

Emmanuel Free Church

Membership Class

Session 4: Doctrine

BIBLE

We believe the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of man, and the divine and final authority for all Christian faith and life. (Ps. 119:89, 160; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:19-21)

- Inspired - God-breathed
- Without error - contains no errors (and errors not possible “infallible”)
- Complete revelation - finished, no more revelation given, timelessness of God’s word
- Final authority - no other rule for faith and practice, binding, consequences

GOD

We believe in one God, Creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Isa. 40:28; 2 Cor. 18:14)

- One God - not one of many, but, the only God.
- Creator - Made everything, the Source of everything,
- Perfect - Holy, complete, self-existent, glorious
- Triune - One God, Three Persons; exists alone in a transcendent reality unlike ours and without the limitations of our reality

JESUS CHRIST

We believe that Jesus Christ is true God and true man, having been conceived of the Virgin Mary. He died on the cross a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. Further, He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where at the right hand of the majesty on High, He now is our High Priest and Advocate. (Matt. 1:18, 23, 25; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; Eph. 1:20-21; Heb. 2:17)

- True God & True Man - Hypostatic Union: one Person having two natures - the human and divine. Came in the flesh. Fully divine, fully human (without sin nature).
- Conceived of the virgin Mary - miracle of life-giving God, preserve sinlessness of Jesus; fulfill prophecy (Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:23)
- Died
 - Fact of
 - Sacrificial, substitutionary - sinless Person substituted for sinners, taking their guilt and punishment, sparing and pardoning them from God's just, divine wrath
- Physical resurrection - fact of, necessary, prototype of our resurrection,
- Ascension
 - God's Right Hand - in glory, power, authority, honor
 - High Priest & Advocate - on our behalf when we sin