

THE COVENANT OF FAITH

Grace College and Grace Theological Seminary
Affirming biblical faith and God's grace

The Covenant of Faith at Grace College and Seminary is expressed in the following statements.

- 1. We believe in THE HOLY SCRIPTURES:** accepting fully the authority of all the Old and New Testaments as the very Word of God, verbally inspired in all parts and therefore without error, as originally given us, and offering no amendment in themselves as an infallible rule of faith and practice (Matt. 5:19; 23:2; 24:14; 28:20; 2 Cor. 13:14; 2 Peter 1:21).
- 2. We believe in THE ONE TRUE GOD:** eternal, uncreated, self-existent, self-sufficient, spirit, and sovereign (Mark 16:7; 2 Cor. 13:14; John 4:24; 14:6; Ps. 135:5), perfect, infinite, and eternal in His being, knowledge, love, wisdom and power (Ps. 18:30, 147:5; Deut. 33:2). Creator of all things, who is present in the world as the Holy Spirit of all things (Gen. 1:1; Deut. 10:4); self-existent and self-sufficient in Himself. We believe in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (John 1:30; Matt. 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14), each of whom is to be honored and worshiped equally as God (1 Cor. 12:6; 13:14; 2 Cor. 13:14).
- 3. We believe in THE LORD JESUS CHRIST:** the eternal Word and only begotten Son, our great God and Savior (John 1:1, 3, 14; Titus 2:13; Rom. 9:5), who, without any essential change in His divine nature, became man by the miracle of virgin birth (John 1:14; 1:18; 1:32; 1:34; 1:36; 1:45; 1:49; 1:51; 1:56; 1:67; 1:70; 1:71; 1:72; 1:73; 1:74; 1:75; 1:76; 1:77; 1:78; 1:79; 1:80; 1:81; 1:82; 1:83; 1:84; 1:85; 1:86; 1:87; 1:88; 1:89; 1:90; 1:91; 1:92; 1:93; 1:94; 1:95; 1:96; 1:97; 1:98; 1:99; 1:100; 1:101; 1:102; 1:103; 1:104; 1:105; 1:106; 1:107; 1:108; 1:109; 1:110; 1:111; 1:112; 1:113; 1:114; 1:115; 1:116; 1:117; 1:118; 1:119; 1:120; 1:121; 1:122; 1:123; 1:124; 1:125; 1:126; 1:127; 1:128; 1:129; 1:130; 1:131; 1:132; 1:133; 1:134; 1:135; 1:136; 1:137; 1:138; 1:139; 1:140; 1:141; 1:142; 1:143; 1:144; 1:145; 1:146; 1:147; 1:148; 1:149; 1:150; 1:151; 1:152; 1:153; 1:154; 1:155; 1:156; 1:157; 1:158; 1:159; 1:160; 1:161; 1:162; 1:163; 1:164; 1:165; 1:166; 1:167; 1:168; 1:169; 1:170; 1:171; 1:172; 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9. We believe in THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

personal, visible, and glorious—a blessing to be prayed for, the time being unrevealed but always imminent (Acts 1:6-7; Rev. 1:7; Mark 13:35; Titus 2:11-13; Rev. 22:20) that will remove from the earth His waiting church (1 Thess. 4:15-18), then pour out the righteous judgments of God upon the unbelieving world (Rev. 6:1-18:24), afterward descend with His church and establish His glorious and righteous kingdom over all the nations for a thousand years (Rev. 19:1-20:6; Matt. 13:41-43), at the end of which He will raise up and judge the unsaved dead (Rev. 20:11-15), and finally as the Son of God will deliver His church forever with the Father in the new heaven and the new earth (Rev. 21:1-22:5).

10. We believe in FUTURE LIFE, POSITIVE RESURRECTION, AND JUDGMENT

that the spirits of the saved are in heaven (1 Cor. 5:3) where they abide in fellowship with Him until His second coming when their bodies shall be raised in glory (Phil. 3:20-21; 1 Cor. 15:42-50; 1 John 3:2), which time their works shall be brought before the judgment seat of Christ for the debt which may issue in the loss of few (1 Cor. 3:15) but not in the loss of the soul (1 Cor. 5:5); that the spirits of the unsaved shall be held under punishment until the final day of judgment (1 John 4:17-19) at which time their bodies shall be raised from the dead, their works, and cast into the place of punishment (Matt. 25:46; Rev. 19:17-20:15; Jude 13).

11. We believe in THE ONE TRUE CHURCH, the mystical body and bride of the Lord Jesus

(Eph. 4:4; 5:25-32), which He began to build on the day of Pentecost (Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:47), and will complete at His second coming (1 Thess. 4:16-17); and into which all true believers of the present age are baptized immediately by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:13; with 1:2); that all the various members of this one spiritual body unite themselves together in local churches for worship, prayer, fellowship, teaching, united testimony, and the observance of His ordering of our Lord (1 Cor. 10:25; 14:1-40; 41-47) among which are the following: the baptism of believers by immersion, the laying on of hands (1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:6), the washing of the saints' feet (John 13:1-17), the Lord's Supper or Eucharist (1 Cor. 10:16-17; 11:23-26; 1 John 1:7; 1 Cor. 11:23-26), and prayer and assistance for the sick (1 Cor. 12:28-30).

12. We believe in SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD; that since our Christian citizenship is

in heaven, we are to be separate from the world, having no fellowship with its evil ways (Eph. 5:11-12; 1 Cor. 5:10-11; 10:14-15; 15:33; 16:18) abstaining from all unbelief, unseemly and unbecoming words and actions, from the sin of divorce and remarriage as fornication (Matt. 19:9; 1 Cor. 7:10-15; 13:13; 16:18; 17:1-2), from any form of idolatry, from any form of sexual immorality or impurity, from any form of envy or disputes between Christians (1 Cor. 6:1-8; 12:1-13; 14:1-40; 16:1-12), and from any form of strife (Rom. 12:18-21; 2 Cor. 10:3-4).

We understand that the above articles do not by any means exhaust the whole of Christian faith which is the whole Word of God, and they are not intended to set a limit beyond which faith cannot go within this word, but we do believe that in so far as these articles extend they are a true presentation of Christian belief and therefore binding upon us as Christian believers.