

HCA Statement of Faith
Approved November 23, 2015

STATEMENT OF FAITH

We Believe:

- A. God is a personal and infinite being, Creator and Sustainer of all things. By His own deliberate choice and for His pleasure and fellowship, God created man, giving him the capacity to know and respond to God and to live and enjoy a meaningful life. God further provided for success in every area of man's need—spiritually, mentally, socially, emotionally, and physically. Man fell from his original state by willful disobedience into a state of total depravity and is destined for eternal separation from God in Hell. However, in God's perfect plan and by His grace, He has provided eternal salvation through the death, burial, and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. When a person receives Him by faith as personal Lord and Savior, that person becomes a new creature in Christ and is assured of spending eternity with God in Heaven.
- B. God is Truth. God the Father is the source of all truth: God the Son is the manifestation of truth: God the Spirit is the interpreter of truth. God has endowed man with the capacity and responsibility to learn truth through physical and spiritual means. Truth is revealed to man in a general way through creation and more specifically through the living and written Word of God. The Holy Spirit indwells each believer, teaching and guiding him to discern truth from error. We believe, therefore, that Christian education centers in the Person of Christ and revelation of God in the Bible, which is the integrating factor around which all subject matter is correlated, arranged, and judged.
- C. The Bible, both verbally and plenary inspired, is the only Word of God. It is infallible, inerrant, and authoritative in all matters of which it speaks. II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:19-21.
- D. There is one God; personal, infinite, perfect, and eternally existing as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and each person is equal in every divine perfection. Exodus 20:2-3; I Corinthians 8:6; I John 5:7; Revelation 4:11.
- E. The Holy Spirit is a divine person and works in conviction of men and in the regeneration, sanctification, and preservation of believers. Genesis 1:1-3; Matthew 28:19; Mark 1:8; Luke 1:35, 24:49; John 1:33, 3:5-6, 14:16-17, 16:8-11; Acts 5:30-32, 11:16; Romans 8:14,16,26,27; Ephesians 1:13-14; Hebrews 9:14.
- F. Satan is a created, fallen personality, opposed to all that is holy and is destined for eternal punishment. Matthew 4:1-3; II Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 20:10.
- G. God directly created the universe from no pre-existing substance. We reject both naturalistic and theistic evolution. Genesis 1 & 2; John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17.
- H. Man was made in God's own image and fell into sin in Adam and is now a sinner both by nature and choice, and can be restored through God's provision in Christ. Genesis 3:1-6, 24; Romans 1:18 & 32, 3:10-19.

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- I. Jesus Christ was conceived of the Holy Spirit, was born of the virgin Mary, and is fully God and fully man. Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:35; John 1:4.
- J. Salvation comes to man only by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, apart from any human merit through His substitutionary atoning sacrifice. Isaiah 53:4-7 Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5.
- K. Jesus Christ arose bodily from the grave, ascended into Heaven, and daily intercedes on our behalf as our High Priest. Acts 1:9-11; I Corinthians 15:3, 4; Hebrews 7:25.
- L. In order to be saved, sinners must experience a new spiritual birth brought about by a sovereign God through the power of His Word and the ministry of the Holy Spirit. This birth is instantaneous and not a process, and is evidenced by newness of life. Every believer is indwelt with the Holy Spirit at the time of salvation. John 3:3, 6, 7; Acts 16:30-33; Romans 6:23; I Corinthians 12:13; II Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 2:1; Colossians 2:13; II Peter 1:4; I John 5:1.
- M. Justification is an act of God in which He declares the believer to be righteous on the basis of faith in Christ and the imputation of Christ's righteousness to the believing sinner. Isaiah 53:11; Zechariah 13:1; Acts 13:39; Romans 5:1, 9.
- N. Sanctification is the setting apart of a believer unto God as His purchased possession through the work of the Holy Spirit and the power of His Word. John 14:16-17, 17:17; Romans 8:14, 16; I Timothy 4:5.
- O. Every believer is eternally secure, being kept by the power of God. Romans 8:35-39; Philippians 1:6; Jude 1.
- P. All those who have experienced salvation are members of the church which is His body and are to obey the Lord in believer's baptism and membership in the local church which is central in God's plan for this age. Jesus Christ is the Head of the church and every local church has the right under Christ to govern itself. Matthew 28:19, 20; Acts 2:41-42, 15:13-18; Ephesians 5:23-24; Colossians 1:18; I Timothy 3:1-7.
- Q. Believer's baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of the church. Believers baptized by immersion represent a memorial of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. Matthew 3:16; John 3:23; Acts 8:26-39; Romans 6:3-5; I Corinthians 11:23-28; Colossians 2:12.
- R. The Bible commands believers to be separated unto God and to be separated from worldliness and ecclesiastical apostasy. Separation is manifested by striving to lead a holy life of service and testimony as empowered by the Holy Spirit, including abstinence from activity which dishonors our Lord Jesus Christ, causes stumbling to fellow-believers, or hinders the winning of a soul to Christ. Romans 12:1-2, 14:13, 21; Colossians 3:5-14; I Thessalonians 4:7; Titus 2:11-12; I Peter 1:15-16.
- S. The work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer is evidenced by the fruit of the Spirit. We believe that special gifts of the Holy Spirit are given to the Church and that some were sign gifts

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- bearing witness to the Apostles' ministry. I Corinthians 12-14; Galatians 5:22-23; Hebrews 2:3-4.
- T. Civil government exists by divine appointment, and separation between it and the church should be maintained. Exodus 18:21-22; II Samuel 23:3; Daniel 3:17-18; Acts 23:5; Romans 13:1-7.
- U. The return of Christ includes both the rapture of the Church and His return in glory. The first is for His Church, which is personal, and may occur at any moment. The second is His return to earth to establish His righteous reign over the earth. This coming is visible, personal, premillennial, and in power and great glory. Psalm 72:8; Isaiah 11:4-5; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; I Corinthians 15:25; I Thessalonians 4:16; Hebrews 9:28; James 5:8; Revelation 20:6, 14.
- V. All persons will experience resurrection. Believers will experience a life of eternal joy and unbelievers will experience eternal punishment. Matthew 28:6-7; Mark 16:6; Luke 24:2-7, 39; John 20:27; I Corinthians 15:4; I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 20:11-15.
- W. The term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. Genesis 2:18-25; 1 Corinthians 6:18; 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4.
- X. Children are a heritage from the Lord. Life begins at conception and we are prohibited from the taking of this life. Exodus 20:13; Psalm 139:13; Ecclesiastes 11:5.
- Y. God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God. Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person. Genesis 1:26-27.
- Z. Any form of sexual immorality (including, but not limited to, adultery, fornication, homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, child molestation, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and abhorrent to God. Leviticus 20:10-16; Matthew 15:18-20; Matthew 18:6; 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; Romans 1:24-32; Galatians 5:19-21; I Thessalonians 4:3-8.
- AA. Every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the doctrines of HCA. Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31.
- BB. God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ. Acts 3:19-21; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11.