Church of the Almighty God (YHVH) Statement of Beliefs

We believe:

- In One God Only, <u>The Father</u>, and His Son Jesus Christ, and in the Power of the Holy Spirit given by God through His Son Jesus Christ. (<u>1 Cor. 8:6, John 17:3</u>)
- That the Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God, fully authoritative for all matters of faith and practice and that the Bible interprets itself.
- That Jesus Christ, born of the virgin Mary, 100% human (the second Adam), is both our Lord and Savior.
- That Jesus Christ suffered for us in the flesh and died on the cross to annihilate human sin, that he was dead for 3 days and 3 nights and was raised at the end of the third night, before the sunrise of Sunday morning. That He appeared in may occasions to his apostles and has ascended visibly to heaven and since then sits at the right hand of His God, the Father, who alone is the Almighty God.
- That Jesus Christ will soon come again to judge the living and the dead and to reign for eternity over all things.
- That Christians should gather, as it's possible, in regular fellowship and live lives of faith that make evident the good news that humans enter the kingdom of God by putting their trust in Jesus Christ.
- In the spiritual unity of all born again believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- In the New Covenant though Jesus Christ. We are no longer under the observance of the Law of the Old Covenant.
- That salvation comes not by works, but only by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ, but that we must produce works because faith without works is dead.
- In the resurrection of the dead and eternal life in the world to come.

God, the Father (YHVH)

God the Father, by the testimony of Scripture, is the Only true God (<u>John 17:3</u>). He alone possesses immortality (1 Tim. 6:16). He is immutable, omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent. He is the Creator of heaven and earth, Sustainer of the universe, and the Source of human salvation. And that God is love.

(1John 4:8)

God the Father is the Source of life, of whom the Son is begotten and from whom the Holy Spirit proceeds. The Father, who made all things seen and unseen through the Son, sends the Son for our salvation and gives the Holy Spirit for our regeneration and adoption as children of God.

(John 1:1, 14, 18; Romans 15:6; Colossians 1:15-16: John 3:16; 14:26; 15:26; Romans 8:14-17; Acts 17:28)

The Son of God

The son *of* God is the Word and the express image of God the Father, through whom and for whom all things were created. He is the firstborn of all creatures (creation), so he is then the first being to whom God gave life to, and he is the firstborn from the dead (Col.1:15-18, Rev.3:14).

He was sent by the Father as Jesus the Christ to reveal the Only True God, and to reconcile all human beings with Him, His Father and His God.

Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born 100% human of the virgin Mary. He is the Son of God and Lord of all, *worthy of honor and reverence* (Heb.1:6). As the prophesied Savior of humanity, he died for our sins, was raised from the dead, and ascended to heaven, from where he mediates between humanity and God. He will come again in glory to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords over all nations in the kingdom of God.

(Rev. 19:16)

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Power and Mind of God, the Comforter promised by Jesus Christ, given by the Father through Jesus Christ to all born again Christians (John 14:16; 15:26, 1 Cor.2:5-16). The Holy Spirit lives in us, unites us with the Father and the Son, and transforms our character into the image of Christ who is the image of God.

The Holy Spirit is the Source of inspiration of the prophets and prophecy throughout the Scriptures (2 Peter 1:21), and the Source of unity and communion in the church. It provides spiritual gifts for the work of the gospel (1 Cor. 12:1-11) and is the Christian's constant Guide into all truth. (John 16:13).

The New Covenant and Old Covenant

The New Covenant was made with the Blood of Jesus. The Christian then inherit Jesus righteousness. The Christian is no longer bound to the observance of the Law of the old Covenant given to Physical Israel at the mount of Sinai. Jesus is then the New Sign, as the Christian died with Jesus in his death. The Christian is then under the Law of Christ, which is the Royal Law of Love. Through baptism, the Christian enters God's Rest, which was foreshadowed by the Sabbath of the 7th day of Creation. The converted Christian is now living in the rest of God and has a continual contact with Him. God through his Spirit now writes his own Law of love on the heart of the Christian. The Christian lives by the Spirit of God and not by the letter of the Law of the Old Covenant. The Old Covenant has vanished away and has been replaced by the New Covenant in Jesus, Jesus being the Sign of the New Covenant.

