

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT *of*

MISSISSAUGA INTERNATIONAL BAPTIST CHURCH

A. Scriptures We believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments only, to be the verbal-plenary inspired Word of God. We believe the King James Version is the preserved Word of God for English speaking people. We believe the Bible is inerrant and that it is the sole authority on matters of faith and practice. (*Psalm 12:6; Psalm 119:89; II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:21.*)



B. Godhead We believe in one God who exists eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe that they are equal in every divine perfection and are executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption. (*Matthew 28:19; John 14:7-12; John 16:7.*)

C. Jesus Christ

1. We believe Jesus Christ was born of a virgin, begotten by the Holy Spirit: that He is fully God and fully man.

2. We believe Jesus shed His blood to atone for our sins, willingly gave His life as a ransom for all, was bodily raised from the dead and ascended into Heaven, where He now makes intercession for us, and is coming again to receive His own. (*Matthew 1:18-21; John 1:1-2; Acts 1:8-11; Colossians 1:19-20.*)

D. Holy Spirit We believe the Holy Spirit is a divine person, the third person of the Godhead, and that He convicts of sin, righteousness, and judgment, that He indwells the believer at the moment of regeneration, and that He infills and empowers believers for service as they yield themselves and surrender to His will. (*John 15:26; John 16:7-14; Acts 1:8; Romans 8:9; Ephesians 5:18.*)

E. Sin We believe that man, who was created in God's image, became a sinner through voluntary disobedience to God's Word, and that through one man's sin the curse of sin came upon all humankind, resulting in not only physical, but also spiritual death. There is not one without sin, therefore all are in need of a Saviour (*Romans 3:23; Romans 5:12; Romans 6:23; Revelation 20:14-15.*)

F. Creation We believe that the Genesis account of creation is to be accepted literally and not allegorically or figuratively. We believe that all things, including man, were created by Jesus Christ. The Scriptures contradict the evolution model, whether it be theistic or non-theistic. God established the law that life should bring forth only "after their kind." (*Genesis 1-2; Exodus*

20:11; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 11:3.)

G. Heaven We believe in a literal heaven that Jesus is presently preparing for believers. Jesus Christ is now seated at the right hand of God the Father and interceding on behalf of believers. At the moment of death or the rapture, believers will be with Jesus Christ in heaven. (**John 14:1-3; Hebrews 8:1; 1 John 2:1; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 2 Corinthians 5:8.**)

H. Hell We believe in a literal hell of everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels. We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain in hell after death, in conscious misery, until the second resurrection. At the Great White Throne Judgment, unbelievers are cast body, soul, and spirit into the Lake of Fire to suffer everlasting conscious punishment, not annihilation. (**Matthew 25:41, 46; 2 Thessalonians 1:9; Revelation 20:11-15.**)

I. Faith of Man We believe that man was created in the image of God in a state of innocence. Through Adam's sin the whole race fell, became alienated from God and inherited a sin nature. Man is under the just condemnation of death, both physical and spiritual, without defense or excuse. Man is helpless in his lost condition apart from the grace of God. (**Genesis 1:25-27; Romans 1:20, 3:10, 23; 5:12, 16-18; Psalm 51:5.**)

J. Salvation

1. We believe that salvation is the gift of God provided for all men by the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ and His shed blood. We believe salvation is wholly of God and apart from any works of righteousness by man. Salvation is exclusively through Jesus Christ and His vicarious atonement for sin. (**Romans 3:24, 6:23; John 3:16, 14:6; Ephesians 1:7, 2:8-9; Titus 3:5.**)

2. We believe that the Holy Spirit of God convicts unbelievers of their sin, drawing them to salvation. The two ingredients for man to receive salvation are repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. At the moment of salvation, the Holy Spirit regenerates, indwells, sanctifies, justifies, and seals the believer. (**Acts 20:21; Luke 13:3; 2 Peter 3:9; Romans 5:1; John 3:3, 36; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Ephesians 4:30.**)

3. We believe that Christians are eternally secure in Jesus Christ and salvation may never be lost. The penalty of all sins is removed at salvation. (**Romans 8:1, 33-39; John 10:28-29; 1 John 5:11-13.**)

K. The Second Coming

1. We believe in the imminent, personal, pre-tribulational return of the Lord Jesus Christ. He will return bodily in the air to "catch away" both the dead and living in Christ. (**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Acts 1:11; Titus 2:13.**)

2. We believe that Jesus Christ will return to earth seven years after the rapture. He will destroy the remaining unbelievers and establish His kingdom. He will reign 1,000 years on the throne of David. (**Daniel 9:24-27; Revelation 19:15-16, 20:4; Matthew 24:30.**)

L. The Church We believe that a New Testament church is a local, organized assembly of baptized believers with the purpose of fulfilling the Great Commission given by Jesus Christ. We believe Jesus Christ began His church during His earthly ministry; and purchased it with His own blood. Each church is to be autonomous, indigenous, and independent. The church is governed, first, as a theocracy; and secondly, as a democracy. There are two permanent officers in the church: Pastors and deacons. The church is to observe two ordinances established by Jesus Christ: baptism and the Lord's Supper. (**Matthew 16:18, 28:18-20; Acts 20:28, 2:41, 47; Colossians 1:18; 1 Corinthians 5, 6, & 16; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-13.**)

M. The Ordinances

1. Baptism. We believe that baptism is a symbol of the believer's identification with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. It is strictly an act of obedience following conversion. Christ gave authority only to His church to baptize by immersion in water. (**Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 6:4-5; Acts 2:41.**)



2. The Lord's Supper. We believe that the Lord's Supper is a memorial of the shed blood and broken body of the Lord. It is a reminder of the death of Christ and His future return. Participants are to be saved, baptized, and belong to a church. Self-examination is to precede participation in the Lord's Supper. (**1 Corinthians 11:24-29; Matthew 26:26-29; Acts 2:41-42.**)