,” and because of the many internal references to perfection and preservation of the Scriptures (Psalms 12:6-7), it can be justly concluded that ***not only*** the original writings (autographs) were scriptures without error of any kind, but that God has also preserved His Holy Scriptures for us today. For example, Timothy was not holding original writings yet the Holy Spirit refers to what he had in hand (copies of copies) as “Holy Scriptures” (2 Tim.3:15). Also, the Ethiopian Eunuch was not holding the original writing of Isaiah the Prophet, yet the Holy Spirit sees fit to refer to that which he held in hand (copies of copies) as “Holy Scriptures” (Acts 3:30). Therefore, as it would be immoral and unbiblical to define and limit the Holy Scriptures to “the original autographs” ONLY, we conclude that, in accordance with the nature of God as revealed in the Scriptures, God -- the Creator of language (Gen.11:5-9)-- has indeed preserved his perfect words today and has done so in the universal tongue of the world: English.

Furthermore, due in part to extensive comparative studies between variant translations in English, we conclude that there are indeed many corruptions (2 Cor.2:17) of the word of God, most of which not only exclude some passages of scripture *from the text*, or *add to the text*, but also undermine and distort important Bible Doctrines such as the virgin birth of Christ, the restoration of Israel, the deity of Christ, the eminent, physical, literal, return of Christ, and so on. Although many Biblical PRINCIPLES may be found within these books, due to their individual failures to meet the standard of perfection and purity required by God to be “the Scriptures of truth” (Prov. 30:5, Ps. 119:140), we totally and completely reject any and all such “translations” as being the fulfillment of God’s promise to man that He would preserve his words forever (Psalms 12:6-7). We conclude that not only the entire *message of the Scriptures* has been perfectly preserved, but that *the very scriptures themselves* have been kept by the power of God for us, and given to us by inspiration of God in the text of the Authorized Version, also known as the King James Version (KJV) and King James Bible (KJB).

The Scriptures shall therefore preside as the ultimate and final authority in all matters of faith and practice and shall be comparatively and contextually interpreted, taught and preached in accordance with 1 Cor. 2:13 and 2 Peter 1:20. While the soul liberty and duty remains for each person to be fully persuaded in his own mind, it is understood that we believe that the King James Bible is THE ULTIMATE AUTHORITY and as such, it is to be believed, obeyed and exalted as THE PERFECT SCRIPTURES.

## **B. DISPENSATIONS**

We believe that the Scriptures being read in their natural, literal sense reveal divinely-determined dispensations (rules of life) that define mankind's responsibilities in successive ages towards God. Although we do not sharply label time periods which result in disassociation of passages and disruption of the continuity of the Bible, we do believe the word of truth must be "rightly divided" (2 Tim.3:15) in order to understand God's dispensing of Grace throughout these successive ages, i.e. Age of Innocence, Age of Conscience, Age of Law, Age of Grace, Age of Tribulation, Age of Restoration, and ultimately the Age of Ages (eternity).

### **C. 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, co-equal 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).

### **D. JESUS CHRIST**

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 (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). Through His death He accomplished our redemption as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice; and, our justification is validated by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead (Acts 2:18-36; Rom. 3:24-25; 1 Pet. 2:24; Eph. 1:7; 1 Peter 1:3-5). After his resurrection 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 1:9-10; Heb. 9:24; 7:25; Rom. 8:34; 1 John 2:1-2).

### **E. THE HOLY SPIRIT**

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 when saving faith in Christ occurs, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ, indwelling and sealing them unto the day of redemption (John 16:8-11; Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; 2 Cor. 3:6; Eph. 1:13-14). 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). We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowal of spiritual gifts to every believer by the Holy Spirit. God uniquely uses evangelists, pastors, and teachers to equip believers in the assembly in order that they can do the work of the ministry (Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-11, 28; Eph. 4:7-12). We also believe that the sign gifts of the Holy Spirit (such as speaking in tongues and the gift of healing) were temporary gifts (2 Timothy 4:20, 1 Timothy 5:23) for the purpose of demonstrating God's approval of the church to the Jews who, as a whole, require a sign (Heb. 1:1-2; 2:4; Acts 5:12, 1 Cor.1:22). Therefore, we believe that

speaking in tongues is not a necessary sign of the baptism or filling of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 14:26-30). Furthermore, we believe that there are many present day false prophets who claim to be fulfilling these signs while they, Biblically and actually, are not (Mat. 7:22-23, 2 Cor. 11:13-15, 1 Jn. 4:1, Rev. 2:2).

