

STATEMENT OF FAITH

Final Authority for Matters of Belief and Conduct

Master's Men Africa is a Christian market-place ministry holistically reaching out to men with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and seeks to build them into maturity through lifelong discipleship relationship (Ephesians 4:15-16; Romans 12:5). This statement of faith does not exhaust the extent of our beliefs. The Bible itself, as the inspired and infallible Word of God that speaks with final authority concerning truth, morality, and the proper conduct of mankind, is the sole and final source of all that we believe.

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The sole basis of our beliefs is the Bible, God's infallible written Word, the sixty-six books of the Old and New testaments. We believe that it was uniquely, verbally, and fully inspired by the Holy Spirit and that it was written without error in the original manuscripts. It is the supreme and final authority in all matters on which it speaks.

We accept those areas of doctrinal teaching on which, historically, there has been general agreement among all true Christians. Because of the specialized calling of our ministry, we desire to allow for the freedom of conviction on other doctrinal matters, provided that any interpretation is based upon the Bible alone, and that no such interpretation shall become an issue which hinders the ministry to which God has called us.

WE AFFIRM OUR BELIEF IN BASIC BIBLE TEACHING AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. There is one true God, externally existing in three persons-Father, Son, and Holy Spiriteach of whom possesses equally all attributes of Deity and the characteristics of personality.
- 2. Jesus Christ is God, the Living Word, who became flesh through His miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and His virgin birth. Hence, He is perfect Deity and true humanity united in one person forever.

- 3. He lived a sinless life and voluntarily atoned for the sins of men by dying on the cross as their substitute, thus satisfying divine justice and accomplishing salvation for all who trust in Him alone.
- 4. He rose from the dead in the same body, though glorified, in which He lived and died.
- 5. He ascended bodily into Heaven and sat down at the right hand of God the Father, where He, the only Mediator between God and man, continually makes intercession for His own.
- 6. Man was originally created in the image of God. He sinned by disobeying God; thus, he was alienated from His creator. That historic fall brought all mankind under divine condemnation.
- 7. Man's nature is corrupted, and he is thus totally unable to please God. Every man is in need of regeneration and renewal by the Holy Spirit.
- 8. The salvation of man is wholly 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. God imputes His righteousness to those who put their faith in Christ alone for their salvation, and thereby justifies them in His sight.
- 9. It is the privilege of all who are born again of the Spirit to be assured of their salvation from the very moment in which they trust Christ as their Savior. This assurance is not based upon any kind of human merit, but is produced by the witness of the Holy Spirit, Who confirms in the believer the testimony of God in His written Word.
- 10. The Holy Spirit has come into the world to reveal and glorify Christ and to apply the saving work of Christ to men. He convicts and draws sinners to Christ, imparts new life to them, continually indwells them from the moment of spiritual birth, and seals them until the day of redemption, His fullness, power, and control are appropriated in the believers' lives by faith.
- 11. Every believer is called to live in the power of the indwelling Spirit so that he will not fulfill the lust of the flesh but will bear fruit to the glory of God.
- 12. Jesus is the Head of the Church, His body, which is composed of all men, living and dead, who have been joined to Him through saving faith.
- 13. God admonished His people to assemble together regularly for worship, for participation in ordinances, for edification through the Scriptures and for mutual encouragement.
- 14. At physical death the believer enters immediately into eternal, conscious fellowship with the Lord and awaits the resurrection of his body to everlasting glory and blessings.
- 15. At physical death the unbeliever enters immediately into eternal, conscious separation from the Lord and awaits the resurrection of his body to everlasting judgement and condemnation.
- 16. Jesus Christ will come again to the earth-personally, visibly and bodily- to consummate history and the eternal plan of God.

Statement on The Great Commission

We believe that the Gospel of Jesus Christ has the power to transform the lives of men. The Lord Jesus Christ commanded all believers to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world and to disciple men of every nation. The fulfillment of that Great commission requires that all worldly and personal ambitions be subordinate to a total commitment to Him Who loved us and gave Himself to us. We believe that, while one Christian can bring about significant change, systemic change

occurs when Christians are connected to one another, coordinating efforts, and challenging and inspiring each other to greater faithfulness and impact.

We believe that the church of Jesus Christ exists to call God's people to glorify and enjoy Him forever, and then to equip His people to lovingly make, baptize and to teach disciples of all people, in all parts of the world to live in obedience to His Word (Matthew 28:19-20).

Statement on the Sanctity of Life

We believe that all human life is sacred and created by God in His image. Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the aged, the physically or mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death. We are therefore called to defend, protect, and value all human life. (Ps 139).

Statement on Marriage, Gender and Sexuality

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female, and that these two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God.

We believe that God created marriage to be exclusively the union of one man and one woman, and that intimate sexual activity is to occur exclusively within that union.

Statement on Civil Government

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interests and good order of human society; and that government officials are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored, and obeyed; except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

Statement on Authority

In all matters of fellowship, discipline, order, and polity, the New Testament shall be the sole authority for Master's Men Africa. Realizing that we shall differ among ourselves and with other believers in our present understanding of parts of God's Word, in methods, and in procedures, we shall endeavor "to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" "till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."