

**CONSTITUTION OF
CROSSROADS BIBLE CHURCH
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● **ARTICLE I. NAME**

The name of this church shall be Crossroads Bible Church.

● **ARTICLE II. PURPOSE**

Crossroads Bible Church exists to glorify God by reaching and equipping people to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

A fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ is one who is Christ-like in character and conduct.

“We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.” Colossians 1:28

Our Strategy:

We believe that a great commitment to the five purposes outlined in the Great Commandment (Matt 22:37-40) and the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20) will grow a healthy church.

These five purposes are:

1. **WORSHIP** - Love God and celebrate His person and presence as a way of life. (Matt. 22:37; Rom 12:1-2)
2. **INSTRUCTION** - Love and obey the Word of God. (Matt. 28:20)
3. **FELLOWSHIP** - Love for the church with a sense of belonging and closeness. (Acts 2:42-47)
4. **EVANGELISM** – Reaching the lost with the Good News of Christ. (Matt. 28:19)
5. **SERVICE** – Loving others by ministering to them. (Matt. 22:39)

We believe that a healthy church is one that keeps these five purposes in balance.

● ARTICLE III. STATEMENT OF FAITH

SECTION 1

A. The Scriptures

We believe that all the Scriptures, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, are God-breathed, inerrant and infallible in the original writings, and this Word of God is the supreme and final authority for faith and life. (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:21; 3:16; John 10:35)

B. The Godhead

We believe that the Godhead eternally exists in three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and that these three are one God, having precisely the same nature, attributes and perfections, and worthy of the same worship, confidence and obedience. We believe that God is Spirit, creator of heaven and earth, infinite, eternal, unchangeable, holy, just, light, love and truth. (Deut. 6:4; Jn. 10:30; Jn. 4:24; Eph. 1:3, 13; Matt. 3:16-17; 1 John 1:7; 4:8; Matt 28:18-20; 2 Cor. 13:14; Heb. 1:1-3)

C. The person and work of Christ

1. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and lived a sinless life in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful men. (Jn. 1:1,2, 14; 8:46; Matt. 1:20-23; Lk. 1:35; Jn. 14:9-10; Col 1:15-19; Heb. 1:2-8)

2. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His vicarious death on the cross, which was a complete substitutionary sacrifice for the guilt and penalty of our sin, and that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead. (Jn. 1:29; Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:6-9; 2 Cor. 5:21; Matt. 26:28; Eph. 1:7; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; Rom 3:24-25)

3. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to heaven, and is now exalted at the right hand of God, where as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of Intercessor and Advocate. One day He will physically return as King to rule and reign over all creation. (Acts 1:9-11; Rom. 8:34; Heb. 4:14; Heb. 7:25; 1 Jn. 2:1-2; John 14:1-3; Rev 1:7; 22:7, 12-13)

D. The person and work of the Holy Spirit

1. We believe that the Holy Spirit, as the third person of the eternal Godhead, is the one who convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; and that He is the supernatural agent in regeneration. He is also the one who permanently indwells and seals believers unto the day of redemption. The Lord Jesus Christ baptizes every believer with the Holy Spirit, at the moment of salvation, which places them into the body of Christ. (Eph 4:30; Rom 8:9; Acts 5:3-4; John 14:17)

2. We further believe that He is the Divine Teacher and Comforter who guides believers into all truth, and that it is the privilege and duty of all believers to be continually controlled by the Spirit. (Jn. 16:7-10, 13-14; Matt. 3:10-11; 1 Cor. 3:16; 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 5:18; 1:13-14; Tit. 3:5-6)

3. We believe that divine, enabling gifts for service are bestowed by the Holy Spirit upon those who are saved. (Rom. 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-31; Eph. 4:11-13; 1 Pet 4:10-11)

4. We believe that the sign gifts of the Holy Spirit such as Apostleship, prophecy, speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, and gifts of healing as present in the first century church were foundational and are not necessary today in the experience of Christians. (1 Cor. 13:8-13; 14:19-22; Eph 2:20; 2 Cor. 12:12; Heb. 2:3-4; Acts 19:11-12; 1 Cor. 15:8)

E. Angels

1. We believe that God created a multitude of spiritual beings known as angels. Angels are personal beings not subject to death and are incapable of reproduction. They exercise great power, but do not possess the same attributes as God. A multitude of angels are serving God and ministering to believers. (Heb. 1:6-14; 1 Pet. 1:12; Col.1:16; Mark 12:25)