## **F. SALVATION**

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God; but that in Adam's sin the human race fell, inherited a sinful nature, became alienated from God, and physically began to die. Every person is born with a sinful nature and, of himself, is unable to remedy his lost condition by his own works (Gen. 1:26-27; Rom. 3:22-23; 4:1-8; 5:12; 6:23, Eph. 2:1-3; 8-10; 4:17-19). We believe that salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace, and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as his precious and divine blood was shed on Calvary for the forgiveness of our sins (John 1:12; Rom. 4:1-8; Rom. 5:1, Eph. 1:7; 2:8-10; 1 Pet. 1:18-19; Matt. 12:31-32; 1 John 1:9).

## **G. ETERNAL SECURITY**

We believe that all the redeemed, upon salvation, are granted immediate eternal life. These 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). We also believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's word.

## **H. THE CHURCH**

We believe that the word "*church*" refers to a called-out assembly and within the scriptures this reference most commonly applies to two distinct groups. Primarily, "*the church*" refers to a singular organism; an international, intergalactic all-inclusive body of believers, which is the body and the espoused bride of Christ, solely comprised of born-again persons who have been baptized (put into/ immersed) into the one spiritual body by the one Spirit (1 Cor. 12:12-14, Ephesians 4:4, Ephesians 5:25-27). At other times the word "*church*" usually refers to local congregations of those believers who are in fellowship at a physical, literal location (1 Cor. 16:1&19, 2 Cor. 8:1, Rom. 16:16). 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). We believe in the autonomy of the local church, namely, being 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). We recognize water baptism (immersion) and the Lord's Supper as the Scriptural ordinances of obedience for the church (saved believers) in this age (Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 2:41-42; 18:18; 1 Cor. 11:23-26). We believe men are to be the leaders (pastors and deacons) 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).

## **I. SEPARATION**

We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord. God commands His people to deny themselves, ungodliness,

worldly lusts, ecclesiastical apostasy and religious compromise (Luke 9:23, Rom. 12:1-2; 14:13; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 John 9-11; 1 Cor. 6:19-20, James 4:4).

## **J. THE RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST**

We believe in that Blessed Hope; the personal, physical, imminent return of Christ, who will rapture (catch up in the air) His church prior to the tribulation period known as Jacob's Trouble (1Cor.15:51-57, 1Thes.4:13, Rev.4:1). At the end of the Tribulation, Christ will personally and visibly return to earth with His saints, to establish His reign from the city of Jerusalem, and to confirm His kingship over the earthly Messianic Kingdom that was promised to the nation of Israel. (Ps. 89:3-4; Dan. 2:31-45; Zech. 14:4-11; I Thes. 1:10; 1 Thes. 4:13-18; Titus 2:13; Rev. 3:10; 19:11-16; 20:1-6).

## **K. THE ETERNAL STATE OF MANKIND**

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). 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, 5:23; Rev. 20:4-6). 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).

## **L. SATAN**

We believe that Satan is a fallen Cherub, the prince of devils, the author of sin and the initiator of the Fall of Man, the temporary god of this world; 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; Isa. 14:12-17; Matt. 4:2-11; 25:41; 2 Cor. 4:4, Rev. 20:10).

## **M. CREATION**

We believe that God created the entire universe and the contents therein. We believe that the creation account of the heavens and earth that "are now" as recorded in the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of Genesis took place over a period of six literal, consecutive, 24-hour periods. We also hold to the scriptural teaching of a severe judgment on Lucifer's (pre-Adamic) kingdom (Gen.1:1&2, Jer.4:23, 2 Pet.3:5-7, 2 Sam.22:5-16). We reject Secular Evolution, the Day-Age Theory, Progressive Creationism, and Theistic Evolution as unscriptural theories of origin (Gen. 1-2; Ex. 20:11). We also dismiss the "No-Gap" theory as unscriptural and unsound theology which raises more questions than answers in the subject of creation.

