

Doctrinal Statement

Bible Teaching Incorporated and all of Canyonview Ministries consult the Scripture, the Bible, on all matters of faith and morality. It is our belief that the Bible is the final authority on all matters of faith and life. All staff members are to be in accord in this basic belief. The key Biblical doctrines are identified below:

The Bible

The Bible is the verbally inspired Word of God in its original writings, and for all intents and purposes these original writings are available to us today. *It is our absolute and inerrant authority* (1 Cor. 2:7-12; Gal. 1:11-12; Eph. 3:2-9; 1 Thess. 2:12; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:21).

The Godhead

There is one God eternally existing in three persons: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matt. 28:19; 1 Pet. 1:2; Jude 20-21).

The Person of Jesus Christ

He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He is *true God* and *true man*, perfect, sinless, and *the only Redeemer* (Matt. 1:20; Luke 1:35; John 14:9; Col. 1:14-15).

The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit

He is the third person of the Godhead. He convicts and calls sinners to Christ. He regenerates, indwells, fills, baptizes, and seals believers in the Body of Christ (John 16:8; Rom. 8:30; 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 1:13-14; 5:18; Tit. 3:5).

Total Depravity of Man

As a result of the Adamic Fall, *all men by nature are sinners*, dead in trespasses and sins, hence, unable to do anything to save themselves or to please God (Rom. 3:9; 5:6 & 8; 8:8; Eph. 2:1-2).

Redemption

God justifies sinners *by grace through faith* on the basis of the blood of Christ. The apostle Paul emphatically declares that in Jesus Christ we have redemption through His blood—His sacrificial death (Rom. 3:24-25; Eph. 1:7; 2:8-9; Col. 1:14).

Sanctification

All believers have, by the work of the Holy Spirit, been sanctified and are, by God's doing, children of light. As such, we are called to a life of purity and love. Therefore, by the power of the Spirit and the direction of the Word, we are to actively put off the attributes of the old man and put on the character of Christ. By doing this we increasingly shine like Christ in the midst of a dark world. (Eph. 4:17-5:20; Phil. 2:12-15; Col. 2:6-3:17; Gal. 6:16-24; Rom. 12:1-2; Rom. 8:28)

The Church

The apostle Paul designates those whom God is calling out as the Church or the Body of Christ. According to the New Testament, Jesus Christ is the sole Head of the Church, the Body of Christ (Eph.

1:22-23; Col. 1:18). Those who believe in Jesus Christ are made members of the Church, the Body, by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:13). The Holy Spirit has revealed the core truth regarding the Church through the apostle Paul, and it is found in the Church epistles (Eph. 3:1-9; Col. 1:24-28).

Marriage

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. (Gen. 1:26-27) Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. (Gen. 2:18-25) We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. (1 Cor. 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb. 13:4) We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God. (Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10)

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of Canyonview Ministries as part of the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by BTI in any capacity, or who serve as full-time volunteers in behalf of the ministry, agree to and abide by this Statement on marriage, gender, and sexuality. (Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:14-16; 1 Thess. 5:22)

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. (Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 10:9-10; 1 Cor. 6:9-11)

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31) Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of BTI.