

DOCTRINAL POINTS OF THE CHURCH OF GOD

(7TH DAY)

As Presented in the Bible
GOD'S HOLY WORD

Salem, West Virginia

PREFACE

On Calvary's Hill the beloved Saviour, Jesus Christ, shed His precious blood. With this blood (I Peter 1:19), Jesus purchased the Church of God (Acts 20:28). God set in the Church spiritual fruit, and gifts, and governments which are enablements for varied services and specific responsibilities (Ephesians 4:11-13; I Corinthians 12:7-20). Jesus established principles of doctrine (Hebrews 6:1; II John 9). Jesus said: "My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine,..." (John 7:16-17). These doctrines of Christ are an integral part of the Church of God (Titus 2:1, 10; Acts 2:42; 16:4).

The Church of God and its doctrines have been persecuted ever since its inception. It has been strong at times and also weak. It was presented to all peoples and nations of the earth. It has existed somewhere, at all times, since it began, but it has swung back and forth like a pendulum. The reason for this is that Satan would launch an attack against the Church. It would become weak and then stronger, and sometimes it would even die out in certain countries. But the Church never died out completely at any time, and the Lord's doctrines have been preserved down to our time. Did not the Lord Jesus say that the gates

of hell (death) would not prevail against His Church?

Today, the term Church of God is used by many denominations and groups. This is rather confusing. One way of differentiating these groups is by adding the headquarters city to the name, as a prefix or suffix. These churches of God are all of distinctly American origin, with but one exception, the Church of God (7th Day), which had European connections before coming to America.

European Sabbath keepers came to Rhode Island and later to Connecticut, from England, Holland, Bohemia and Moravia. From here, they spread to the original 13 States and later to many other States as they became part of the United States. The Church of God grew in leaps and bounds in the new world which was opened to all for religious freedom.

Satan, the ever present adversary, began changing his tactics. No longer did he try to defeat the Church with physical persecutions, but with a form of godliness and pernicious doctrine (II Peter 2:2). It was called the Second Advent Message. It began about 1820, and swept the Americas, as well as Europe, like wild fire. People from all denominations were inspired by this message. Many churches were born during this overheated and zealous religious period.

The Church of God waned greatly during this time because it would not accept the return of Christ until the prophecies concerning the people of Israel were fulfilled. The Church's doctrine has always been the words of the Lord which clearly states that the Lord Jesus would not return until Israel would first return to her own homeland. This wonderful doctrine, which is now being accepted by many (because it has come to pass), was met with violent opposition and great contempt. Some even departed from the truth and formed other Sabbatarian organizations (II Timothy 4:3; I Timothy 4:1, 16).

The Church of God was reorganized in 1933 at Salem, WV. The Church government was brought into harmony with the first Church government. The doctrines have been the same as when Jesus presented them to His disciples. They have been drawn up to recognize Jesus Christ as the only Head of the Church and that all elders, officers and laymen in the Church are all one and equal.

Therefore, brethren, we beseech you to follow the examples of our Lord in all things. Let this mind be in you, which was in Christ, who took upon Him the form of a servant, humbled Himself and became obedient unto God the Father, even obedient to the death on the cross.

These doctrines are presented to help draw out new light as revealed in these last days and to show every being of every nation, the need to come into the fellowship of Christ. Let us walk therefore in newness of life, that the prayer of our Lord Jesus may be answered in us; that we may be one in Him, and that He may give us the glory which He gave to His disciples, that we may be one even as He and His Father are one. Therefore, let us strive to be of one mind with Christ.

DOCTRINAL POINTS

There can be no doubt whatsoever that the Lord Jesus desires His followers to study the Word of God. Jesus said: "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39).

Inasmuch as the Church of God is the Body of Christ, it is an organized Body of believers which upholds and accepts Scriptures. Such is the faith and testimony of Jesus Christ and as such the same are published, that persons may acquaint themselves with the doctrines of the Scriptures and become fellow worshippers in the Church of God - the pillar and ground of the truth (I Timothy 3:15; Acts 20:28; John 7:16-17; II Timothy 3:15-17).

These articles of faith are not to be construed as a closed creed, as the Church of God stands ready at all times to consider further light of the Bible (II Timothy 2:15; I John 1:7).

