



STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

Article 1 - The Godhead

ARTICLE 1 - The Godhead

There is One God, who consists of Three Distinct Separate Personalities making up the Godhead; Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent, Personal, Spiritual Beings; Who is Creator of all things, True, Unchangeable, Living and Eternal, **Colossians 2:9**; Who is One in Character, Work and Purpose:

A. *Our Heavenly Father, the Creator, Source, and Sovereign, infinite in wisdom and love.* **Genesis 1:1; Isaiah 40:18, 22-23, 25-26, 28; 1Timothy 1:17; Ephesians 3:14-15; Acts 17:24-25; Malachi 3:6; 1John 4:8.**

B. Jesus the Christ, (The Anointed, Messiah) the Eternal Son of the Father who was in the bosom of the Father from eternity past was “brought forth” to manifest who God the Father is. **Proverbs 8:22-31; Isaiah 9:6; Micah 5:2; John 1:1-3, 18; Hebrews 1:1-3;** the One by whom God created all things, **Colossians 1:16, 17;** being fully God, having life of Himself, **John 5:26; 10:17-18;** yet, having taken upon Him the nature of fallen humanity, fully man, **Philippians 2:6, 7; Hebrews 2:14, 16-17.** He lived a sinless life amongst us as our example of what it means to be a sanctified Christian, **2Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:15; 1Peter 2:21;** died our sacrifice, **Isaiah 53:3-11;** raised for our justification, **Romans 3:24; 5:1;** ascended on High and entered into the Holy Place of the Heavenly Sanctuary as our High Priest after the Order of Melchizedek, **Hebrews 4:14; 5:9, 10; 6:20; 7:16, 17** and Mediator, **1Timothy 2:5;** wherein He ministers on our behalf. He has now entered into the Most Holy Place to complete the work of Atonement through His blood that was shed on Calvary; **Hebrews 9:24;** and who is man’s only hope of salvation and deliverance from sin. **John 3:16; 14:6; Acts 4:12; Colossians 1:26, 27.** Once completed, indicated by when He arises as noted in **Daniel 12:1,** at the same time as when the king of the north moves his seat of government to the earthly Jerusalem, He will place the sins that have been blotted out from the lives of the believers that had been transferred to the heavenly sanctuary and lay them upon the scapegoat, Satan, and assign him to be taken to the desolated earth for



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1,000 years. **Revelation 20:1-3**. He takes His kingship from His Father, thrusts in His sickle to reap, and returns to take His people to His kingdom. **Daniel 7:13, 14; Revelation 14:14-16; 1Thessalonians 4:16, 17; 1Corinthians 15:51-58; Revelation 1:7**.

C. The Holy Spirit is both the representative of God the Father and God the Son, **1Peter 1:10, 11, and 2Peter 1:21**. He is referred to by Jesus as “another Comforter,” **John 14:16, who will not glorify Himself, John 16:13**; but who will guide us into all truth, **John 14:26**. He convicts of sin and leads sinners to repentance, **John 16:8-11**; is the regenerating power in the work of redemption; **Romans 8:11**; grieved when we sin after repentance, **Ephesians 4:30**, and is the earnest of our salvation and inheritance, **Ephesians 1:13, 14**. By His dwelling within us, He helps us to be obedient to the law of God. **Romans 8:1-9; Ephesians 5:18; Hebrews 8:10**. He is the author of the Bible, **2Peter 1:21**; giver of the gifts of the Spirit, **1Corinthians 12:11**; producer of the fruit of the Spirit, **Galatians 5:22, 23**; Intercessor, **Romans 8:26**; Witness, **Romans 8:16; Hebrews 10:10-14**; and Teacher, **1Corinthians 2:13**. He is engaged intimately in our personal lives as believers by Forbidding – **Acts 16:6**; Admonishing – **Romans 8:4**; Advising – **Acts 15:28**; Reproving – **John 16:8**; and Leading and guiding, – **John 16:13; Romans 8:14**. He may be lied to, **Acts 5:3-5** and when He speaks, He speaks the truth of God. **Hebrews 3:7-11**; and it is He, and only He, that when blasphemed, the sin cannot be forgiven. **Matthew 12:32**.

There are some truths in the Bible that man, in his finite mind, cannot comprehend, nor should he try. **This basic fundamental truth is one of those. Man has tried to explain the complete Godhead in various ways, most of them in error to the point of denying the existence of the Holy Spirit or the deity of Christ.** But in order for there to be any faith, any creation, any redemption, any hope; we not only have to believe that God is, **Hebrews 11:6**, we must know who God is as He has chosen to reveal Himself.



