

Tri-M Global Doctrinal Statement

Updated: July 5, 2025

CONCERNING THE SCRIPTURES

We believe that the Bible, consisting of the Holy Scriptures of both Old and New Testaments, is the Word of God, as a whole and in its constituent parts. The Holy Spirit moved human authors to write without error and under the control and guidance of the Spirit. As God's ultimate written revelation of His will to humankind, the Bible constitutes the final and infallible authority for faith and life.

Mt. 5:18; 24:35; Jn. 17:17; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21

CONCERNING THE TRUE GOD

We believe in one eternal, personal, and living God, the all-powerful and sovereign Creator and sustainer of all things visible and invisible, who exists as the Triune Deity made up of three distinct Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, eternally equal in divine nature, perfections, and glory, yet each one fulfilling a unique role within the Godhead. The God of the Bible is infinite, holy, all-knowing, and loving, transcending all that He has created yet immanent in all of His works as He wills. All that God has purposed or decreed will certainly come to pass, including full redemption of those whom He has chosen.

Gen. 1:1-2; Ex. 20:2-3; Dt. 4:35, 6:4; Ps. 139: 1-16; Hab. 1:12, 13; Mt. 3:16-17; 28:19; Jn. 1:1-3; 1 Cor. 8:6

CONCERNING THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

We believe that as the eternal Son of God, Jesus Christ is the second person of the Triune Godhead and has all the character, nature, and attributes of God. In obedience to His role in the Trinity, He came to earth as a baby born to the virgin Mary, conceived by the Holy Spirit, and lived an absolutely sinless life before voluntarily dying a substitutionary death for the sins of all men. On the third day, He conquered death by resurrecting bodily from the grave and ascended to heaven, where He presently makes intercession for believers, prepares the future eternal home for those who believe in Him, and prepares to return physically to earth at the end of this age.

Mt. 1:18-25; Jn. 1:1,2,14; 14:2,3,6; Acts 1:11; 4:12; Rom. 8:34; 1 Cor. 15:3,4; 2 Cor. 5:21; Col. 1:15-20

CONCERNING THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe in the absolute deity of the Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Trinity. He is the promised Comforter sent to believers by the Father and the Son. For the world, He is the One who convicts of sin, righteousness, and judgment. He is the agent of the new birth. He baptizes believers into the body of Christ, and He seals, indwells, fills, guides, and teaches them. The sign gifts of prophecy, speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, miracles, and healing existed in New Testament times, but these gifts are not normative for today. By dependence upon the Holy Spirit, believers are able to live in ways pleasing to God.

Jn. 7:39; 14:16-17, 26; 16:7-11; Acts 1:4,5; Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:8-13, 28-31; 13:8-12; Eph. 1:13-14, 4:7-11; Heb. 2:1-4, 9:14; Rev. 22:18-19

CONCERNING MANKIND

We believe that the first man, Adam, was created by a direct act of God. From Adam, God created Eve, the first woman. This man and woman were created in God's image: they had the ability to think, to choose, and to feel. But they rebelled against God and, through transgression of God's moral standard, fell from their initial state of innocence. Adam's descendants inherited from him the consequences of his sin: a sinful nature and spiritual death. His sin mars the image of God in them such that their reasoning, choices, and feelings are all colored by sin. They are sinful by nature and choice. In their unregenerate state, they stand rightly condemned and lost.

We affirm that God created men and women as biologically distinct individuals. According to God's design, marriage is a lifelong, monogamous covenant between one biological man and one biological woman, uniting them spiritually, emotionally, and physically.

Gen. 1:27; 3:1-26, 2:24; Ps. 51; Isa. 53:6; Matthew 19:5-6; Romans 1:26-27; Rom. 3:23, 5:12-19; 1 Corinthians 6:9; 2 Thess. 1:7-9

CONCERNING SALVATION

We believe the Scriptures teach that the salvation of sinners is initiated by a loving God, wholly of grace, and accomplished only through the mediating work of the Son of God. In obedience to God the Father, God the Son took on Himself our nature, remained entirely without sin, and, in His substitutionary, voluntary death on the cross, made full atonement. Because of His completed work, men and women, being regenerated by the power of the Holy Spirit, through the power of the Gospel, and receiving a new nature, place their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, receiving salvation through the grace of God. The believer who has personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is justified and gains an eternally secure salvation. The evidence of this salvation is a life of obedience to God, producing good works.

Jn. 3:3-6, 16; 10:28, 29; Acts 13:39, Rom. 5:1,9; 2:4, 8:16, 28-29; 2 Cor. 5:17, 7:9, 10; Eph. 2:8-10; 1 Tim. 2:5, 6;2; Titus 3:8; 1 Peter 1:4; 18-23; 1 John 2:2

CONCERNING THE CHURCH

We believe that the church, the body of Christ, was instituted by God, beginning on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2), including all who have believed and confessed Christ as Lord. This universal church will continue through eternity as the Bride of Christ. In this age the universal church on earth is organized into local bodies of believers whose purpose is to represent on earth its head, Jesus Christ. The local assemblies accomplish this by corporate worship, teaching the Word, fellowship, and serving one another while working toward the goal of spiritual maturity of the believers and the evangelization of those worldwide who remain in unbelief. The local church has two offices: the pastor/elder, whose role is leadership and teaching, and the deacon, whose primary task is serving the body. To celebrate their relationship to Christ, the local church practices two ordinances: baptism by immersion, whereby a believer publicly testifies to one's own salvation, and Communion, whereby believers remember together the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.

Mt. 28:19, 20; Acts 1:5; 2:1-4; 10:44, 45; 11:15, 16; 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:22, 23; Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 2: 11-14; 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; Heb. 12:23

CONCERNING ANGELS

We believe God created angels, a class of ministering spirit beings, who are sinless and whose mission is to worship and serve God. The premier angel was Lucifer who rebelled against God and led other angels also to rebel. Lucifer is now called Satan, and the fallen angels are demons.

Job 1:10-12; 2: 5-7; Is. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:11-17; Mt. 4:1-3; 2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 6:10-18; Rev. 20:10

CONCERNING FUTURE EVENTS

We believe in the imminent return of Christ and the establishment of His glorious millennial kingdom in fulfillment of His covenant promises. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust. At the end of a thousand years, Satan will be defeated, followed by the Great White Throne Judgment, where the unrighteous will be consigned to everlasting punishment, and the righteous will be granted entrance into the new heavens and the new earth. They will remain with God forevermore.

Ps. 16:11; Dan. 12:2,3; Zech. 14:4-11; Mt. 25:46; Jn. 5:28,29; 1 Cor. 15:50-56; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 2 Thess. 1:6-10; Rev. 20:1-15; 21:1