



# MONARCH BAPTIST CHURCH

## What We Believe

### God

-We believe there is one true and living God who is perfect in all His attributes. He is eternal and the creator of all things in the spiritual realm, and in the physical universe. He is wholly other and lovingly involved in all his creation. God knows all things, is present in everyplace and time, and He is all-powerful. God is one in essence existing in three distinct persons:

- 1) God the Father: He is the first person of the trinity. He is sovereign over all His creation and everything comes to pass according to the counsel of His decree.
- 2) God the Son: He is the second person of the trinity, co-eternal, and co-equal with the Father. He is the agent of creation and salvation. In Him all things hold together.
- 3) God the Holy Spirit: He is the third person of the trinity, co-eternal, and co-equal with the Father and the Son. He works in the hearts and lives of humanity to bring Glory to God the Father, and God the Son.

Genesis 1:1; Exodus 3:14; Deuteronomy 6:4; Psalm 90:2; Psalm 139:7-12; Isaiah 43:13; Acts 5:3-4; Ephesians 1:11; Hebrews 1:1-4,8; I Peter 1:2.

### Scriptures

-We believe God chose to reveal Himself through His created order, and more specifically through His word. We believe the Bible to be the verbally inspired, inerrant word of God. The Bible consists of 66 books and is the only written revelation of the Holy Spirit through the use of human authors. We believe the canon is complete and no new revelation is given or needed to know God and His eternal plan for the ages. The Bible is true and our final authority for all things related to life, faith and practice. The Bible is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it commands, and trusted in all that it promises.

Psalm 119:160; John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Revelation 22:18

### Jesus

-We believe the historical figure known as Jesus Christ is the second person of the trinity come in the flesh. Jesus is truly and fully God, and He is truly and fully man. He

came to fulfill the offices of prophet, priest, and king in complete submission to the will of the Father. Jesus lived a sinless life, was crucified on the cross, buried, and raised to life. He ascended to heaven where He sits at the right hand of the Father. Jesus will come again to reveal the fullness of His kingdom in power and authority over all creation.

Matthew 1:23; Luke 22:67; John 1:1-4,14; 5:19; 10:30; 14:3; Acts 1:11; 3:20-23; I Corinthians 2:2; 15:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Ephesians 1:17-23; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 4:14-15; Revelation 17:14

## **Humanity**

-We believe humanity to be the crown of God's creation. Mankind has been created in the image of God and the only created thing God breathed life into making it a unique intimate relationship. The rest of creation was brought into existence by the spoken word of God. Humanity has been created to worship and bring Glory to God. God created mankind in two embodied distinct genders: male and female. We believe God created marriage as the complementary union of male and female in an exclusive and permanent covenant relationship. We believe humanity lives in a state of brokenness and remains fallen from the glory of God. Humanity, after the fall, is under condemnation to an eternal life in a literal hell, separated from God, and incapable of achieving redemption by any means of effort or merit. Humanity left to its own devices is utterly and completely lost in sin. Sin not only affects humanity, but has also corrupted the entirety of the created order.

Genesis 1:27; 3:14-23; John 3:17-19; Romans 3:23, 10-12; 8:20-22; Ephesians 2:12

## **Salvation**

-We believe God has provided redemption and salvation to humanity by the means of Grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. Salvation is achieved by the sole merits of the completed work of Christ on the cross. We believe the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, testifies of Christ, leads to all truth, enables saving faith, and seals all believers. By the work of the Holy Spirit believers are made into a new creation for the purpose of confessing the truth of the Gospel, and to be born again into abundant life. A life which rings true to the confession it professes. We believe salvation is comprehensive for it redeems our present life and extends to an eternal life in heaven in the presence of God.

John 3:16-18; 14:26; 16:8-11, 13-14; Romans 10:9-10, 13; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 1:13; 2:8-10; Titus 3:5; James 2:17-22

## **Church**

-We believe the Church to be the body and witness of Christ to the world. The church is made up of confessing, true believers who are united, gifted, and equipped by the Holy Spirit for the works of the ministry. The Church testifies to the truth of the gospel by the means of believers baptism, the remembrance of the Lord's sacrifice through the celebration of the Lord's supper, fellowship, teaching, prayer, and discipleship. As one body, the Church has Christ as its Lord, functions and lives to bring Glory to God, and proclaims forgiveness of sins to the nations as its mission.

Mathew 16:18-19; 28:18-20; Acts 2:44-47; I Corinthians 12:11-13; Ephesians 4:1-14