

The Vineyard Statement of Faith

1. God the King and the Holy Trinity

WE BELIEVE that God is the Eternal¹ King². He is an infinite,³ unchangeable⁴ Spirit,⁵ perfect⁶ in holiness,⁷ wisdom,⁸ goodness,⁹ justice,¹⁰ power¹¹ and love.¹² From all eternity¹³ He exists as the One¹⁴ Living¹⁵ and True¹⁶ God in three persons¹⁷ of one substance,¹⁸ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,¹⁹ equal in power and glory.²⁰

¹Deuteronomy 33:27; Romans 1:20; ²Psalms 95:3; Isaiah 43:15; ³Psalms 147:5; Job 11:7-9; ⁴James 1:17; ⁵John 4:24; ⁶Matthew 5:48; ⁷Isaiah 6:3; ¹Peter 1:15-16; ⁸Psalms 104:24; Proverbs 2:6; Isaiah 28:29; ⁹Exodus 33:19; ¹⁰Psalms 63:2; ¹¹Psalms 31:19; ¹⁰Psalms 33:5; ¹²Psalms 89:14; ¹³Isaiah 30:18; ¹¹Exodus 15:6; ¹²John 4:8; ¹³Isaiah 43:13; ¹⁴Isaiah 45:5; ¹Corinthians 8:4; ¹⁵Psalms 42:2; ¹⁶Psalms 84:2; ¹⁶Jeremiah 10:10; ¹⁷John 1:18; ¹⁸John 10:30; ¹⁹John 14:9; ²⁰John 14:16-17; ¹⁹Matthew 28:19-20; ²Corinthians 13:14; ¹⁸John 1:1; ¹⁴John 1:14; ¹⁷Matthew 28:19-20; ²Corinthians 13:14; ¹Revelation 5:13; ²⁰Ephesians 3:14-21

2. God the King: The Creator and Ruler of All Things

WE BELIEVE that God's kingdom is everlasting.²¹ From His throne,²² through His Son, His eternal Word,²³ God created,²⁴ upholds²⁵ and governs²⁶ all that exists:²⁷ the heavenly places,²⁸ the angelic hosts,²⁹ the universe,³⁰ the earth,³¹ every living thing³² and mankind.³³ God created all things very good.³⁴

²¹Psalms 45:6; ¹³Psalms 145:13; ³Daniel 4:3; ²²Psalms 93:1-2; ²³John 1:1-3; ¹Corinthians 8:6; ¹⁵Colossians 1:15-16; ¹Hebrews 1:1-2; ²⁴Genesis 1:1; ⁵Psalms 95:3-5; ²⁵Colossians 1:17; ¹Hebrews 1:3; ²⁶Psalms 103:19; ²⁴Psalms 104:24-29; ²⁷Psalms 96:4-6; ²⁸Psalms 89:11; ²⁹Psalms 103:20-21; ³⁰Colossians 1:16-17; ³¹Psalms 104:5; ³²Psalms 103:22; ³³Psalms 22:28; ⁸Psalms 47:8; ³⁴Genesis 1:31

3. Counterfeit Kingdom: Satan and Demonic Hosts

WE BELIEVE that Satan, originally a great, good angel, rebelled against God, taking a host of angels with him.³⁵ He was cast out of God's presence and, as a usurper of God's rule, established a counter-kingdom of darkness³⁶ and evil on the earth.³⁷

³⁵Revelation 12:7-9; ³⁶2 Corinthians 11:14; ¹³Colossians 1:13-14; ⁶Ephesians 6:12; ³⁷Mark 3:22-26; ²Ephesians 2:1-2; ¹John 5:19

