

## ARTICLES OF FAITH (*continued*)

### REGENERATION

Regeneration is a change of heart, wrought by the Holy Spirit, who quickened the dead in trespasses and sin, enlightening their minds spiritually and savingly to understand the Word of God, and renewing their whole nature, so that they love and practice holiness. It is a work of God's free and special grace alone.

### REPENTANCE

Repentance is an evangelical grace, wherein a person being, by the Holy Spirit made sensible of the manifold evil of his sin, humbleth himself for it, with godly sorrow, detestation of it, and self-abhorrence, with a purpose and endeavor to walk with God so as to please Him in all things.

### FAITH

Saving faith is the belief, on God's authority, of whatsoever is revealed in His Word concerning Christ; accepting and resting upon Him alone for justification, sanctification and eternal life. It is wrought in the heart by the Holy Spirit, and is accompanied by all other saving graces, and leads to a life of holiness.

### JUSTIFICATION

Justification is God's gracious and all acquittal of sinners, who believe in Christ from all sin, through the satisfaction that Christ has made; not for anything wrought in them or done by them; but on account of the obedience and satisfaction of Christ they receiving and resting on Him and His righteousness by faith.

## **SANCTIFICATION**

Those who have been regenerated are also sanctified, by God's word and Spirit dwelling in them. This sanctification is progressive through the supply of Divine strength which all saints seek to obtain pressing after a heavenly life in cordial obedience to all Christ's commands.

## **PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS**

Those whom God hath accepted in the Beloved, and sanctified by His spirit, will never totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace, but shall certainly persevere to the end; and though they may fall, through neglect and temptation into sin, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, bring reproach on the Church, and temporal judgments on themselves, yet they shall be renewed again unto repentance, and to be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

## **THE CHURCH**

The Lord Jesus is the head of the Church, which is composed of all his true disciples and in Him is invested supremely all power for its government. According to His commandment, Christians are to associate themselves into particular societies or churches; and to each of these churches He hath given needful authority for administering that other, discipline and worship which He hath appointed.

## **BAPTISM**

Baptism is an ordinance of the Lord Jesus, obligatory upon every believer, wherein he is immersed in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, as a sign of his fellowship with the death and resurrection of Christ, of remission of sins, and of his giving himself up to God, to live and walk in newness of life. It is prerequisite to church fellowship and to participation in the Lord's Supper.

## **THE LORD'S SUPPER**

The Lord's Supper is an ordinance of Jesus Christ, to be administered with the elements of bread and wine, and to be observed by His Churches till the end of the world. It is in no sense a sacrifice, but is designed to commemorate His death, to confirm the faith and other graces of Christians, and to be a bond, pledge and renewal of their communion with Him, and of their church fellowship.

## **THE LORD'S DAY**

The Lord's Day is a Christian Institution for regular observance, and should be employed in exercises of worship and spiritual devotion, both public and private, resting from worldly employments and amusements. Works of necessity and mercy only exempted.

## **LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE**

God alone is Lord of the conscience; and He hath left it free from doctrines and commandments of men, which are in anything contrary to His word, or not contained in it.

## **THE RESURRECTION**

The bodies of men after death return to dust, but their spirits return immediately to God—the righteous to rest with Him; the wicked, to be reserved under darkness to the judgment. At the last day, the bodies of all of the dead, both the just and unjust, will be raised.

## **THE JUDGEMENT**

God hath appointed a day, wherein He will judge the world by Jesus Christ, when everyone shall receive according to his deeds; the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment; the righteous, into everlasting life.