(Isa. 7:14; Col. 1:14, 20; Heb. 9:12, 10:19; Gal. 6:2; 1 Cor. 9:21; Jas. 2:8)

The Kingdom of God

The kingdom of God is the good news preached by Jesus Christ and His apostles and will be fully manifest over the whole world after the return of Jesus Christ when all things will become subject to Him.

The Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven are synonymous terms. God's reign is now manifest from Heaven in the church and in the life of each believer who is submissive to his will.

At the end, after the prophesied 1000 years of peace, Jesus will hang the Kingdom to His God and Father that God may be all in all. God will then Reign from the New Earth. (Psalms 2:6-9; 93:1-2; Luke 17:20-21; Daniel 2:44; Mark 1:14-15; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Revelation 11:15; 21:3, 22-27; 22:1-5)

The True Gospel

The gospel is the good news about the establishment of the Kingdom of God on Earth and of salvation by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ. (Act. 8:12) The Gospel includes the message that Christ died for our sins, that he was buried for 3 days and 3 nights, that he was raised on the third day (which is at the end of the third night) that he appeared to his disciples, and that he ascended to God's right hand. It is the good news that through Jesus Christ we may enter the kingdom of God.

(1 Corinthians 15:1-4; Acts 5:31; Luke 24:46-48; John 3:16; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 1:14-15; Acts 8:12; 28:30-31)

Humanity

God created humanity male and female in the image and likeness of God. God blessed them, telling them to multiply and fill the earth. In love, the Lord gave humans power as stewards to subdue the earth and rule its creatures. In Genesis, humanity is the crown of creation; Adam is the first human. Typified by Adam who sinned, humanity since then lives in rebellion against its Creator, thus spreading sin and death in the world. Despite human sinfulness, humanity continues in and is defined by God's image.

Thus, all humans, collectively and individually, deserve love, honor, and respect. The eternally perfect image of God is the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the last Adam. God creates through Jesus Christ the new humanity over which sin and death will have no power. In Christ, mankind will bear perfectly the image of God. (Genesis 1:26-28; Psalm 8:3-8; Romans 5:12-21; Colossians 1:15; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 Corinthians 15:21-22; Romans 8:29; 1 Corinthians 15:47-49; 1 John 3:2)

The Holy Scriptures

The Holy Scriptures are the inspired Word of God and the true and accurate record of God's revelation to humanity. As such, all scriptures are given by inspiration of God, and *are* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. The Bible and prophecy should not be interpreted with our own interpretation but by the very Word of God which is inspired by the Spirit of God. We also should not interpret the Bible, as the Bible interprets itself:

(2 Timothy 3:15-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; John 17:17)

The Church

The church, the spiritual Body of Christ, consists of all who have faith in Jesus Christ and in whom the Holy Spirit *abides*, *whom have been born again*. The church is commissioned to preach the gospel of the Kingdom of God, to teach all that Christ commanded, to baptize in water, and to nurture the flock. In fulfilling its mission, the church is directed by the Holy Scriptures, led by the Holy Spirit, and looks continually to Jesus Christ, its living Head. The Church is the Bride of Jesus whom He will marry when He comes back.

(1 Cor. 12:13; Romans 8:9; Matthew 28:19-20; Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 1:22, Rev. 19:6-9)

The True Christian

The Christian is a person in whom the Holy Spirit *abides*, he *belongs* to Christ. The Christian trusts and relies on Jesus Christ. Through water baptism and the Baptism of the Spirit (at the laying on of hands), which he experiences a new birth through the regeneration of the Holy Spirit and is placed in the Body of Christ by God's grace (1Cor. 12:13). The Christian's life is characterized by the fruit of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 10:9-13; Galatians 2:20; John 3:5-7; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:9, 14-15; John 13:35; Galatians 5:22-23)

Christian Conduct

Christian conduct is characterized by trust in and loving allegiance to our Savior, Trust in Jesus Christ is expressed by belief in the gospel and by works of love. Through the Holy Spirit, Christ transforms the hearts of believers, producing in them love, joy, peace, faithfulness, meekness, kindness, goodness, gentleness, self-control, righteousness, and truth.

