# Statement of Faith

## Choice Hills Baptist Church is:

**Independent** -- We are not part of any convention or national organization. **Fundamental** -- We believe the entire Bible, literally.

## **Scriptures**

We believe that the Bible is the inerrant (preserved without mistakes), inspired (God-breathed), infallible (without mistakes in its teachings) Word of God. And, that is the final authority for all matters of faith and practice. For reasons of unity within the Church and textual reliability, we use the King James Version of the Bible. <u>I Timothy 3:16-7</u>; <u>II Peter 1:20-21</u>; <u>Psalm 12: 6-7</u>

## Sovereign

God is a person, eternally existing, as a Trinity in unity-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit-three persons and yet, one God. <u>Deut 6:4</u>; <u>I Corinthians 8:6</u>; <u>I John 5:7</u>

#### Son

Jesus Christ, eternally existing, is the only begotten Son of God, who became a sinless man in order to redeem us. He was born of a virgin, and is true God and true man. <u>John 1:1-15</u>; <u>Philippians 2:5-8</u>; <u>Colossians 1:15</u>; <u>Luke 1:30-55</u>

#### Sin

Man was created in the image of God but fell through sin, bringing not only physical death, but also spiritual death or eternal separation from God. All of mankind exists as a fallen race, with an inherited sinful nature, and is totally depraved, unable to save himself. Genesis 1:26-27; 2:16;3:16-19; Romans 3:10-23; 6:23; Rev 21:8

#### Sacrifice of Christ

The Lord Jesus Christ suffered and died as a substitutionary payment for the sins of the whole world. He physically arose from the dead and then ascended into Heaven. Luke 24; <u>Acts 1:9-11</u>; <u>Romans 5:8-10</u>; <u>Ephesians 1:20-23</u>; <u>I Peter 3:18</u>

## Salvation by Grace

Salvation is impossible apart from the grace (unmerited favor) of God, Salvation is obtained through the simultaneous act of repentance towards God and faith towards the Lord Jesus Christ. In essence, salvation is turning from all self-effort and totally depending on the work of Christ and His shed blood on Calvary to cleanse us from all sin, (past, present and future) and reconcile us to God and take us to heaven when we die. Salvation is not baptism or church membership. <a href="Issaiah 45:22">Issaiah 45:22</a>; <a href="John 3:16-18">John 3:16-18</a>; <a href="Es:224">Es:24</a>; <a href="Romans 10:9-13">Romans 10:9-13</a>; <a href="Es:Ephesians 2:8-9">Ephesians 2:8-9</a>

## **Security of the Believer**

Salvation is a gift from God that cannot be taken away. When a person is truly born again, he cannot become unborn. Nothing can separate him from eternal life in Christ, and he can live in full assurance of Heaven as his future home. <u>John 3:5-24</u>; <u>10:27-33; Ephesians 2:8-10</u>, <u>4</u>:30; Romans 8; <u>I John 5:11-13</u>

#### Service

The local church is a group of believers, baptized by water, banded together for edification, exhortation, and evangelism as commanded by Christ in the Great Commission, Preaching the gospel to every creature. <u>Mark 16:15</u>; I Corinthians 12:12; <u>Ephesians 1:22-23</u>

## **Second Coming**

Jesus Christ, Himself, will soon come again in the air to catch up the saints and to reward their service; the unbelievers left behind will go through a period called the Tribulation. After which, Christ will return to the earth to set up His Kingdom of one thousand years of righteous rule. After this the unbelievers of all ages will stand at the Great White Throne to be judged and cast into the lake of fire, separated from God forever, while believers spend eternity in the fullness of joy in Heaven with the Lord. Matthew 24:29-42; I Thessalonians 4:16-18; Rev 19:11-20; 13

## Separation

Grace teaches us that, as Christians, we have a higher purpose in life and therefore should seek a higher standard of living. We believe Christians should separate themselves from worldliness that would hinder their growth in the Christian life and damage the testimony of Christ and His church in the community. <u>II Cor 5:14-21</u>; 6:14-18; Thessalonians 5:22; <u>Titus 2:11-14</u>