

Terry Buckman Statement of Faith

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I believe in one God who is the creator and sustainer of all worlds. I trust—even when I do not necessarily understand—that this one God is also three: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God reigns over all, knows all, God loves all.

I believe in Jesus Christ, who is both fully human and fully divine, sent by God to walk among us. He embraced those labeled by society as outcasts and unbelievers. He visited the sick and comforted the suffering. He challenged powerful institutions for their lack of compassion. He was subjected to betrayal, torture, and execution. He willingly accepted a fate he did not deserve, so that we might know mercy and grace, and through this act be awakened to God's love, saved and redeemed. God raised Jesus from death into life, giving hope and reassurance for the life to come, and the life today: We are a people of the resurrection.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, promised by Christ and delivered by the Father and Son, who comforts, guides, and ties together all God's people in all places. I trust that God calls together faithful believers in every age to be the church: To worship, pray, fellowship, study, and serve one another and the world. Through the teachings of the church, I recognize two sacraments: Baptism and the Lord's Supper, which serve as the signs and seals of my faith.

I believe the scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are the inspired Word of God. In it is all that is needed for a person to know how to love God and their neighbor (II Timothy 3:16-17, II Peter 13: 20-21), In fact, scripture alone is sufficient for all areas of ministry including preaching, teaching, and counseling. Because of this, I believe expository preaching/teaching to be the best way to communicate these truths.

The most important priority is a ministry focused on the glory and commandments of God. I believe that God has called and gifted me to shepherd his children through teaching and preaching the Word of God. While my deep desire is to see believers walking worthy of their calling, my ultimate goal, as in all scripture, is to bring glory to the one true God.

My story is not a continuous life flowing to these goals, but one of testing, questioning, and ignoring my savior. When I listen, my life blossoms and I see new horizons and challenges that the Lord gives me. Since 2000, I have recommitted my life to the Lord and allowed him to transform me. I am assured that this will never stop.