4. The Kingdom in the Creation of Man, the Fall and The Doctrine of Original Sin

WE BELIEVE that God created mankind in His own image, male and female,³⁸ for relationship with Himself and to govern the earth.³⁹ Under the temptation of Satan,⁴⁰ our original parents fell from grace,⁴¹ bringing sin,⁴² sickness⁴³ and God's judgment of death to the earth.⁴⁴ Through the fall, Satan and his demonic hosts gained access to God's good creation.⁴⁵ Creation now experiences the consequences and effects of Adam's original sin.⁴⁶ Human beings are born in sin,⁴⁷ subject to God's judgment of death⁴⁸ and captive to Satan's kingdom of darkness.⁴⁹

³⁸Genesis 1:26-27; ³⁹Genesis 1:26; ⁴⁰Genesis 3:1; Revelation 12:9; ⁴¹Genesis 3:8; Romans 1:21; Romans 5:16; ⁴²Romans 5:12; ⁴³John 5:14; ⁴⁴1 Corinthians 15:22; ⁴⁵John 8:44; 1 John 5:19; ⁴⁶Romans 8:20-23; ⁴⁷Psalms 51:5; ⁴⁸Ezekiel 18:4; Romans 2:5; Romans 2:12; Hebrews 9:27; ⁴⁹Galatians 1:3-5; Galatians 4:8-9; Colossians 1:13

5. God's Providence, Kingdom Law and Covenants

WE BELIEVE that God did not abandon His rule over the earth⁵⁰ which He continues to uphold by His providence.⁵¹ In order to bring redemption, God established covenants⁵² which revealed His grace to sinful people.⁵³ In the covenant with Abraham, God bound Himself to His people Israel, promising to deliver them from bondage to sin and Satan and to bless all the nations through them.⁵⁴

⁵⁰Psalms 24:1; Psalm 96:10; ⁵¹Isaiah 40:22; Hebrews 1:3; ⁵²Romans 9:4; ⁵³Ephesians 2:12; ⁵⁴Genesis 17:3-8; Genesis 12:2-3; Genesis 15:4-6; Romans 4:3-5; Romans 4:16; Romans 4:20-25; Galatians 3:6-9; Galatians 3:13-14

WE BELIEVE that as King, God later redeemed His people by His mighty acts from bondage in Egypt⁵⁵ and established His covenant through Moses, revealing His perfect will and our obligation to fulfill it.⁵⁶ The law's purpose is to order our fallen race⁵⁷ and to make us conscious of our moral responsibility.⁵⁸ By the work of God's Spirit,⁵⁹ it convicts us of our sin⁶⁰ and God's righteous judgment against us⁶¹ and brings us to Christ alone for salvation.⁶²

⁵⁵Exodus 15:3-18; ⁵⁶Exodus 19:3-6; Exodus 24:3-4; Exodus 24:7; Romans 8:3-4; Romans 8:12-14; ⁵⁷Deuteronomy 5:1-3; Deuteronomy 30:15-18; Galatians 3:23-25; ⁵⁸Psalms 25:8-10; Romans 7:7; ⁵⁹John 15:26; John 16:8-11; 2 Corinthians 3:14-17; ⁶⁰Romans 7:13; Galatians 3:19; Galatians 3:21-22; ⁶¹Romans 2:1-11; ⁶²Galatians 3:24; Philippians 3:8-9

WE BELIEVE that when Israel rejected God's rule over her as King,⁶³ God established the monarchy in Israel⁶⁴ and made an unconditional covenant with David,⁶⁵ promising that his heir would restore God's kingdom reign over His people as Messiah forever.⁶⁶

⁶³1 Samuel 8:6-8; ⁶⁴1 Samuel 8:21-22; 1 Samuel 9:15-16; 1 Samuel 10:1; 1 Samuel 10:24; ⁶⁵2 Samuel 7:11b-16; Psalm 89:34-37; ⁶⁶Isaiah 9:6-7; Isaiah 11:1-5; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Ezekiel 34:23