(1 John 3:23-24; 4:20-21; 2 Corinthians 5:15; Galatians 5:6, 22-23; Ephesians 5:9)

The Angelic Realm

The holy angels are spirits beings who serve God as loyal messengers and agents. They are appointed to attend to those who will obtain salvation and will accompany Christ at his return. The disobedient angels are called demons, evil spirits, and unclean spirits. The saints have power over demonic beings.

(Hebrews 1:14; Revelation 1:1; 22:6; Matthew 25:31; 2 Peter 2:4; Matthew 10:1)

Satan

Satan is the rebellious Cherubim who heads the evil spirits. The Bible refers to him with such terms as the devil, adversary, evil one, murderer, liar, thief, tempter, accuser of the brethren, prince of demons, and the god of this world. He is in constant rebellion against God. Satan influences discord, deception, and disobedience among human beings. In

Christ, Satan is already defeated, and his dominion and influence as god of this world will be interrupted at Christ's return.

Satan will be thrown in the abyss for 1000 years. After the 1000 years, he will be released for a short time and be finally be thrown in the lake of fire.

(Luke 10:18; Revelation 12:9-10; 1 Peter 5:8; John 8:44; Job 1:6-12; Zechariah 3:1-2; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 20:1-3; Hebrews 2:14)

God's Grace

God's grace is the free unmerited gift God has chosen to bestow on his entire creation. By grace, humanity and the entire cosmos have been redeemed from sin and death through Jesus Christ, and by grace, humans are empowered to know and love God and Jesus Christ and enter the joy of eternal salvation in the kingdom of God. (Colossians 1:20; 1 John 2:1-2; Romans 8:19-21; 3:24; 5:2, 15-17, 21; John 1:12; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:7)

Sin

Sin is lawlessness by disobeying God's Royal Law of love (<u>Jas. 2:8</u>), which is the Law of Christ, (<u>Gal. 6:2</u>). It's a state or condition of rebellion against God. From the time sin entered the human race through Adam and Eve, humanity has been under its yoke -- a yoke that can only be removed by God's grace through Jesus Christ. The sinful condition of humanity is manifested in the tendency to choose self and self-interests over God and God's will. Sin cuts us from the Presence of God, and brings suffering and eternal death. (1 John 3:4; Romans 5:12; 7:24-25; Mark 7:21-23; Galatians 5:19-21; Romans 6:23; 3:23-24)

Faith in God

Faith in God is a gift of God. Faith in God prepares and enables our minds and emotions to understand and receive God's gracious gift of salvation. Jesus Christ is the author and perfecter of our faith, and it is through faith and not by works that we are saved by grace. Through faith, we are Abraham's seeds.

(Ephesians 2:8; Acts 15:9; 14:27; Romans 12:3; Acts 3:16; Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:1; Romans 5:1-2; 1:17; 3:21-28; 11:6; Ephesians 3:12; 1 Corinthians 2:5; Hebrews 12:2)

Salvation

Salvation is the restoration of human fellowship with God and the deliverance of the entire creation from the bondage of sin and death. God gives salvation, not only for the present life, but for eternity, to every person who repents from their sins and accepts Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. This is the gift of God, by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, not earned by personal merit or good works.

(Ephesians 2:4-10; 1 Corinthians 1:9; Romans 8:21-23; 6:18, 22-23)

Assurance of Salvation

The Bible affirms that all whose faith remains in Jesus Christ will be saved, and that nothing "can snatch them out of his hand." The Bible emphasizes the infinite faithfulness of God, the sufficiency of Jesus Christ's sacrifice for our salvation, the love of God for all peoples, and the gospel as the power of God for the salvation of all who believe. Having such assurance of salvation, believers are urged to remain firm in the faith and to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. But salvation could be lost if the Christian goes back in his previous life of sin. We are then encouraged to grow into grace and knowledge of Christ.

