

# **STATEMENT OF FAITH AND COVENANT**

## **(From Solid Rock Church's By-laws)**

### **A- About God**

We believe that God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God, co-equal in power and glory, co-identical in nature and all having the same attributes and perfections.

(Gen. 1:1, 26, 27, Deut. 6:4, Matt. 28:19, John 14:10, 26 and II Cor. 13:14)

### **B- About Jesus Christ**

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless human life, and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He bodily arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin, Satan and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again to earth to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

(Matt. 1:22,23; Isa. 9:6, John 1:1-4, 14; John 3:16,17; Heb. 4:14,15; I Cor. 15:3,4; Rom. 1:3,4; Acts 1:9-11; I Tim. 6:14,15; Titus 2:13)

### **C- About the Holy Spirit**

We believe that The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and the Son of God. He is present and alive in the world today making men aware of their need for a relationship with Jesus Christ.

He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides Christians with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He is the source of all spiritual gifts and apports them to every believer to do His ministry.

We believe that all spiritual gifts are operative in God's church today. As Christians, we are to seek intimate fellowship and communion with the Holy Spirit and to live under His control daily.

(II Cor. 13,14; II Cor. 3:17; John 14:12-31; John 16:7-15; Acts 1:8; I Cor. 2;12, 3:16, 12-14; Rom. 12; Eph. 1:13; Gal. 5:25; Eph. 5:18; Rom. 8:26,27)

#### **D- About the Bible**

We believe that the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is God's specific revelation to us. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural direction of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian belief and living. The Bible is entirely true, without any mixture of error.

(II Tim. 3:16-17; II Pet. 1:21-22; II Tim. 1:13; Psa. 119:105,160; Prov. 30:5)

#### **E- About Human Beings**

We believe that people are made in the image of God, and as such we are to reflect the character of God in this world. People are the supreme object of God's creation. Although every person has tremendous potential for good, all of us are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin". Sin separates people from God and causes many problems in life. The only remedy to man's "sin problem" is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

(Gen. 1:26-27; Psa. 8:3-6; Isa. 53:6a; Rom. 6:23; Isa. 59:1,2)

#### **F- About Salvation**

We believe that salvation is God's free gift to all of mankind through the blood of Jesus Christ. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty. When we truly turn from our pride and self-ruled life to Jesus in faith we are supernaturally saved by His sacrifice on our behalf. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith.

(Rom. 6:23; Rom.10:9-10; Eph. 2:8-9; John 14:6; John 1:12; Titus 3:5; Gal. 3:26; Rom. 5:1; John 3:1-17)

### **G- About Eternal Security**

We believe that because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ, the true believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. If you have been genuinely “born again” by the Spirit of God, you cannot “lose” your eternal life. Salvation is maintained by the power and grace of God, not the self-effort of man.

(John 10:29-30; II Tim. 1:12; Heb. 7:25; Heb. 10:10; I Pet. 1:3-5)

### **H- About Human Sexuality**

We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between one naturally-born man and one naturally-born woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, pedophilia, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery and pornography are sinful perversions of God’s gift of human sexuality. We believe that attempts to surgically alter one’s gender or to dress as the opposite sex are sins and outside of God’s design for humanity.

(Gen. 2:24, 19:5, 26:6-8; Lev. 18:1-30; Rom. 1:26-29; 1 Co. 5:1; 1 Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4)

### **I- About Civil Government**

We believe that God has ordained and created all authority consisting of three basic institutions: 1. The Home, 2. The Church and 3. The State. Every person is subject to these authorities, but all (including the authorities themselves) are answerable to God and governed by His word.

God has given each institution specific Biblical responsibilities and balanced those responsibilities with the understanding that no institution has the right to infringe on the other. The Home, Church and the State are equal and sovereign in their Biblically assigned sphere of responsibility under God.

We believe that we must obey the state unless it requires us to act contrary to our faith at which time we must obey God rather than the state.

(Matt. 22:15-22; Acts 5:29; Rom. 13:1-7; Eph. 5:22-24; Titus. 3:1-2; Heb. 13:17; 1 Peter 2:13-14)

### **J- About Abortions**

We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, taking of a human life and is the murder of another human being. We reject any teaching that abortions are justified in cases of rape, incest, birth defect, gender selection, birth or population control, or the physical or mental well-being of the mother.

(Job 3:16; Psa. 51:5; 139:14-16; Isa. 44:24;49:1,5; Jer. 1:5; 20:15-18; Luke 1:44)

### **K- About Euthanasia**

We believe that the direct taking of an innocent human being's life is not in God's design for mankind, regardless of the intention. Life is a gift of God and must be respected from conception until natural death. Thus we believe that an act or omission which of itself, or by intention, caused death in order to eliminate suffering constitutes a murder contrary to the will of God. Discontinuing medical procedures that are extraordinary or disproportionate to the expected outcome can be a legitimate refusal of over-zealous treatment.

(Ex. 20:13; 23:7; Matt. 5:21; Acts 17:28)

### **L- About Lawsuits between Believers**

We believe that Christians are prohibited from bringing lawsuits against other Christians or the church to resolve personal disputes. We believe the church possesses all resources necessary to resolve disputes between members. We do believe, however, that a Christian may seek compensation for injuries from another Christian's insurance company as long as the claim is made without malice or slander.

(1 Cor. 6:1-8; Eph. 4:31-32; Matt. 18:15-17)

## **M- Separation**

We believe that Believers should maintain a godly testimony and live in such a way that their lives bring glory and honor to God. God calls His people to live lives in freedom in Christ. Believers are called to separate themselves from worldly practices and associations. Believers are called to be transformed by the truth of God's word and to reject any philosophies or teachings that attempt to undermine, minimize or destroy the truth of Biblical Christianity. (Lev.19:28; Rom. 12:1-2, 14:13; 1 Cor.6:19-20; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1; 2 Tim.3:1-5; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 John 9-11)

## **N- Giving**

We believe that every Christian, as a steward of that portion of God's wealth entrusted to them, is obligated to give to their local church. This giving is expressed in three ways; personal finances in tithes and offerings, in personal time given to the church and in personal talents invested to the local church. All of these types of giving are to be done both sacrificially and cheerfully. We believe that a Christian relinquishes all rights to their tithes and offerings once the gift has been made.

(Gen.14:20; Prov.3:9-10; Acts 4:34-37; 1 Cor.16:2; 2 Cor. 9:6-7; Gal. 6:6; Eph. 4:28; 1 Tim. 5:17-18; 1 John 3:17)