6. Christ the Mediator and Eternal King

WE BELIEVE that in the fullness of time,⁶⁷ God honored His covenants with Israel and His prophetic promises of salvation⁶⁸ by sending His Son,⁶⁹ Jesus, into the world.⁷⁰ Conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary,⁷¹ as fully God and fully man in one person,⁷² He is humanity as God intended us to be.⁷³ Jesus was anointed as God's Messiah and empowered by the Holy Spirit,⁷⁴ inaugurating God's kingdom reign on earth,⁷⁵ overpowering the reign of Satan by resisting temptation,⁷⁶ preaching the good news of salvation,⁷⁷ healing the sick,⁷⁸ casting out demons⁷⁹ and raising the dead.⁸⁰ Gathering His disciples,⁸¹ He reconstituted God's people⁸² as His Church⁸³ to be the instrument of His kingdom.⁸⁴ After dying for the sins of the world,⁸⁵ Jesus was raised from the dead on the third day,⁸⁶ fulfilling the covenant of blessing given to Abraham.⁸⁷ In His sinless, perfect life⁸⁸ Jesus met the demands of the law⁸⁹ and in His atoning death on the cross⁹⁰ He took God's judgment for sin⁹¹ which we deserve as law-breakers.⁹² By

His death on the cross He also disarmed the demonic powers.⁹³ The covenant with David was fulfilled in Jesus' birth from David's house,⁹⁴ His Messianic ministry,⁹⁵ His glorious resurrection from the dead,⁹⁶ His ascent into heaven and His present rule at the right hand of the Father.⁹⁷ As God's Son and David's heir,⁹⁸ He is the eternal Messiah-King,⁹⁹ advancing God's reign throughout every generation and throughout the whole earth today.¹⁰⁰

⁶⁷Mark 1:15; Galatians 4:4; ⁶⁸Romans 1:2-4; ⁶⁹John 1:14; ⁷⁰John 1:17-18; ⁷¹Luke 1:30-35, ⁷²John 1:14; ⁷³Philippians 2:5-7; ⁷³Romans 5:19; ¹ Corinthians 15:22; ¹ Peter 2:22, ² Corinthians 5:21; ^{Romans} 8:29; ⁷⁴Luke 3:21-22; ^{Luke} 4:16-21; ⁷⁵Mark 1:14-15; ^{Luke} 11:20; ^{Luke} 17:20-21; ⁷⁶Luke 4:1-13; ⁷⁷Luke 4:43; ⁷⁸Luke 4:40; ⁷⁹Luke 4:41; ⁸⁰Luke 7:14-17; ⁸¹Mark 1:16-17; ⁸²Mark 3:13-15; ⁸³Matthew 16:18; ⁸⁴Luke 9:1-2; ^{Luke} 10:1-17; ⁸⁵John 1:29; ^{John} 6:51; ^{John} 4:9-10; ⁸⁶Mark 8:31; ¹ Corinthians 15:3-5; ⁸⁷Galatians 3:13-14; ⁸⁸Acts 3:14-15; ^{Hebrews} 4:15; ⁸⁹Romans 5:18-19; ⁹⁰1 Peter 2:24; ⁹¹Galatians 3:13; ² Corinthians 5:21; ⁹²Romans 1:18; ^{Romans} 1:32; ^{Romans} 2:12; ² Thessalonians 1:6-10; ⁹³Colossians 2:13-15; ⁹⁴Matthew 1:1; ⁹⁵Luke 1:68-72; ^{Luke} 2:10-11; ^{Matthew} 9:27; ⁹⁶Acts 2:24-28; ⁹⁷Acts 2:29-36; ⁹⁸Romans 1:1-4; ⁹⁹Hebrews 1:1-3; ¹⁰⁰1 Corinthians 15:24-26; ^{Ephesians} 1:19-23; ^{Revelation} 5:5

7. The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Church at Pentecost in power,¹⁰¹ baptizing believers into the Body of Christ¹⁰² and releasing the gifts of the Spirit to them.¹⁰³ The Spirit brings the permanent indwelling presence of God to us¹⁰⁴ for spiritual worship,¹⁰⁵ personal sanctification,¹⁰⁶ building up the Church,¹⁰⁷ gifting us for ministry,¹⁰⁸ and driving back the kingdom of Satan by the evangelization of the world¹⁰⁹ through proclaiming the word of Jesus¹¹⁰ and doing the works of Jesus.¹¹¹

