

Statement of Faith

LEGACY BIBLE CHURCH (LBC) is a body of Christian believers according to the biblical plan for the local church, in order that we may worship God as a united body exercising all the explicit biblical responsibilities and privileges pertaining to the church. The affairs of LBC are fully governed by a body of elected elders from within the membership of the Church.

WE BELIEVE that the express purpose of God the Father is to call out of the world to worship Himself a redeemed people, who shall constitute the body of His church, built and established upon the biblical foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ being the cornerstone as both king and high priest.

WE BELIEVE that the members of the church are commanded to assemble themselves together for worship, fellowship, counsel, and instruction in the Word of God, and for the exercise of spiritual gifts and offices as set forth in the New Testament. (1Cor 12:7-11, 28; Rom 12:6-8; Eph 4:11-12; Heb 10:25)

WE BELIEVE that Holy Scripture is God's own Word, written by men prepared and superintended by His Spirit. God has inspired Holy Scripture in order thereby to reveal Himself to lost mankind through Jesus Christ as Creator and Lord, Redeemer and Judge. Holy Scripture in the original autographs and properly interpreted is of infallible divine authority for faith and conduct. Holy Scripture is without error or fault in all matters with which it addresses, including scientific and historical as well as moral and theological. The authority of Holy Scripture is inescapably impaired if divine inerrancy is in any way limited or disregarded, or made relative to a view of truth contrary to the Bible's own; and such lapses bring serious loss to both the individual and the Church. (2Tim 3:15-17; 1Th 2:13; 2Pet 1:21; 1Cor 2:13)

WE BELIEVE in the God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Israel (Exo 3:6; Matt 22:32; Mark 12:26; Luke 20:37; Acts 3:13, 7:32), that God is one (Deut 6:4; Mark 12:29; Luke 10:25-28; Jas 2:19) and beside Him there is no other (Isa 44:6, 45:5; 1Cor 8:4-6).

WE BELIEVE that God has given one name under heaven by which He is known (Ιησοῦς, Jesus, Matt 21-25; Acts 4:12), as foretold in Torah (יְהוָה, Joshua; Exo 17:7-14) and the Prophets and the Writings (יָשָׁרָה, Savior; Isa 43:3, 11, 45:15, 21, 49:26, 60:16; Hos 13:4; Psa 7:11, 17:7, 106:21), and fulfilled with the incarnation of the *Logos* (John 1:14), *God with us* (עַמְּךָ, Immanuel, Isa 7:14; Matt 1:17), as explicitly spoken by the Lord **Jesus** Christ Himself—“*Holy Father, keep them in Your name, which You have given to Me, in order that they might be one, just as We are one. When I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name, which You have given to Me*” (John 17:11a-12b), which is “*the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit*” (Matt 28:19b; cf. Luke 3:22, Acts 8:16)—and explicitly written by the apostle to those redeemed through the faith of Jesus Christ (Rom 3:22), exhorting them into their calling, “*that the name of our Lord Jesus might be glorified in you and you in Him*” (2Thess 1:11-12).

WE BELIEVE in the dual-nature of the Lord Jesus Christ; His divine nature as the *one-of-a-kind* (μονογενῆς) Son of God (John 3:16) and His human nature as the Son of Man, being both fully God and fully man, Immanuel, God with us (Isa 7:14; Matt 1:23; 1Jn 4:2, 10, 14; Rev 1:13, 17). The title *Son of God* describes His proper deity, and the title *Son of Man* his proper humanity. The title *Son of God* belongs to the order of eternity and the title *Son of Man* to the order of time (Matt 1:21-23; Heb 1:1-13, 7:13; 1Jn 3:8; 2Joh 1).

WE BELIEVE that the Lord Jesus Christ has come in the flesh, was born of a virgin, died for our sins and was buried, rose from the dead on the third day, personally appeared to His disciples for 40 days, ascended into heaven to be seated on the eternal throne of God, and will return again to physically reunite with His church (John 1:1, 2, 14, 18, 29, 49; 1Th 4:13-18; Heb 12:2; 2Jn 4:1-5).

WE BELIEVE that the Son baptizes in the Holy Spirit (Matt 3:11, Mark 1:8, Luke 3:16, John 1:33), in this manner sending the Spirit of truth, who thus proceeds from the Father (John 14:16-17, 15:26).

WE BELIEVE in the literal special creation of the existing space-time universe and its basic systems as indicated in Genesis. We believe in the full historicity of the biblical record of primeval history, including the literal existence of Adam and Eve as the progenitors of all mankind, the literal fall and resultant divine curse on the creation, the worldwide cataclysmic deluge, and the origin of nations and languages (Gen 1-11).

WE BELIEVE in the creation, test, and fall of mankind as recorded in Genesis; his spiritual death, moral depravity, and inability to attain to divine righteousness apart from God's intervening grace. (Gen 1:26-27; 2:17; 3:6; Rom 5:12-19).

WE BELIEVE that God's salvation plan includes both initiating *forensic* justification—that is, Spirit-regeneration “*through the faith of Jesus Christ*” (Rom 3:22, 25), the “*repentance for the forgiveness of sins*” (Mark 1:4, Luke 3:3, 24:47, Acts 5:31)—and ongoing *sanctifying* justification—that is, Spirit-washing according to “*the obedience from faith*” (Rom 1:5, 3:26, 16:26), the repentance of “*the renewing of the mind*” (Rom 2:5, 12:2).

WE BELIEVE in ceremonial water baptism by immersion in the name of the one true living God (discussed above) as a declarative sign to the world of the creative Spirit baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, the sovereign near-purpose of God “*through the faith*” (Rom 3:22) into the people of God. Ceremonial water baptism before the local visible faith community is a one-time act of obedience necessary for any person who has believed into the person and work of Jesus Christ. (Matt 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47-48; Acts 2:38-39; Rom 6:4).

WE BELIEVE in the ceremonial communal sharing in the loaf and the chalice, consuming the elements, a broken piece from the loaf followed by a portion from the chalice, as a declarative sign to the church of the Lord's continuous invitation to all redeemed believers into the punctiliar renewing of the mind according to “*the obedience from faith*” (Rom 1:5, 16:26) into “*your spiritually-spoken service of worship*” (Rom 12:1)—wherein Jesus “*baptizes in the Holy Spirit*” and His faithful disciples are “*filled with the Holy Spirit*”—a frequent and repetitive act of Spirit-empowered prayer to God available to all persons who belong to Jesus Christ (Matt 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14 20; 1Cor 11:23-26).

WE BELIEVE in Christ the Healer for healing of the soul and body by the power and working of the Holy Spirit, in its varied biblical aspects as experienced by the early church (Isa 53:4,5; Matt 8:16-17; Acts 4:30; Rom 8:11; I Cor 12:9; Jas 5:14-16).

WE BELIEVE in eternal life for believers (John 5:24; 3:16), and a final judgment and eternal punishment for reprobate unbelievers (Mark 9:43-48; 2Th 1:9; Rev 19:20; 20:10-15; 21:8).