2. We believe that Satan is a fallen angel responsible for the entrance of sin and death into the universe and through his influence Adam sinned and subjected himself to sin, death and Satan. (Gen. 3:1-19; 1 Jn. 5:19; Rom. 5:12-14). Those angels who followed Satan in rebellion against God are called demons. (2 Peter 2:4)

3. Satan was judged at the cross, and though he is still active today, his eternal punishment in the lake of fire will be after the millennium. (Rev. 20:10; Col. 2:15; John 16:11; John 12:31-33)

F. Mankind

We believe that man did not evolve but was directly created by God in His image and likeness. Mankind fell into sin through disobedience, incurring both physical and spiritual death. Therefore, all men are born with a sinful nature, are separated from the life of God, and can only be saved by the atoning work of Christ. (Rom. 3:23; Gen. 1:26-27; Rom. 5:12; Eph. 2:1-10)

G. Salvation

1. We believe that salvation is a gift from God brought to men by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. His substitutionary death on the cross of Calvary provided our redemption and is the only basis for our justification. The primary purpose of man's salvation is to glorify God. (Eph. 2:8-10; Jn. 1:12; 2 Cor. 5:21; Eph. 1:7; Rom. 3:24; Mk 10:45)

2. We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are

thus secure in Christ forever. (Rom. 8:1; Jn. 10:28-29; Rom. 8:28-39; Jn. 6:37-40)
H. The church

We believe that the church of the Lord Jesus Christ had its beginning on the day of Pentecost. The church is composed of all believers in this age, and is distinct from Israel. We are placed in the church by the baptizing work of the Holy Spirit when one trusts in the substitutionary work of Christ on the cross. We believe that God has ordained the autonomous local church for worship, edification, fellowship and evangelism. The local church has the right and responsibility to discipline its members. (Acts 1:5; 6:5-6; 1 Cor. 12:12-13; Acts 2:42-47; Eph. 1:22-23; 2:11-22; 1 Thess. 5:12-13; Gal. 6:1; 1 Peter 2:9)

I. Ordinances

We believe that Christ gave two ordinances to his church, Believer's baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper. These ordinances provide no merit for salvation, but are an outward expression of faith regarding the believer's identification and fellowship with Christ and His Church. (Matt. 28:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-24)

J. Christian life

We believe that the primary purpose of the believer on the earth is to bring glory to God in every area of life. We are called to live a holy life as citizens of Heaven in the power of the Holy Spirit and in light of God's Word.

As brothers and sisters in Christ, we have a mutual responsibility to love, forgive, prefer and honor one another in Christ. (1 Cor. 10:31; Col. 3:16-17; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; 10:6-13; Rom. 14:1-13; Eph. 1:4; 1 Tim. 4:12; Rom. 12:9-16; 2 Tim. 1:8-9; 1 Pet. 1:13-16)

K. Future things

1. The rapture of the church - We believe that the next event in the fulfillment of prophecy will be the coming of the Lord in the air to receive believers to himself, into heaven, both those who have died, and those who are alive. (1 Thess. 4:13-18; Phil. 3:20; 1 Cor. 15:51-52)
2. The tribulation period - We believe that after the church is translated to heaven there will be seven years of judgment on the entire earth referred to in God's Word as Israel's seventieth week. (Dan. 9:24, 27; Matt. 24:15-21; Rev. 6:1-19:21)
3. The millennial kingdom - We believe that the tribulation period will be consummated by the bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ to the earth with His saints. His return will introduce the millennial age, at which time Satan will be bound and placed in the abyss. Israel will be restored to her own land and God's promises to her will be literally fulfilled. (Zech. 14:1-5; 9:10; Matt. 24:15 - 25:46; Rom. 11:1, 25-27; Rev. 20:1-3; Ps. 2:7-8; Ps. 72)

L. Eternal State

1. We believe in the bodily resurrection of all mankind, the saved to eternal life, and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment. (Dan 12:1-2; Matt 25:46; 2 Thess 1:7-9)
2. We believe that the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the resurrection, when spirit, soul and body are reunited to be glorified forever with the Lord. (Lk. 23:43; Rev. 20:4-6; 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23; 1 Thess. 4:16, 17)
3. We believe that the souls of unbelievers remain, after death, in conscious misery until the second resurrection, when with spirit, soul and body reunited they shall appear at the Great White Throne Judgment, and shall be cast into the Lake of Fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscious punishment. (Lk. 16:19-31; Matt. 25:41-46; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; Mk. 9:43-48; Jude 6, 7; Rev. 20:11-15)