

MILTON GOSPEL HALL STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE:

- a. In the Scriptures, Old and New Testament, as the inspired Word of God, which are entirely trustworthy, and without error in the original documents. They are the complete revelation of God's will for salvation of people and the divine and final authority for all Christian faith and life.
- b. In one God, Almighty, Creator of all things, holy and eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He is gracious, merciful, compassionate, steadfast in love and also the righteous Judge of all.
- c. In the Lord Jesus Christ, true God and true Man, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary in His incarnation. He lived a sinless life and died on the cross as a perfect sacrifice for our sins. His sacrifice was substitutionary and representative. He was buried and rose bodily from the dead. He ascended into heaven, was exalted by the Father and now ministers as our High Priest and Advocate.
- d. In the Holy Spirit, co-equal with the Father and the Son, who glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ, convicts people of sin, regenerates the believing sinner, and indwells all Christians. He guides, instructs, empowers, and gives gifts to believers for godly living and for service in building up the body of Christ. Gifts are given to all Christians and in particular, to elders, evangelists, pastors and teachers. All believers are responsible to Him for their use of gifts in service for God, which are given for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, and for the edifying of the body of Christ.
- e. That every member of the human race, which was created in the image and likeness of God, has sinned and is guilty before a holy God.
- f. That salvation is provided through the death and resurrection of Christ and is the only ground for a sinner's justification and acceptance by God. All who receive the Lord Jesus by faith are redeemed by His blood and are regenerated by the Holy Spirit. They become children of God and have eternal life. The Holy Spirit indwells the believer, who is sealed until the day of redemption and is empowered to live a Godly life.
- g. That the universal church began with the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and is composed of all true believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. These believers are united to Him and to one another by the indwelling Spirit. This means that the church as a whole is not an organization, but a living organism, described in Scripture as the "Body of Christ".
- h. In two Christian ordinances; Baptism and the Lord's Supper (communion). Baptism by immersion signifies that the believer, having died with Christ, is

buried with Him in baptism and also is raised with Christ to walk in newness of life. The Lord's Supper is a memorial feast, instituted by the Lord Himself exclusively for his own. In the observance of this ordinance, believers remember Him; until He comes; they function as worshipping priests before God.

- i. That every true child of God possesses eternal life, and being justified, sanctified and sealed with the Holy Spirit, is safe and secure for all eternity. However, a Christian can, through sin, lose his fellowship, joy, power, testimony and reward, and incur God's discipline. Relationship is eternal, being established by spiritual rebirth; fellowship, however, is dependent upon obedience.
- j. That the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ to translate His church is imminent; an event that concludes the present age of grace. This will be followed by the outpouring of God's wrath on earth, known as the Tribulation. After this, Christ's Millennial Kingdom will be established, and the "glory of the Lord will cover the earth". There will be a final resurrection of the saved and of the lost; of the saved unto eternal life, and of the lost unto eternal and conscious judgment. Christ will then deliver up the Kingdom of God to the Father, in order that the Triune God may be All in All.