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*“We are now to be on guard and not draw away from the all-important message given of God for this time. Satan is not ignorant of the result of trying to define God and Jesus Christ in a spiritualistic way that sets God and Christ as a nonentity. The moments occupied in this kind of science are, in the place of preparing the way of the Lord, making a way for Satan to come in and confuse the minds with mysticisms of his own devising. Although they are dressed up in angel robes they have made our God and our Christ a nonentity. Why?—because Satan sees the minds are all fitted for his working. Men have lost track of Christ and the Lord God, and have been obtaining an experience that is Omega to one of the most subtle delusions that will ever captivate the minds of men. We are forbidden to . . . set the imagination in a train of conjecture. **Ellen G. White, Manuscript Releases, Vol. 12, pg. 211, taken from her Diary, #48, pp. 153, 163, Aug. 25 and Aug. 28, 1904.***

*“It is not physical life that is here specified, but eternal life, the life which is exclusively the property of God. The Word, who was with God, and who was God, had this life. Physical life is something which each individual received. It is not eternal or immortal; for God, the Lifegiver, takes it again. Man has no control over his life. But the life of Christ was unborrowed. No one can take this life from Him. ‘I lay it down of Myself,’ He said. In Him was life, **original, unborrowed, underived.** This life is not inherent in man. He can possess it only through Christ. He cannot earn it; it is given him as a free gift if he will believe in Christ as his personal Saviour. ‘This is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent.’ **John 17:3.** This is the open fountain of life for the world.” **E. G. White, Signs of the Times, February 12, 1912. See also, Desire of Ages, pg. 530; Signs of the Times, April 8, 1897.***

As you look through the provided Scripture texts, these begin to set a foundation for the full Godhead in all Its majesty and glory. **The Father:** Ancient of Days, Designer, Sovereign, Holy, Just, Love; **the Son:** fully God yet fully man, Creator, Saviour, Redeemer, High Priest, King and Lord; **the Holy Spirit:** Comforter, Regenerator, Convicter of sin, Leader to all Repentance, then brings Righteousness by His (Jesus’) Faith and Obedience to God and His will. **All three persons, separate and distinct, yet one in purpose and motive are involved in,**



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and necessary, to complete the act of salvation, sanctification and eventual glorification.

“The great deceiver has many agents ready to present any and every kind of error to ensnare souls,—heresies prepared to suit the varied tastes and capacities of those whom he would ruin. It is his plan to bring into the church insincere, unregenerate elements that will encourage doubt and unbelief, and hinder all who desire to see the work of God advance, and to advance with it. Many who have no real faith in God or in His Word, assent to some principles of truth, and pass as Christians; and thus they are enabled to introduce their errors as scriptural doctrines.

“The position that it is of no consequence what men believe, is one of Satan's most successful deceptions. He knows that the truth, received in the love of it, sanctifies the soul of the receiver; therefore he is constantly seeking to substitute false theories, fables, another gospel. From the beginning, the servants of God have contended against false teachers, not merely as vicious men, but as inculcators of falsehoods that were fatal to the soul. Elijah, Jeremiah, Paul, firmly and fearlessly opposed those who were turning men from the Word of God. That liberality which regards a correct religious faith as unimportant, found no favor with these holy defenders of the truth.

“The vague and fanciful interpretations of Scripture, and the many conflicting theories concerning religious faith, that are found in the Christian world, are the work of our great adversary to so confuse minds that they shall not discern the truth. And the discord and division which exist among the churches of Christendom are in a great measure due to the prevailing custom of wresting the Scriptures to support a favorite theory. Instead of carefully studying God's Word with humility of heart to obtain a knowledge of His will, many seek only to discover something odd or original...

“If men reject the testimony of the inspired Scriptures concerning the divinity of Christ, it is in vain to argue the point with them; for no argument, however conclusive, could convince them. ‘The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.’ [1 Corinthians 2:14.] None who hold this error can have a true conception of the character or the



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mission of Christ, or of the great plan of God for man's redemption.” **Ellen G. White, Great Controversy, pg. 524 (1888)**

“The Father is all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, and is invisible to mortal sight. The Son is all the fullness of the Godhead manifested. The Word of God declares Him to be ‘the express image of His person.’ ‘God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.’ Here is shown the personality of the Father. The Comforter that Christ promised to send after He ascended to heaven, is the Spirit in all the fullness of the Godhead, making manifest the power of divine grace to all who receive and believe in Christ as a personal Saviour. **There are three living persons of the heavenly trio; in the name of these three great powers—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit**—those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized, and these powers will co-operate with the obedient subjects of heaven in their efforts to live the new life in Christ.” **Ellen G. White, Special Testimonies, Series B, No. 7, pp. 62, 63. (1905)**

