

BELIEFS

Assemblies of God in Guyana

STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS

This “Statement of Fundamental Truths” contains the 18 doctrines of the Assemblies of God in Guyana. These are non-negotiable tenets of faith that all Assemblies of God churches adhere to. Four of these, Salvation, the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, Divine Healing, and the Second Coming of Christ are considered Cardinal Doctrines which are essential to the church's core mission of reaching the world for Christ.

1. The Scriptures Inspired

The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired by God and are the revelation of God to man: the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct, and is superior to conscience and reason but not contrary to reason. (2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21, 1 Peter 1:23-25).

2. The One True God

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent, self-revealed “I AM,” the Creator of heaven and earth and the One who redeems, saves or rescues mankind from sin and its painful consequences. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The concept of One God or Being of three persons is called the Trinity (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10,11; Matthew 28:19; Luke 3:22, Mark 12:29).

3. Man - His Fall and Redemption

Man was created good and upright; for God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.” However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God (Genesis 1:26-31; 2:17; 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-21).

4. The Salvation of Man

The salvation of the soul is a spiritual and miraculous transformation that takes place in the life of the individual (John 3:3-5, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 4:22-24).

It occurs through faith in the Word of God, through faith in the blood of Christ and by the repentance of sin (John 1:11-13, 1 Peter 1:23, 1 Peter 1:18-19, Acts 2:38).

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life. Jesus Christ is the only Saviour (Luke 24:47; Romans 10:13-15; Titus 3:5-7).

5. Baptism in Water

The ordinance of baptism by immersion in water is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe in Christ as Saviour and Lord are to be baptised. Thus they declare to the world that the old sinful man has died with Christ and a new spiritual being has been raised with Him to walk in the newness of life (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47,48; Romans 6:4).

6. The Lord's Supper (Holy Communion)

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements—bread and the fruit of the vine—is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 1:4); a memorial of His suffering and death (1 Corinthians 11:26); and a prophecy of His second coming (1 Corinthians 11:26); and is enjoined on all believers “until He comes!”

7. The Promise of The Father

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian church. With it comes the enduement of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4,8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31).

This wonderful experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9).

With the baptism in the Holy Spirit come such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Hebrews 12:28), an intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work (Acts 2:42), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word, and for the lost (Mark 16:20).

8. The Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The baptism of believers in the Holy Spirit is evidenced by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives utterance and by the subsequent manifestation of spiritual power in public testimony and service (Acts 2:4; 10:44-46; 19:2; 1:8; 2:42-43).

9. Sanctification

Sanctification is cleansing from sin, separation from sin and consecration to God. (1 Thessalonians 4:3; 2 Corinthians 6:17; 2 Chronicles 29:5,15; Numbers 8:17; Romans 12:1,2; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:12). The Scriptures teach a life of “holiness without which no man shall see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14). God is Holy and requires holiness in His people. By the power of the Holy Spirit we are able to obey the command: “Be ye holy, for I am holy” (1 Peter 1:15-16).

Sanctification is attained: 1) through faith in the Word of God, 2) through faith in the blood of Christ and 3) through the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives (John 17:17; Ephesians 5:26; Hebrews 10:10,29; 1 Peter 1:2; Galatians 5:16-25; Romans 6:1-11,13; 8:1,2,13; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:12,13; 1 Peter 1:5).

10. The Church

The Church is the body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for

the fulfilment of her Great Commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the General Assembly and Church of the Firstborn, which are written in heaven (Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; Hebrews 12:23).

Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshiped by man, to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, and to demonstrate His love and compassion for all the world, the priority reason-for-being of the Assemblies of God as part of the Church is:

- a. To be an agency of God for evangelising the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16).
- b. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (1 Corinthians 12:13).
- c. To be a channel of God's purpose to build a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 14:12).

11. The Ministry and Evangelism

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry has been provided by our Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the Church in: (1) evangelisation of the world (Mark 16:15-20), (2) worship of God (John 4:23-24), and (3) building a Body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16)

12. Divine Healing

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the Atonement (Christ's suffering and death for our reconciliation with God) and is the privilege of all believers (Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 8:16-17; James 5:14-16).

13. The Blessed Hope

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is imminent and is the blessed hope of the Church (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52).

14. The Millennial Reign of Christ Jesus

The revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ from heaven, the salvation of national Israel, the millennial reign of Christ on earth and the establishment of universal peace, is the scriptural promise and the world's hope. (Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27-30; Revelation 1:7; 19:11-16; 20:1-7; Ezekiel 37:21-22; Zephaniah 3:19-20; Romans 11:25-27; Isaiah 11:6-9; Psalm 72:3-8; Micah 4:3-4).

15. The Lake of Fire

There will be a final judgement in which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet, will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 20:10-15; 21:8).

16. The New Heaven and the New Earth

“We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness”
(2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21&22).

17. Prayer

Prayer to God is the privilege and duty of every person (1 Timothy 2:8)

(1) It is the drawing near to God in spiritual communion. (Hebrews 10:19-22)

a) To praise and worship Him for His consistent blessings. (Psalm 108: 1-3, Philippians 4:6)

b) To request of God and for our every need. (John 15: 7, Matthew 7:7)

c) To intercede for others. (Ephesians 3:14-17, 1 Samuel 12:23)

(2) Prayer is made unto God.

a) In the name of Jesus Christ. (John 14:13-14)

b) In the power of the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 6:18, 1 Corinthians 14:14, Romans 8:26)

c) In full harmony with the understanding of God’s will. (1 Corinthians 14:15, 1 John 5: 14-15)

18. Tithing

(1) Tithing is the God-ordained responsibility of every believer. (Matthew 23:23, Malachi 3:8-10)

Freewill offerings are separate and apart from this tenth or tithing.

Statement of Fundamental Truths is the official delineation of the Assemblies of God (Guyana) 18 doctrines. These truths are non-negotiable beliefs that all Assemblies of God churches adhere to.

Source:

1. *Assemblies of God Constitution (Guyana)*

2. *Assemblies of God Booklet (Statement of Fundamental Truths)*