

ARTICLE XVII

STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS

1. The Supremacy of Jesus Christ

We affirm that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, fully divine and fully human, the only mediator between God and man (1 Timothy 2:5). He is the risen Savior who reigns supreme above all powers and authorities (Colossians 1:15-20). Salvation is found in no one else (Acts 4:12).

2. The Authority of Scripture

We believe that all Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16-17). The Word of God is the foundation for all doctrine, instruction, and guidance in the life of believers.

3. Salvation by Grace through Faith

We affirm that salvation is a gift from God, not earned by works but received through faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8-9). Justification comes by faith alone, apart from the works of the law (Romans 3:28).

4. The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

We believe that the Holy Spirit dwells in all who believe in Jesus Christ, empowering them for holy living, spiritual growth, and the edification of the Church (2 Timothy 1:14; Romans 8:9-11).

5. The Ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper

We affirm that baptism by immersion is an outward testimony of inward faith, symbolizing the believer's identification with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Romans 6:3-4). The Lord's Supper is a sacred observance commemorating Christ's sacrifice, reminding believers of His atoning death and their communion with Him (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

6. The Unity of the Church

We affirm that the Church is one body composed of all believers, called to live in love, unity, and mutual edification (Ephesians 4:3-6). Christ is the head of the Church, and believers are His body, serving one another in love (1 Corinthians 12:12-27).

7. The Call to Holiness and Godliness

We believe that God calls all believers to live holy and upright lives, turning away from sin and pursuing righteousness (1 Thessalonians 4:3-7; 1 Timothy 6:11-12).

8. The Power of Prayer

We affirm that prayer is essential for spiritual growth, fellowship with God, and the advancement of His kingdom (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Philippians 4:6-7).

9. The Promise of Christ's Return

We believe in the imminent return of Jesus Christ to judge the living and the dead, to establish His eternal kingdom, and to gather His Church to Himself (1

Thessalonians 4:16-17; 2 Timothy 4:8).

10. The Mission of Evangelism and Discipleship

We affirm the Great Commission, in which all believers are called to proclaim the gospel, make disciples, and teach others to follow Jesus (2 Timothy 4:2; Matthew 28:19-20).

11. The Assurance of Eternal Life

We believe that those who belong to Jesus Christ have the assurance of eternal life, secured by God's unchanging promises (2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 1:2).

Our decision to discontinue Catholic holidays and traditions is based on the following principles:

1. Scriptural Authority:

The Apostle Paul, in his letters to the early Church, emphasized the sufficiency of Christ and the importance of remaining faithful to the gospel (Galatians 1:8-9). We are instructed to "hold fast to the word of life" (Philippians 2:16) and not be led astray by man-made traditions that overshadow the work of Christ.

2. The Example of the Early Church:

The early Church, as depicted in the Acts of the Apostles and the epistles, did not observe the traditional holidays now associated with Catholicism. Instead, their focus was on the celebration of the resurrection of Christ (every Sunday), the breaking of bread (communion), and the proclamation of the gospel.

3. Avoidance of Syncretism:

Many Catholic holidays have roots in pre-Christian or non-biblical traditions. As followers of Christ, we desire to avoid any syncretism—blending of Christian beliefs with practices not rooted in Scripture. Our commitment is to pure worship and devotion to God as revealed in His Word.

Conclusion:

In this Ministry, we are committed to building a culture that prioritizes biblical practices, genuine worship, and a deep relationship with Jesus Christ. While we respect the diversity of Christian traditions, we believe that our faith and practices should be based solely on the teachings of Scripture. Therefore, we will no longer observe Catholic holidays and traditions, choosing instead to focus on the truths of the gospel and the ways in which we can faithfully live out Christ's commands in our daily lives.