



Joshua's Statement of Faith with a few references:

- 1) I Believe in the Inspiration of Scriptures. I believe, for the English-speaking world, it is Preserved and Free from Error in the Authorized Version, KJV 1611. Not doubly inspired. All other English Translations are perversions of God's Holy Word. (Psa. 12:6, 7; Psa. 119:89; Jer. 36; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:19-21)
- 2) I Believe that there is One true God and, in the Godhead, there are Three Persons: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. He is eternally existent, all powerful, all knowing, all present, holy, just, merciful and loving; among many other attributes. (Gen 1:1, 26; Isa. 42-46; John 1; 10:30; Eph. 5:6; 1 John 5:7; Rev. 1:5-8)
- 3) I Believe in the Existence of Satan. Who is a fallen angel and the prince and power of this world who is blinding the eyes of the unbeliever and trying to deceive, hurt and kill anyone who follows God. However, he will one day be judged and thrown into the Lake of Fire. (1 Peter 5:8-9; Isa. 14:12-15; 2 Cor. 4:3-4; Rev. 20)
- 4) I Believe in the Genesis account of Creation literally. All plant life, angels, animal, man, and the universe visible & invisible were created by the divine act of God in 6 literal 24hour days and on the 7th day He rested leaving no room for any form of evolution or death before sin. (Gen. 1:1-27; John 1:3; Rom. 5:12-21; Rev.10:6)
- 5) I Believe that Man was Created Innocent with an eternal soul and, in the image, and likeness of God unlike anything else in creation. He fell by voluntary transgression. (Gen. 1:26-27; 2:7; 3:1-6; Rom. 5:12, 19)
- 6) I Believe that God created two genders, Male and Female, and to say anything else or to make additional divisions is foolishness and not of God, which he calls an abomination. (Gen. 1:27; 2:20-25; Lev. 18; Mark 10:6; Romans 1)
- 7) I Believe that Jesus Christ was present at Creation, then entered his creation, begotten of the Holy Ghost, born of a virgin, lived a perfect life, died on a cross to pay for man's sins, bodily rose again the third day, then ascended into Heaven and is now sitting at the right hand of the Father; but is appointed to return one day. Jesus is our mediator & 100% God. (Gen. 3:15; John 1:1-14; Isa. 7:14; Mat. 1:23; John 17:5, 24; John 20 & 21; Lk. 24:39; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Cor. 15:3-8; Acts 2:33-35; Phil. 2:5-11; 1Tim. 2:5-6; 1John 5:20; Rev. 1:5, 8)
- 8) I Believe that Salvation is by Grace through Faith in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus the Christ, who died as a substitute for all. However, only those who Realize there is One God who made rules which all have broken and therefore, will be judged accordingly; Repent of their sin (apologize & turning from their own way to His); Reject any form of payment including works (indulgences, penances, sacraments, etc.); and finally, Receive Jesus as Savior and Master will be forgiven and get God's free gift of eternal life. (Eph. 2:8, 9; Rom. 3:25; 1 Cor.6:19, 20; 15:1-3; John 3:16; Rom. 10:9-13; John 1:12,13; John 10:27-30; Rom. 8:35-39; 1 John 5:13)
- 9) I Believe that once save, Always Saved! This includes all ages past, present and future. The Old Testament saints looked forward to the promise that would come and all saints after Christ look back to the promise that came. Yet still we all look forward to Christ coming again to call his elect (saints) to Heaven, marry His Bride (Church), judge the world and the Devil, set up his kingdom, and make everything new again, our blessed hope. (Psalm 37:28; John 10:27-30; Rom. 8:35-39; Tit. 2:11-14; Heb. 6:4-6; Heb. 11:32-40; 13:5; 1 Peter 1:3-5; Rev. 21)
- 10) I Believe in the appointed Return of Christ before God's wrath is poured out on the lost world, because we are not appointed to wrath, & before the millennial reign of Christ. However, this does not mean Christians will be without tribulations, persecutions, or even the wrath of man, the world, and the Devil; but to the contrary we will suffer as those who have gone before us and those that follow. "The servant is not greater than his lord." (Matt. 10:16-42 & Matt. 24; John 14:1-6; 15:18-23; Acts 1:9-11; 14:21-23; Rom. 5:1-11; 1 Cor. 15; 1 Thes. 4:13-18; 1 Thess. 5:1-11; 2 Thes. 2:1-4; Rev. 20:1-4)
- 11) I Believe that the Wicked, who refuse God's plan of salvation from the consequences of our disobedience, will be Judged and Condemned to an Eternal Hell that was designed for the Devil and the angels that followed him, not man. Therefore, God does not force anyone into Hell. In addition, He does not force anyone into Heaven. It is our choice and what we do with Christ now determines our eternal destination. (Luke 16:19-31; Heb. 9:27; 1John 5:10-13; Rev.20:11-15)
- 12) I Believe that the Saved will be Judged for the deeds done in the body. An eternal inheritance is waiting for the obedient & faithful child of God upon our Lord's return. However, just like the prodigal son, we can waist our inheritance here & have no rewards "...but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." (Mat. 6: 19-34; 19:16-30; Lk. 15:11-32; Jn 14:1-6; 1 Cor. 2:9; 3:9-18; 1 Pet. 1:3-5)