## **N. CIVIL GOVERNMENT**

We believe that God has ordained and created all authority consisting of three basic institutions: 1) the home, 2) the church, and 3) the state. Every person is subject to these authorities in their respective orders, but all (including the authorities themselves) are answerable to God and are to be governed by His word (Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Pet. 2:13-14). We believe that God is to be obeyed rather than man should ANY of these institutions attempt to govern outside their God-given realm and/or order of authority (Acts 4:18-20; 5:29). We also believe that sedition, rebellion, and anarchy are all clearly forbidden in scripture, be it supposedly justified or not (1 Sam.15:23, Gal.5:19-21, 2 Pet.2:9-13).

## **O. HUMAN SEXUALITY**

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 and EVERY form of sexual activity outside of this command is a perversion of God's creative gift. Consequently, any person known to be actively-involved in any of these perversions shall not be eligible for membership at Truth Bible Baptist Church. We believe that the only Biblical (and subsequently legitimate) marriage is the joining of one man (naturally-born male) and one woman (naturally-born female). (Gen. 2:24; 26:8-11; Lev. 18:1-30; Rom. 1: 26-29; 7:2; 1 Cor. 5:1; 6:9; 7:10; Eph. 5:22-23; 1 Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4).

## **P. FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS**

We believe that men and women are spiritually equal in value 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. 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, namely through consistent lifestyle example and appropriate training. (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)

## **Q. DIVORCE AND REMMARRIAGE**

We believe that God disapproves of divorce and intends marriage to last until one partner dies. Remarriage is regarded as adultery except on the grounds of death, fornication, and desertion (Mal.2:14-17; Matt.5:31-32; 19:3-12; Rom.7:1-3; I Cor. 7).

## **R. LOVE**

We believe that we should demonstrate love for others, not only toward fellow believers, but also toward both those who are not believers and those who oppose us. We are to deal with those who oppose us graciously, gently, patiently, and humbly. God forbids the

stirring up of strife, the taking of revenge, and the threat or use of violence as a means of resolving personal conflict or obtaining personal justice. While we do not subscribe to the unscriptural philosophy of “Hate the sin, Love the sinner“ we DO believe that the Bible teaches that we are to extend the love of God that found us to other sinners in need of the same. This “extension of love” may sometimes include a reproof or rebuke (commonly referred to as “tough“ love) to awaken the recipient to an awareness of their need FOR God’s everlasting love (Prov.27:6, Eph.4:15). Such action is proof of REAL love and compassion, and not, as often misinterpreted, a lack thereof. (Lev. 19:18; Matt. 5:44-48; Luke 6:31; John 13:34-35; Rom. 12:9-10; 17-21; 13:8-10; Phil. 2:2-4; 2 Tim. 2:24-26; Titus 3:2; 1 John 3:17-18)

## **S. MISSIONS**

We believe that God has given the church a great commission to proclaim the Gospel to all nations so that there might be a great multitude from every nation, tribe, ethnic group, and language group who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. As ambassadors of Christ we must use all available and biblical means to go to the foreign nations and not wait for them to come to us. (Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:46-48; John 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2 Cor. 5:20)

## **T. GIVING**

We believe that every Christian, as a steward of that portion of God’s wealth entrusted to him, should support his local church financially. We believe that the example of giving God the firstfruits of your increase is proper and the Old Testament tithe (10% of income) can be a good personal and voluntary goal for a pattern of regular proportional giving, but that every Christian should give primarily as he purposes in his heart and give his offerings voluntarily, sacrificially, cheerfully and to the support of the church, the relief of those in need, and the spread of the Gospel. We believe that the giver relinquishes all rights to direct the use of the tithe or offering once the gift has been made. (Gen. 14:20; Prov. 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)