

Joseph Brock - Statement of Faith

I believe that although God may be known by many names, there is one, and only one, infinite triune God, who had no beginning and will have no end.

I believe that God is the Creator and Ruler of all the universe.

I believe that God exists in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit who are all equally part of God's essence and being.

I believe as finite human beings we can never fully understand or comprehend just who and what God is. We cannot (and should not) make God fit into something comfortable to our limited understanding.

I believe that Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, is God. Jesus became mortal through his miraculous conception via the Holy Spirit and his virgin birth.

I believe that God revealed his nature to humanity through Jesus Christ's sinless life.

I believe Jesus came into the world to save us from our sins and reveal to us the will of God the Father and that his crucifixion and death paid for our sins.

I believe that Jesus rose from the dead and that this is evidence that while he was fully human, he was also fully divine.

I believe that Jesus is the archetypical model for loving each other.

I believe that the life and teachings of Jesus show us how to express God in our lives.

I believe that the Holy Spirit empowers and enables us to express God in our lives.

I believe that God is personally involved with his Creation and that we experience God on a daily basis through the Holy Spirit.

I believe that through the Holy Spirit, God uses the church to work out his will among Creation.

I believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and the written revelation about who and what God is.

I believe the Bible is the standard by which we can measure our conduct as Christians and use as a guide to lead us in following God's will.

I believe that Baptism helps signify our "initiation" into being participants of the New Covenant with God.

I believe that through the Lord's Supper, believers renew and affirm the authenticity of the New Covenant.

I believe that Salvation is solely a work of God's free grace and is not the work, in whole or in part, of human works, or goodness, or religious ceremony, or anything else that we say or do.

I believe that the fullest expression of God comes in how we treat all of God's Creation.

I believe that belief alone is not enough: As it says in James 2:17 "Faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead." Belief has no real meaning without action. I believe that this action is not a requirement for our salvation, but is a natural outpouring of what has been received within. How that action benefits God's Creation is the surest indication of its validity and value.

I believe that there are many aspects of God and God's Creation that I may never fully understand but that in no way diminishes this fact:

I believe!