“**The Godhead was stirred with pity for the race, and the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit gave Themselves to the working out of the plan of redemption.** In order to fully carry out this plan, it was decided that Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, should give Himself an offering for sin. What line can measure the depth of this love? God would make it impossible for man to say that He could have done more. With Christ He gave all the resources of heaven, that nothing might be wanting in the plan for man’s uplifting. Here is love—the contemplation of which should fill the soul with inexpressible gratitude! Oh, what love, what matchless love! **The contemplation of this love will cleanse the soul from all selfishness.** It will lead the disciple to deny self, take up the cross, and follow the Redeemer.” **Ellen G. White, Australasian Union Conference Record, April 1, 1901**

“It is the glory of the gospel that it is founded upon the principle of restoring in the fallen race the divine image by a constant manifestation of benevolence. **This work began in the heavenly courts. There God decided to give human beings unmistakable evidence of the love with which He regarded them.** He ‘so loved the world, that He gave His only-



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begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.’ **John 3:16.**

“So with the followers of Christ. We can receive of heaven’s light only as we are willing to be emptied of self. We cannot discern the character of God, or accept Christ by faith, unless we consent to the bringing into captivity of every thought to the obedience of Christ. To all who do this the Holy Spirit is given without measure. In Christ ‘dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, and in Him ye are made full.’ **Colossians 2:9, 10, R.V.” Ellen G. White, Desire of Ages, pg. 182**

“In describing to His disciples the office work of the Holy Spirit, Jesus sought to inspire them with the joy and hope that inspired His own heart. He rejoiced because of the abundant help He had provided for His church. The Holy Spirit was the highest of all gifts that He could solicit from His Father for the exaltation of His people. The Spirit was to be given as a regenerating agent, and without this the sacrifice of Christ would have been of no avail. The power of evil had been strengthening for centuries, and the submission of men to this satanic captivity was amazing. **Sin could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency of the Third Person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fullness of divine power. It is the Spirit that makes effectual what has been wrought out by the world’s Redeemer. It is by the Spirit that the heart is made pure. Through the Spirit the believer becomes a partaker of the divine nature. Christ has given His Spirit as a divine power to overcome all hereditary and cultivated tendencies to evil, and to impress His own character upon His church.” Ellen G. White, The Desire of Ages, pg. 671**

“**And the Holy Spirit is a person.** This great truth is not recognized, indeed it is not believed, by more than a very few even of Christians. For everybody knows that almost invariably, with very, very few exceptions, the Holy Spirit is referred to and spoken of by Christians as ‘it.’

“But **the word ‘it’ never applies to a person.** The word “it,” in the very genius of our language, refers and applies only to things, never to persons; to things of inanimate substance, as a stone, a horse, a tree; or to things of concept, or experience, as space, height, breadth, peace, joy, grief, an



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impression, an influence. But the Holy Spirit is none of these: the Holy Spirit is not an influence; nor an impression, nor peace, nor joy, nor any thing. The Holy Spirit gives peace, and gives joy, assuages in grief, makes an impression, exerts an influence; but the Holy Spirit is none of these things, nor any other thing.

“No, eternally no! The Holy Spirit is a Person, eternally a divine Person. And He must be always recognized and spoken of as a Person, or He is not truly recognized or spoken of at all”. A. T. Jones, Medical Missionary, March 27, 1907.

*“He said He would not leave them as orphans, or comfortless, in this world of tribulation; He would pray the Father, and He would send them another Comforter. And as Christ came in the name of the Father, **John 5:43**, and therefore represented the Father, insomuch that they who had seen Him had seen the Father, because the Father was in Him and did the works which He did, **John 14:9, 10**, so the Spirit is come in the name of Jesus; **verse 26**. It (He) is to us as truly a representative of Christ, as He was of the Father. He that received not Christ received not the Father; **1John 2:23**. Even so, he that hath not the Spirit hath rejected the Son—“he is none of His.” **Romans 8:9**. And because the Father sends the Spirit in the name of the Son, and the Son purchased the gift for us, it (He) proceeds from both to us, and is called both the Spirit of God and the Spirit of Christ. Compare **1Peter 1:10, 11, and 2Peter 1:21**.” J. H. Waggoner, *The Spirit of God*, pg. 10 (1877)*

