



CALVARY WOLFEBORO

Anchored in Christ to Boldly Live Out the Gospel

Doctrinal Affirmations and Distinctives

Doctrinal Affirmations:

The following must be **agreed upon** and **affirmed** as true for anyone seeking to covenant with body of Calvary Wolfeboro as a participating member:

1. We believe that **the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God**, fully **inspired, without error**, and the **infallible** rule of faith and practice. The Word of God is the foundation upon which the church operates and is the basis for which the church is governed. We believe that the Word of God supersedes any earthly law that is contrary to the Holy Scriptures. (Isaiah 28:13; Nehemiah 8:8; John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12; 1 Peter 1:23-25; 2 Peter 1:3-4 and 1:21).
2. We believe that there is **one living and true GOD**, eternally **existing in three persons**: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, equal in power and glory; that this triune God created all, upholds all, and governs all things. (Genesis 1:1; Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 44:8 and 48:16; Matthew 28:19-20; John 10:30; Hebrews 1:3).
 - a. We believe in the person of **God the Father**, an infinite, eternal, personal Spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love; that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men; that He hears and answers prayer; and that He saves from sin and death all those who come to Him through Jesus Christ. (Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalms 90:2; Psalms 102:27; John 3:16 and 4:24; 1 Timothy 1:17; Titus 1:3).
 - b. We believe in the person of **Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son**, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles and teachings, his substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people and personal, visible return to earth. (Isaiah 7:14; Micah 5:2; Matthew 1:23; Mark 16:19; Luke 1:34-35; John 1:1-2, 8:58 and 11:25; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 1 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 1:8; 1 John 1:2; Revelation 1:8).
 - c. We believe in the person of the **Holy Spirit**, Who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify and empower for ministry all who believe in Christ; (Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 3:18; John 16:8-11; Romans 8:26 and 15:13,16; Hebrews 9:14), We believe the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Jesus Christ and that He is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide. (John 6:13, 14:16-17 and 16:8-11; Romans 8:26). We believe in the Baptism with the Holy Spirit as a distinct and separate experience to that of regeneration, occurring, either subsequent to or simultaneous with salvation, evidenced by a greater dynamic in the Christian's life enabling that person to be a bold

and more effective witness. The supreme evidence of the Spirit filled life is the fruit of the Spirit, love. We believe in the present day ministry of the Holy Spirit in regard to the exercise of all biblical gifts of the Holy Spirit according to the instructions given to us in 1 Corinthians Chapters 12 through 14.

3. We believe in **the universal church**, the living spiritual body, of which Christ is the head and all who are born again are a part of the Body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Ephesians 4:15-16)
4. We believe that **all people are sinners by nature and decision**, falling short of God's standard and breaking His commandments - and therefore are under God's righteous judgment. Yet God saves and gives new life to all who come to Him in repentance and faith, trusting in the Person and work of Jesus Christ. At the cross, Jesus Christ died in our place as our substitute, absorbing God's wrath that should have come upon us. Because Jesus died for the sins of the world the invitation to believe is open to all, and whoever desires may come unto Jesus for new life and the forgiveness of sins. (Romans 3:23, Acts 3:19, Acts 20:21, Ephesians 2:1-3, Ephesians 2:8-9, 1 John 2:2, John 3:16, Matthew 11:28, Revelation 22:17).
4. We believe in a **literal Heaven and a literal Hell** and that all those who place their faith, hope and trust in Jesus Christ will spend eternity in Heaven with the Lord, while those who reject Jesus' free gift of salvation will spend eternity separated from the Lord. (Psalm 9:17; Matthew 5:3, 5:22, 18:9 and 25:31-34; Mark 9:42-49; Luke 12:5; John 3:18; Hebrews 12:23; 1 Peter 1:4; Revelation 14:10-11 and 20:11-15)
5. We believe in the **Second Coming of Jesus Christ**, which is His personal, visible return to earth and the establishment of His millennial kingdom, in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment and eternal blessing of the righteous and endless separation of the wicked. (Matthew 16:27; Acts 1:11; Revelation 19:11-16, 20:11-15)
6. We believe that **God created man and that He created them male and female**. As such He created them different so as to complement and complete each other. God instituted monogamous marriage between male and female as the foundation of the family and the basic structure of human society. Therefore, we perform marriages in accordance with the Bible consistent with the Old and New Testament. (Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:4-6; John 4:16-18; Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 5:11, 6:9-11, 6:18-20, 7:1-3 and 7:8-9; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:3-7; 1 Timothy 1:9-11)
7. We believe in the pattern and principle of **male leadership** and responsibility in both the home and the church, according to the sacrificial example of Jesus. We believe this limits the roles of pastoral leadership (elders, pastors, and all leaders over men)

or men and women) and doctrinal authority to qualified men (1 Corinthians 11:1-12, 1 Timothy 2:1-15).

8. We believe that God created the following as sacred institutions and therefore that they cannot be changed in their basic constitution for any reason:

Life - Human Life is sacred and only God has the prerogative to give and take life. He has delegated the authority to take human life to “the state” for the purpose of justice in the case of murder.

Sexuality and Gender - Sexuality and Gender are sacred. God created male and female and therefore He is the one who defines them.

Marriage - Marriage is sacred. God established marriage as a covenant between one man and one woman for life.

The Church - The Church is sacred. God established the Church to carry out His commission to spread the good news of salvation and provide spiritual nurturing for those who are “born again”. In addition, as a social institution it has many purposes, not the least of which is to care for itself and share the love of God with others.

The Family - The Family is sacred. God established the family as mother, father, and child or children. The Husband/Father is the leader of the family.

Doctrinal Distinctives:

The following must be **accepted** as Biblically positions in order to covenant with the body of Calvary Wolfeboro as a participating member:

1. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ instituted **two ordinances for the church**: (a) full immersion water **baptism of believers**, and (b) **the Lord's Supper**. (Matthew 28:19; Luke 22:19-20; Acts 2:38; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)
2. We believe in the **Pre-Millennial Pre-Tribulation Rapture of the Church** where all believers will meet the Lord in the air and be taken out of this world prior to the Tribulation that will come upon the earth. We believe this is a separate event from the return of Christ. (Isaiah 26:20; Matthew 24:29-31; Luke 21:36; Romans 1:18, 5:9; 1 Thessalonians 1:10, 4:13-16 and 5:9; 2 Peter 2:7-9; Revelation 3:10, 5:7-10 and 7:13-14)

Key books of reference other than the Scriptures:

A Tale of Three Kings - Gene Edwards
Can We Still Believe in the Rapture? - Ed Hindson

Elders and Leaders - Gene Getz
Understanding Christian Theology - Swindoll and Zuck