(John 10:27-29; 2 Corinthians 1:20-22; 2 Timothy 1:9; 1 Corinthians 15:2; Hebrews 6:4-6; John 3:16; Romans 1:16; Hebrews 4:14-16; 2 Peter 3:18)

Repentance

Repentance, as a result of God's calling, prompted by the Holy Spirit and grounded in the Word of God is a change of our way of life, mind and attitude, It includes an awareness of personal sinfulness, asking forgiveness and accompanies a new life sanctified through faith in Jesus Christ. Repentance is also a gift from God.

(Acts 2:38; Romans 2:4; 10:17; Romans 12:2)

Justification

Justification is God's gracious gift to bestow Christ's sacrifice on a sinner and to pronounce and establish a believer as righteous in His sight. Thus, humanity experiences through faith in Jesus Christ divine forgiveness and peace with God. (Romans 3:21-31; 4:1-8; 5:1, 9; Galatians 2:16)

Sanctification

Sanctification is God's gracious act of accounting and imparting the righteousness and holiness of Jesus Christ to the believer. It is experienced through faith in Jesus Christ and accomplished through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit.

(Romans 6:11; 1 John 1:8-9; Romans 6:22; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Galatians 5:22-23)

Worship

Worship is the divinely created response to the glory of God. It is motivated by divine love and springs from God's revelation of himself in communion with his creation. In worship, believers commune with God the Father through Jesus Christ and by the Holy Spirit. Worship involves humbly and joyfully giving God priority in all things and is expressed in such actions and attitudes as prayer, praise, celebration, generosity, good works, repentance and forgiveness.

(John 4:23; 1 John 4:19; Philippians 2:5-11; 1 Peter 2:9-10; Ephesians 5:18-20; Colossians 3:16-17; Romans 5:8-11; 12:1; Hebrews 12:28; 13:15-16)

Baptism

Water baptism, which signifies a believer's repentance and acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, *is a participation in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ*. Following the Baptism ceremony, through the laying on of hands and prayer of God's agent, God gives the Holy Spirit to the new convert. True baptism is by immersion. (Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38; Romans 6:4-5; Luke 3:16; 1 Corinthians 12:13; 1 Peter 1:3-9; Matthew 3:16)

The Lord's Supper

This is the event before Jesus was crucified, when he took bread and the cup, saying, "This is my body, which is broken for you... This cup is the new covenant in my blood." Whenever we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we partake of bread and the cup in remembrance of our Savior, proclaiming his death until he comes. The Lord's Supper is a participation in the commemoration of the death of our Lord, who gave his body and shed his blood so that we might be forgiven. This meal is a commemoration of his last meal with the leavened bread (artos), wine and washing of the feet.

(1 Corinthians 11:23-26; 10:16; Matthew 26:26-28)

Financial Responsibility

Christian financial stewardship is the management of personal resources in a manner that reflects the love and generosity of God. It includes the responsibility of offering a portion of one's financial resources to the work of the church. Donations fund the God-given mission of the church to preach the gospel and feed the flock. Such giving reflects the believer's worship, faith, obedience, and love for God, who is the Source and Giver of all good things.

(1 Peter 4:10; 1 Corinthians 9:1-14; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11)

Church Leadership Organization

The Head of the church is Jesus Christ, who reveals the will of the Father to the church through the Holy Spirit. Through the Scriptures the Holy Spirit instructs and empowers the church to serve the needs of the congregation. The Church seeks to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit in serving its congregations as it ordains elders, deacons and deaconesses and appoints ministry leaders.

(Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 1:15-23; John 16:13-15; Ephesians 4:11-16)

Bible Prophecy

Bible prophecy reveals God and his will and purpose for humanity. In Bible prophecy, God declares that human sinfulness is forgiven through repentance and faith in the saving work of Jesus Christ. Prophecy proclaims God as Sovereign Creator and Judge of all, assures humanity of his love, mercy, and faithfulness, and motivates the believer to live a godly life in Jesus Christ.

Prophecy encourages and prepares the Christians for what is coming. It also asserts that God says always come to pass.