“WHAT FREE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS BELIEVE - 1. They believe that God the Father is a personal, spiritual being. **1Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 4:4; Daniel 7:9, 13; John 4:24; 10:30; 1Corinthians 10:4. 2.** That Christ existed w^lth the Father from “the days of eternity **Micah 5:2 (margin); Matthew 2:5, 6; Proverbs 8:22-31; John 1:1-14. 3.** That “there are three living persons of the heavenly trio; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.” Study **Genesis 1:1-3, 26, 27; Job 26:13; Isaiah 48:16, R. V.; 1John 5:7; Matthew 28:19; 2Corinthians 13:14**.” J. W. Manns, *Free Advent Banner*, December 1920.

*“The most unique, mysterious character of the ages is Jesus, who is called ‘the Son of the Highest.’ **Luke 1:32**. No other person has commanded the attention, investigation, and criticism of men and women of every rank, race,*



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and belief as has He. He is 'the faithful and true witness,' (**Revelation 3:14**), 'the first-born from the dead' (**Colossians 1:18**), the ruler of the kings of the earth, of whom John exclaims, 'When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead.' (**Revelation 1:14-17**).

"In His relationship to God, Jesus is a mystery. He describes Himself as 'the only begotten Son' (**John 3:16**; see also **Luke 1:35**; **John 1:49**; **Matthew 17:5**), "the first-born of every creature' (**Colossians 1:15-18**). Get the thought—the 'firstborn' Son, or as Warrell's Greek translation reads, 'the Primal Source of the whole creation.' 'Before Abraham was,' said Jesus, 'I am.' **John 8:58**. At the very beginning, He was 'with God.' **John 1:2**. Marvel of marvels!

"In His relation to the Holy Ghost, Jesus is a mystery. He was born of a woman, but 'conceived,' said God to Joseph, 'of the Holy Ghost.' **Matthew 1:20**. The Holy Ghost is never confounded with the person of Christ, but is a distinct person. Jesus said, 'I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter' (**John 14:16**)—another—not the Father, nor Himself; three distinct persons in one. The only passage that gives color to the idea of three persons in one is **1John 5:7**: 'There are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.' But this text is readily explained by Christ's statement that the husband and the wife are one. Even though bound in an intimate unity, they are nevertheless distinct individuals.

"In His relationship as man, Christ is also a mystery. Thirty times **in Matthew's Gospel**, fourteen times **in Mark's**, twenty-six times **in Luke's**, and eleven times **in John's**, He calls Himself 'the Son of man.' He was born in sin, but sinless; tempted like other men 'in all points like we are' (**Hebrews 4:15**), socially, commercially, politically, sensually, yet with no inclination to yield. Other men had weaknesses, but He had none. He was *the man*.

"In His divinity, Jesus is a mystery. Try as you will, you cannot explain it. 'I and My Father are one,' said He—not one in individuality, any more than two joined in matrimony 'shall be one flesh' (**Matthew 19:5**), but one in thought, and interest, and aim for man's welfare. God's deity was enthroned in Christ's humanity, as seen by the supernaturalism that entered into everything He did; and every perfection of the essential being of God was deposited in Him.



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“The futurity of Jesus is also a mystery. Prior to His birth—a mystery. His divine humanity—a mystery. His staying so long meditating before God instead of coming and wiping out crime and delivering saints—a mystery. And His future kingship, when God will put all things into His hands and permit Him to rule over a loyal and a united people,—a mystery. How wonderful the enthronement of Jesus as King of kings!

“The problem of Jesus is unexplainable and unanswerable, yet I believe in Him. It is not necessary that I comprehend Him to appropriate Him. Theological beliefs differ; and because of these differences, men have persecuted other men to the death. But imitation of His life and obedience to His teaching bridges all mysteries and makes one love Him with Thomas Aquinas, who is said to have had a visit from Jesus, and who was asked, ‘What shall I give thee, for writing so much and well about Me?’ His answer was, *‘Nihil, nisi Te, Domin’*—*Nothing but Thyself, O Lord.*’

“Let us therefore honor Him above apostles and disciples, above martyrs and angels, above kings and emperors, because God ‘hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” **Philippians 2:9-11. *Free Advent Banner, June 1924, pg. 4.***

For any additional information on this subject, see ***Bible Readings for the Home Circle, 1914 Edition***, and studies such as: “**The Deity of Christ,**” “**Prophecies Relating to Christ,**” “**Christ, The Way of Life,**” “**Salvation Only Through Christ,**” etc.