¹⁰¹Acts 1:8; ^{Acts} 2:1-4; ¹⁰²1 Corinthians 12:13; ¹⁰³1 Corinthians 12:4-7; ¹⁰⁴John 14:16-17; ¹⁰⁵Romans 12:1; ^{Ephesians} 5:18-20; ¹⁰⁶Romans 8:3-4; ¹⁰⁷1 Corinthians 14:12; ¹ Corinthians 14:26; ¹⁰⁸Romans 12:4-6; ¹⁰⁹Luke 11:20; ¹ John 3:8b; ¹¹⁰Ephesians 6:10-20; ¹¹¹John 14:12-13; ^{Romans} 15:18-19; ¹ Corinthians 4:20

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Jesus Christ¹¹² and that He is our abiding Helper,¹¹³ Teacher,¹¹⁴ and Guide.¹¹⁵ We believe in the filling or the empowering of the Holy Spirit,¹¹⁶ often a conscious experience,¹¹⁷ for ministry today.¹¹⁸ We believe in the present ministry of the Spirit¹¹⁹ and in the exercise of all of the biblical gifts of the Spirit.¹²⁰ We practice the laying on of hands for the empowering of the Spirit,¹²¹ for healing,¹²² and for recognition and empowering of those whom God has ordained to lead and serve the Church.¹²³

¹¹²Romans 8:9-10; ¹¹³John 16:7; ¹¹⁴John 14:26; ¹¹⁵John 16:13-15; Romans 8:14; ¹¹⁶Luke 24:49; Acts 4:31; ¹¹⁷Acts 8:18-19; Acts 19:1-2; ¹¹⁸1 Corinthians 2:4-5; 2 Corinthians 4:7; 2 Corinthians 6:4-7; ¹¹⁹Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:15-17; ¹²⁰1 Corinthians 12:7-11; 1 Corinthians 14:1; 1 Corinthians 14:5; 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21; ¹²¹Acts 8:14-17; Acts 19:6; ¹²²Mark 1:41; Luke 6:18b-19; Mark 16:18; ¹²³Acts 13:1-3; 1 Timothy 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6

8. The Sufficiency of Scripture

WE BELIEVE that the Holy Spirit inspired the human authors of Holy Scripture¹²⁴ so that the Bible is without error¹²⁵ in the original manuscripts. We receive the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments¹²⁶ as our final, absolute authority, the only infallible rule of faith¹²⁷ and practice.¹²⁸

¹²⁴2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; 1 Corinthians 2:12-13; John 14:26; ¹²⁵Psalms 19:7-9; Psalm 119:30; Psalm 119:43; Psalm 119:89; Matthew 5:17-18; John 3:34; John 10:35; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; Revelation 22:6; ¹²⁶Luke 24:44; 2 Peter 3:15-16; Revelation 22:18-19; ¹²⁷Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 24:35; ¹²⁸Matthew 7:21; Matthew 7:24; Luke 1:38; James 1:22-25

9. The Power of the Gospel Over the Kingdom of Darkness

WE BELIEVE that the whole world is under the domination of Satan¹²⁹ and that all people are sinners by nature¹³⁰ and choice.¹³¹ All people therefore are under God's just judgment.¹³² Through the preaching of the Good News of Jesus and the Kingdom of God¹³³ and the work of the Holy Spirit,¹³⁴ God regenerates,¹³⁵ justifies,¹³⁶ adopts¹³⁷ and sanctifies¹³⁸ through Jesus by the Spirit¹³⁹ all who repent of their sins¹⁴⁰ and trust in Jesus Christ as Lord¹⁴¹ and Saviour.¹⁴² By this they are released from Satan's domain and enter into God's kingdom reign.¹⁴³

