

BUILD Training Network – Statement of Faith

Together, we are committed to upholding the beliefs of historic, orthodox Christianity. We seek to live by and pass on “the faith that was once for all entrusted to God’s holy people” (Jude 1:3). We therefore wholeheartedly affirm the following scriptures and truths:

“Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever” (1 Tim 1:17). There is only one true God, who is King over all things, seen and unseen. He rules and reigns forever in the unity of the Trinity: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

“All Scripture is God-breathed” (2 Tim 3:16). The Bible, whole and complete, was spoken by God through human authors. It is his written word to humanity, trustworthy and true in all it affirms. Scripture is therefore supreme in authority and to be obeyed fully in all matters of life and learning.

“God created mankind in his own image” (Gen 1:27). Every human being is made to reflect God and to represent him in his world for his glory. This means that each individual has inherent and equal value, dignity, and worth, and that all communities are to be built on that basis.

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Rom 3:23). Together as humanity, we have destroyed our relationship with God, damaged one another, and desecrated his world. The guilt, evil and shame that result leave us hostile, alienated and condemned.

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom 5:8). Jesus is the saviour we need and that God sends, the one who is full of grace and truth. At the cross, he bore our sins and conquered evil, once and for all.

“I will build my church” (Matt 16:18). Christ’s body is built on the witness of the apostles and the good news they proclaimed. God’s church, his new community of reconciliation, will grow and flourish because Jesus has promised to nurture and protect it until it is steadfast and strong.

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8). The gift of God’s Holy Spirit is necessary and essential for our new birth, our inclusion in the people of God, and our growth as followers of Jesus: empowering us as his agents of mission.

“And the things you have heard me say... entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others” (2 Tim 2:2). The first leaders of God’s people passed on the baton of the good news to others, and it has now reached us. In Christ’s strength and armed with the same gospel, we are to continue the chain of witness and growth, in word and deed, to his praise and glory.

“He who testifies to these things says, ‘Yes, I am coming soon’. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus” (Rev 22:20). Jesus rose from the dead, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will come again in glory to eradicate all that is evil and to fully establish his kingdom. He will bring together a new heaven and a new earth, a home of life and righteousness: our future hope.

“Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God” (Rom 15:7). Jesus welcomes us, and in the same way we are to welcome others. In relation to our beliefs we hold fast to the central truths of the faith while recognising that equally godly members of God’s family have different views on non-essentials. Our ambition is to promote biblical understanding rather than positions or opinions, so as to unite God’s people and glorify him.