Doctrine shall in all cases be according to the Holy Scriptures and inasmuch as the Bible clearly teaches the following points of doctrine, the same are listed as the essentials of our faith - the faith of our Lord Jesus (Revelation 14:12; 19:10).

1. The Bible, Old and New Testaments, is inspired as no other writing is, and is complete, infallible and expresses God's complete will to man.

II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:20-21; Proverbs 30:5-6; Revelation 22:18-19; Isaiah 55:11; John 5:39-40; Deuteronomy 4:2; 12:32.

We believe that the Bible is its own commentary. We must therefore examine everything in the light of the Bible, weighing everything in the balance of the Bible, and if it will not agree, reject it, but if it will agree and stand up under scrutiny, accept it.

"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good" (I Thessalonians 5:21).

There is so much Bible translation going on in the world, and traditions of religions are inserted and substituted for fixed principles. Modernism is taking the place of the fundamental truths. We therefore recommend the use of the authorized King James Version.

2. The Eternal One in Heaven is the Creator of the heaven, the earth, the sea and all that is therein. He is our heavenly Father.

Genesis 1:1; Deuteronomy 33:27; Jeremiah 10:10-12; Matthew 23:9; John 20:17; Ephesians 3:9; Hebrews 1:10; Revelation 10:6.

God is unchangeable. He does not change His Commandments or His will for man. He is perfect in all His ways. *Proverbs 19:21; Ecclesiastes 3:14; Malachi 3:6; I Chronicles 17:27; I Kings 8:23, 60-61; James 1:17; Romans 1:19-20.*

3. Jesus of Nazareth is the only begotten Son of God, conceived by the power of God, born of the Virgin Mary, and is our Lord, Christ and Redeemer. Jesus is the beginning of the creation of God (Revelation 3:14). He was with God at the creation of all things.

Matthew 1:18-21; 3:17; Colossians 1:12-19; John 3:16-18; 6:38, 69; Luke 1:35.

God, the heavenly Father, and Jesus Christ, His Son, are one. (John 10:30, 38) They are one in purpose, but they are two separate, individual beings. Jesus' coming to earth in human flesh (Philippians 2:7-8; Hebrews 2:17) fulfilled the plan of salvation by His birth, His life and works, His death and His resurrection to the right hand of His Father. He can also be called: the Eternal One, Wonderful, Counsellor, Great High Priest, etc. (Isaiah 9:6; 11:1; 49:7; 53rd chapter; Micah 5:2).

"Jesus" is the given name for the Son of God. God the Father, with His Son,

Jesus, created the heavens and the earth. "Without HIM was not anything made that was made." Jesus pre-existed with the Father "before the foundation of the earth" (John 1:1-3, 10; 6:62; 8:57-58; I Corinthians 8:6; Revelation 19:13).

4. Jesus proved His Messiahship by remaining in the tomb exactly "three days and three nights," (Matthew 12:38-40). He was crucified on Wednesday and was resurrected in the end of the weekly Sabbath.

Matthew 16:21; Luke 24:6-7.

Nowhere in the Scriptures does it tell of an eyewitness of the Resurrection. All who viewed the tomb found it empty. Numerous trips were made to the sepulchre, and it was empty. An early visit to the tomb was "in the end of the Sabbath" (Saturday afternoon just before sunset). The stone was rolled away from the sepulchre and Jesus was already risen (Matthew 28:1-8).

5. The Holy Spirit is the Comforter, which abides in the believer and is manifest by power, and the fruit it produces, as in Acts 2:1-18 and Galatians 5:22-26. Manifestations are regulated according to I Corinthians 12. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is necessary in or-

der for the body to be resurrected and the living changed at the first phase of Christ's Second Coming.

*Colossians 1:27; Romans 8:10-11;
I Corinthians 15:51-53;
I Thessalonians 4:13-17.*

The Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, which is the Comforter proceeds from the Father, through the Son (John 15:26). It leads, guides, teaches, and directs believers and dwells within them (John 16:13-15; 14:17,26). The Word of God was given by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (II Peter 1:21). It seals the saints of God until redemption comes (II Corinthians 1:21-22; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30; Galatians 5:22-26; Ephesians 4:4; I Corinthians 12:13). It gives the gift of tongues as understandable languages when the need arises (Acts 2:7-9; I Corinthians 14:19, 27-30). The gift of tongues is given as a sign to unbelievers to help them accept Jesus Christ (I Corinthians 14:22).