¹²⁹Luke 4:5-7; 1 John 5:19; ¹³⁰1 Corinthians 15:22; Ephesians 2:1-3; ¹³¹Romans 1:21-23; Romans 1:32; ¹³²Romans 1:18; Romans 2:5; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Ephesians 5:6; ¹³³Mark 1:14-15; Acts 8:12; Acts 28:31; Ephesians 5:5; ¹³⁴John 16:7-11; ¹³⁵John 3:5-8; 1 Peter 1:23; ¹³⁶Romans 5:1-2; Romans 5:9; ¹³⁷Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6; ¹³⁸Ephesians 5:25; Hebrews 13:12; ¹³⁹1 Peter 1:1-2; ¹⁴⁰Acts 2:38; ¹⁴¹Romans 10:9; ¹⁴²1 John 4:13-15; ¹⁴³Colossians 1:13-14; Philippians 3:20

10. The Church: Instrument of the Kingdom

WE BELIEVE in the one,¹⁴⁴ holy,¹⁴⁵ universal Church.¹⁴⁶ All who repent of their sins and confess Jesus as Lord and Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit¹⁴⁷ and form the living Body of Christ,¹⁴⁸ of which He is the head¹⁴⁹ and of which we are all members.¹⁵⁰

¹⁴⁴John 17:20-21; Ephesians 4:3-6; ¹⁴⁵1 Corinthians 3:16-17; ¹⁴⁶Matthew 16:17-18; 1 Corinthians 1:2; Ephesians 2:18-19; 1 Peter 2:9-10; ¹⁴⁷Titus 3:4-7; ¹⁴⁸Romans 12:4-5; ¹⁴⁹Ephesians 1:22; Ephesians 5:23; ¹⁵⁰1 Corinthians 12:27

11. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ committed two ordinances to the Church: water baptism¹⁵¹ and the Lord's Supper.¹⁵² Both are available to all believers.

¹⁵¹Matthew 28:19-20; ¹⁵²1 Corinthians 10:14-17; 11:23-26

12. The Kingdom of God and the Final Judgment

WE BELIEVE that God's kingdom has come in the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ,¹⁵³ that it continues to come in the ministry of the Spirit through the Church,¹⁵⁴ and that it will be consummated in the glorious, visible and triumphant appearing of Christ¹⁵⁵ - His return to the earth as King.¹⁵⁶ After Christ returns to reign,¹⁵⁷ He will bring about the final defeat of Satan and all of his minions and works,¹⁵⁸ the resurrection of the dead,¹⁵⁹ the final judgment¹⁶⁰ and the eternal blessing of the righteous and eternal conscious punishment of the wicked.¹⁶¹ Finally, God will be all in all¹⁶² and His kingdom, His rule and reign,¹⁶³ will be fulfilled in the new heavens and the new earth,¹⁶⁴ recreated by His mighty power, in which righteousness dwells¹⁶⁵ and in which He will forever be worshipped.¹⁶⁶

¹⁵³Daniel 7:13-14; Matthew 4:23; Matthew 12:28; ¹⁵⁴Matthew 6:10; Matthew 10:7-8; Matthew 24:14; Mark 13:11; John 15:26-27; Romans 14:17-18; ¹⁵⁵Mark 13:26; Acts 1:9-11; 2 Thessalonians 2:8; ¹⁵⁶Revelation 19:11-16; ¹⁵⁷Matthew 25:31-32; 1 Corinthians 15:23-25; ¹⁵⁸Revelation 20:10; ¹⁵⁹1 Corinthians 15:51-52; ¹⁶⁰John 5:28-30; Revelation 20:11-15; ¹⁶¹Matthew 25:31-46; ¹⁶²1 Corinthians 15:24-28; ¹⁶³1 Timothy 6:13-16; ¹⁶⁴2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:5; ¹⁶⁵Revelation 21:27; ¹⁶⁶1 Timothy 1:17; Revelation 7:9-12