

GREENHORN VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH STATEMENT OF FAITH:

We believe the universe to be created by God. We hold firmly to the historic position of the Church that God is one, and yet mysteriously God exists in three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit.

We believe that God has not only revealed Himself to us in His creation but also in the Holy Scriptures which are without error in all that they affirm.

We believe that the current condition of human beings has altered from its designed course and purpose, which was to live in a loving relationship with our Creator and with one another. The alternate course that all human beings now choose (sin) leads us away from living freely under the ruling and reigning of our Creator God. This alternate way of life leads human beings to consistently choose to put themselves in the place of God, which, naturally, leads them away from God. Ultimately it leads people to a ruined life—a life apart from God.

We joyously affirm that God has not abandoned his creation to this course of self-destruction, but has been working all along for its redemption—He has been working to save us from our self-destructive course. We believe that his plan reached its fulfillment in the birth, life, teaching and miracles, the crucifixion, and the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah. We believe that Jesus the Messiah is the unique Son of God, and shared fully in our humanity in every way, except that he always lived in complete obedience to God—he was without sin. We believe that Jesus the Messiah exists in the form of God—he is in his very nature God. We also confess that Jesus the Messiah is the singular hope and path for human beings to be rescued from their ruined condition, and rescued into God's purpose and plan.

We believe that salvation is more than "getting into heaven." Salvation means that we are saved into a life of abundant, creative goodness that is available here and now, and will continue into eternity—this is the eternal life. This abundantly good life is realized as we live increasingly under the rule and reign of God. We believe that this life of abundant, creative goodness begins in a person when the Holy Spirit of God takes up residence in the life of a human being. Jesus spoke of this being a spiritual "rebirth" in which we are made alive to God. The Holy Spirit empowers people to live increasingly in God's purpose as they cooperate with God's action in their lives.

We believe that the collective group of Jesus' apprentices (the Church) is called to be a touch point between heaven and earth. The Church is to be a community where the healing of the Cross and the Resurrection can save us from ruin and life apart from God. It is a community where those who have been rescued back to God's purpose can grow into the fullness of human beings in Christ. That is why we say we are a community helping people become passionate followers (or apprentices) of Jesus Christ.

Finally, we joyously confess that Jesus Christ will come again to bring to fulfillment His perfect kingdom.