

Doctrines EBC Holds to be Absolute

Concerning the Bible

Every word of all sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments is inspired by God and is without error in the original manuscripts. They are the supreme and final authority in any age.

Ps 19:7-9; Matt 5:18; Lk 16:17; Jn 10:35; II Tim 3:16; II Peter 1:19-21

Concerning God

There is but one true God, the Creator, Sustainer, and Ruler of the universe, eternally self-existent in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Deut 4:39; 6:4; Isa 9:6-7; Matt 28:19-20; Jn 8:58; 10:30; I Cor 8:6

Concerning the Son

Jesus Christ is the Eternal Son of God. While remaining fully God, He fully became man as the virgin-born son of Mary. As Messiah, He fulfilled Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah. He was rejected, condemned, crucified, buried in a tomb, but on the third day arose bodily from the dead. He ascended into heaven in a glorified body, is presently sitting at the Father's right hand interceding as High Priest on our behalf. One day He will return for His church and to reign.

Isa 53; Matt 1:18; Jn 1:1&14; 14:3; Jn 18-20; Acts 1:9-11; 13:27&29; Col 2:9; Heb 7:25; 8:1-2

Concerning the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is a divine person, co-equal with the Father and the Son. He was sent to glorify Christ by convicting us of sin and applying the saving work of Christ to us through regeneration and sanctification. He has come to glorify Christ through us by indwelling, sealing, guiding, teaching, protecting, empowering, and gifting the believer.

Matt 28:19; Jn 16:13-14; 3:5-6; Acts 5:3-4; Rom 8:1-14; I Cor 12:7-11; Eph 1:13-14; 3:16:17; Heb 9:14

Concerning Man and His Need

Man was created in the image of God to be able to fellowship with God. Because of Adam's sin, man suffered a change in his essential nature, the marring of God's image, and became hostile to God. Now all human beings are born with Adam's sinful nature, are under condemnation. They are unable to secure God's favor through their own efforts and need a spiritual regeneration before they can become what God created them to be.

Gen 1:26-27; Jn 3:3; Rom 3:22-24; 7:17-18&23; 8:7; Eph 4:24; Col 3:10

Concerning Redemption

Jesus lived a sinless life, fulfilling God's law, thus qualifying Him to bear the sins of the world in His body on the cross and to be a substitute for sinners of all ages. He became sin for sinners and experienced the punishment for their sin, His blood thus satisfying the just demands of the righteous God. Therefore, all who put their trust in Jesus alone are made righteous, are

reconciled to God, and are given eternal life. Salvation is by grace through faith.

Matt 5:17; Jn 3:16; 14:6; Acts 4:12 Rom 3:21-22; 5:10&18; II Cor 5:21; Gal 2:16; Ephes 2:8-9; Phil 3:9; Titus 2:11-14; I Peter 1:18-19

Concerning the Church

The Church consists of all who have been regenerated and united together by the Spirit into the body of Christ. The church is the expression of Christ to the world with a mission to witness Christ to the nations.

Matt 28: 19-20; I Cor 12:13; Eph 1:22-23; 2:19-22; I Peter 2:4-5

Concerning the Future

We look for the visible, bodily return of Jesus Christ to earth. His return will bring His kingdom to completion, will bring judgment to the world, and will fulfill His promises to his people. His future work on earth will conclude with the destruction of all evil and the creation of a new heaven and earth. All human beings who have died will be raised from the dead to participate either in eternal life prepared for those who have been redeemed, or to participate in eternal punishment along with the devil and his angels.

Matt 24:30; 25:31-46; Jn 14:3; Acts 1:9-11; Rev 20:10-21:4

(Approved May 7, 2008)

Affirming Our Absolutes

Our Commitment to Unity

I believe that God has gifted and called me to serve as part of His body at EBC. In dependence on the Holy Spirit, I fully endorse and commit to teaching, explaining, and living in accordance with the EBC Absolutes of the Faith as stated in this document.

Signed:

Date:

Facilitating/Encouraging Gifted Leaders

The statement of affirmation and commitment on the preceding page has been prayerfully considered and adopted by the EBC Elders. It has been affirmed by the EBC Membership and is required of all those holding positions of spiritual leadership or authority at EBC. Those include teachers, elders, deacons, and leaders of other EBC ministries such as Men's and Women's Ministries and any other ministries as determined by the Elder Board.

EMMANUEL BIBLE CHURCH

ABSOLUTES OF SCRIPTURE

What we joyfully hold to be the essential truths of our faith!