- 13) I Believe that a New Testament Church is a local, visible, congregation of baptized believers associated by a Covenant of Faith and Fellowship of the Gospel. There are only 2 Offices of the Church: Pastor and Deacon. Whose qualifications, work and purpose are clearly outlined in the Bible. All of which was established by and on Jesus while He was on earth. (Mat.28:18-20; Mat.16:18; John 1:35-2:1; John 17:4; Jude 3-4; Eph. 4:11; 1 Tim. 3:1-7, Titus1-3)
- 14) I Believe there are two Ordinances: Baptism & the Lord's Supper. Baptism is the immersion of a Christian into water by the proper person with the proper authority for the purpose of a public testimony while opening the door to unit in a local Church Membership. The Lord's Supper (Closed) is a private purifying that every church member is required to do as often as the church does it. The authority to administer these Ordinances rests with the Local Church. (Acts 2:41; 8:26-39; Rom.6:1-6; 1 Cor. 5; 10:14-23; 11:17-34)
- 15) I Believe the Great Commission is the True Mission of the Church. Which is not limited to local or foreign missions and seeking souls to be saved; but also, in the replication of itself by teaching and training those that they spiritually birth to be faithful stewards and reproduce the light in others. (Mat. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15; John 20:21; Acts 1:8; Rom. 10:11-17; 1 Cor. 9:16-17; 2 Tim. 2:2)
- 16) I Believe that God today works through the Local Church. (Of the 115 times the word "ecclesia" [or its derivatives] is found in the Bible, all occurrences are of a local called out assembly, the church as an institute or the heavenly church in prospect, never universal.) In addition, God has designed & equipped each Christian to serve in their local church decently and in order as He is not the author of confusion, though there are specific gifts that are passed away and God no longer works through. (Romans 12; 1 Cor. 13:8-10; 1 Cor. 14; Eph. 4:1-16; Heb. 10:24-25)
- 17) I Believe in Tithes & Offerings, and that all should be done through the Local Church because it is the storehouse and body used to carry on God's work. (Mal. 3:7-10; Matt. 22:15-22; 23:23; Luke 6:38; Acts 4:34-37; 1 Cor.16:1-2; 1 Cor. 9:1-15; 2 Cor. 8, 9; Heb. 7:1-6)
- 18) I Believe God instituted the sacredness of Marriage to be for one man and one woman for life, "...till death do us part." God's original design did not have an escape hatch or a "just in case" clause (divorce); though he is merciful and gracious to all sinners. In the New Testament there are 2 exceptions for divorce because of the hardness of man's heart and that is: first, if there is fornication that cannot be resolved, and second, if you are married to an unbeliever that no longer wants to stay with you, meaning the unsaved initiates the process. However, this does not mean that there will be no consequences. Further, I believe that believers and non-believers are not to get married as this would be unequally yoked together. (Gen. 1:27; 2:20-25; Matt. 5:31-32; 19:7-10; 1 Cor. 7:10-17; 2 Cor. 6:14-18 Gal. 6:1-2; Matt. 18:15-17; 1 Tim. 3:2; Tit. 1:6)
- 19) I Believe that Civil Government is of divine appointment and is to be consciously honored except in things opposed to the clear commands of Scripture, God's will. Yet even then, we should be willing to suffer the consequences patiently as Christ gave us an example. (Rom.13:1-7; 1 Tim. 2:1-6; 1 Peter 2:13-25; 4:12-19)
- 20) I Believe in the Royal Priesthood of the Believer. That a Christian's body is the temple of the Holy Ghost and we should glorify God with our bodies. Furthermore, we should not do anything that will dishonor or harm the temple of God. This would include use of alcohol or other intoxicating or addictive drugs, tattoos, or other bodily disfigurements that would dishonor and misrepresent the image of God. (Gen. 1:26-27; Lev. 19:28; 1Cor. 3:16-17; 6:15-20; Eph. 5:1-21; Heb. 4:15-16; 1 Pet. 2:9)
- 21) I Believe in Separation from the World. A Christian's life should be a reflection of Christ. We live in the world but are not of it. We are children of Light not to be fellowshiping with darkness. (Rom. 12:1-2; 1 Cor. 5; 2 Cor. 6:14-17:1; Eph. 5:7-11; 1 John 1:5-10; 5:7-15)
- 22) I Believe in Church Discipline. If there is a brother offended or in sin there is a procedure for this and it is not optional. The process is designed to reprove the wrong, repent, forgive, and then get back into fellowship; however, when that process is followed and the sin persists without repentance the whole church should be made aware of it and the correct course of action taken as described in Scripture. Remembering that the purpose for discipline is seek repentance and then restoration to be in fellowship with the church. If a member is bound, they may not transfer membership or join another church until reconciliation has been made. (Matt. 18:15-20; Gal. 6:1-10; 1 Cor. 5:9-13; Eph. 4-5; 2 Thes. 3:14-15; 2 Tim. 4:9-15; Heb. 12:4-17; 1 John 2:15-21; 3:1-11; Matt. 7:13-27; 2 Peter 2:20-22)