(Isaiah 46:9-11; Luke 24:44-48; Daniel 4:17; Jude 14-15; 2 Peter 3:1-14)

The Intermediate State of the Dead

The intermediate state is the condition of the dead until the resurrection of the body. The dead's know nothing, they are sleeping, unconscious and await the resurrection. (<u>Isaiah 14:9-10</u>; Ezekiel 32:21; Luke 16:19-31; Psalms 6:5; 88:10-12; 115:17; Ecclesiastes 3:19-21; 9:5, 10; Isaiah 38:18; John 11:11-14; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14)

The Second Coming

Jesus Christ, as he promised, will return to Earth to judge and reign over all nations in the kingdom of God. His second coming will be visible, and HE will come with power and glory. This event inaugurates the resurrection and reward of the saints. The second coming will occur at the 7th trumpet.

(John 14:3; Revelation 1:7; Matthew 24:30; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17; 1 Cor. 15:52, Revelation 16:17-21, Zach. 14:4, Revelation 22:12)

The Millennium

The Millennium is the time span described in the book of Revelation during which resurrected Christians will reign with Jesus Christ on Earth. During the Millennium, all righteous people will be changed from mortal to immortal. The wicked (rebellious) will be thrown into the lake of fire.

After the Millennium, when all enemies have been put under his feet, and all things made subject to him, Christ will deliver the kingdom to God the Father, and heaven and earth will be made new.

(Revelation 20:1-12; 21:1, 5; 7; 14-17, Acts 3:19-21; Revelation 11:15; 1 Corinthians 15:24-28)

The Second Resurrection

This is a time, right after the 1000 years, when all that lived before and were not called to salvation, will be resurrected to a human life form. Books of the Bible will be open and also the book of Life. At the end of this judgement period of 100 years, all that qualify will be changed from mortal to immortal.

(Revelation 20:11-12, Esa. 65:20)

The third Resurrection and Eternal Judgment

At the end of God's plan for humanity, after the 100 years, God will resurrect all the wicked and gather all the living humans, before the heavenly throne of Christ for the final judgment. The righteous will receive eternal glory, and the wicked will be condemned to the lake of fire. (Matthew 25:31-46; Acts 24:15; John 5:28-29; Revelation 20:13-15; 1 Timothy 2:3-6; Acts 10:43)

The Reward of the Believers

The inheritance of believers is salvation and eternal life in Christ as children of God in communion with the Father and His Son. From now on, their inheritance is reserved in heaven to be bestowed fully at the second coming of Christ. The resurrected saints reign with Christ in the kingdom of God for 1000 years. At the end, as co-heirs, they will inherit all things, the whole Universe, with Jesus.

(1 John 3:1-2; 1 John 2:25; Romans 8:16-22; Colossians 1:13; Daniel 7:27; 1 Peter 1:3-5; Revelation 5:10)

Hell

Hell is the separation and alienation from God chosen by incorrigible sinners. In the New Testament, hell is referred to by the terms "lake of fire," "darkness," and *Gehenna* (a gorge outside Jerusalem where garbage was burned). The biblical terms *Sheol* and *Hades*, often translated "hell" or "the grave," refer to the realm of the dead. The Bible teaches that **unrepentant** sinners will be destroyed by the second death in the lake of fire. They will perish et will be like they never existed before.

(2 Thessalonians 1:8-9; Matthew 10:28; 25:41, 46; Revelation 20:14-15; 21:8; Matthew 13:42; Psalm 49:14-15)

Heaven or Paradise

Heaven or paradise are a biblical terms applied to the chosen dwelling place of God. At the end, God will come and establish his Throne on the New Earth, and the Earth will then become the headquarter of the Universe.

(1 Kings 8:27-30; Deuteronomy 26:15; Matthew 6:9; Acts 7:55-56; John 14:2-3; Revelation 21:1-5; 22:1-5; 2 Peter 3:13)

The 7000 thousand years Plan of God

God recreated Earth in seven days Those seven days refer to the seven thousand years for mankind salvation that God established from the beginning. This plan is foreshadowed by the seven feasts of God in the Old Testament.

(Psalm_90:4, Leviticus 23)

If you want to know more...

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