6. Satan is a personality, and before he became the Devil he was an anointed angel called Lucifer. His pride was lifted up and he was cast out of heaven. As the Devil, he is the adversary of God and of all the Children of God. The Devil will be bound for a thousand years, and then he will be released to deceive

the nations after which he will be destroyed in the lake of fire.

*Luke 10:18; Isaiah 14:12-20;
Ezekiel 28:13-19; John 8:44;
Revelation 12:7-9; 20:1-3, 7-10.*

The Devil began a war in heaven and was cast out. He was able to accuse the Children of God before God until Jesus died and curbed much of Satan's power (Job 1:6; Revelation 12:10; Colossians 2:15). He tempted mankind (Genesis 3:1-6) and caused man to fall. He has great power, but he can be overcome by the power of God in us. (I John 4:4; Zechariah 3:1, 2; II Corinthians 2:10-11; I John 3:8; Hebrews 2:14; James 4:7; II Corinthians 11:14-15).

7. Man was created perfect originally, but through disobedience fell, bringing imperfection, death and God's wrath upon mankind.

*Genesis 1:26-28; Romans 5:12, 17;
I Corinthians 15:21-22;
Genesis 3:17, 19.*

8. Salvation comes to the baptized believer by grace (Titus 2:11). It is the gift of God. We are saved by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 15:11). We are justified by His grace (Romans 3:24). This grace reigns through righteousness unto

eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 5:21). By His grace we are saved (Ephesians 2:5) through faith. It is not something earned, but it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8).

When we accept this free gift, we then must walk in the footsteps of Jesus. We love God and His Son, Jesus, and keep their commandments and do those things which are pleasing in God's sight. Jesus gave us an example to do as He had done. Just as He kept His Father's commandments, so do we. He even expanded on how to keep them through love toward God and our fellow man. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is necessary. See Doctrinal Points 5 and 13.

9. The Christian life must be patterned after the perfect man, Christ Jesus. Each member strives to give himself as a living sacrifice, and each one lives his life in opposition to worldliness, so that the Body of Christ, the Church, may be clean, unspotted and separate from the world.

*James 1:27; II Corinthians 6:17-18;
Hebrews 7:26; II Peter 3:14;
I Timothy 2:8-10; Matthew 5:48;
Romans 12:1; I Peter 2:21-25;
I John 2:6-7; I Thessalonians 5:5;
Hebrews 12:2.*

10. The inspired Bible name for the Body of Christ, God's called out assembly, is "The Church of God".

*Acts 20:28; I Corinthians 15:9;
Galatians 1:13; I Corinthians 1:2-3; I Timothy 3:15.*

The Head of the Church of God is Jesus Christ. He is the corner stone of the foundation of this body, having purchased it with His own blood.

*Ephesians 2:19-22; Colossians 1:18; I Corinthians 3:11;
Acts 20:28; Isaiah 28:16;
I Peter 2:6; I Peter 1:18-19;
Acts 4:11.*

11. The Organization and Government of the Church be as "God did set" it - first Apostles (12); second Prophets (70) (Matthew 10:2-5; Luke 10:1; Ephesians 2:20). Later the Seven were appointed by the Twelve (Acts 6:1-7).

Notice that God did set in the Church apostles, prophets, teachers, miracles, gifts of healings, helps, etc. (I Corinthians 12:27-30). These gifts and offices were given (Ephesians 4:11-16) "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the Body of Christ," (the Church of God) so that we will not be tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine. It is to make the saints

come to a unity of the faith.

Note: Concerning women in the Church, they must be subject to the minister and not have authority in the Church for a duty that is to be applied to men (I Timothy 2:11-15).

12. When believers accept the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal saviour, the following process must occur:

i) Repentance of sins committed is necessary. We all have sinned, and every individual must repent. Sin is the transgression of God's commandments.

*I John 3:4; Job 11:14-15;
Matthew 9:13; Luke 13:3; 24:47;
Acts 2:38; 8:21-22; Romans 6:23.*

ii) This conversion is essential to salvation and receiving eternal life.
Luke 22:32; Acts 3:19; Psalm 19:7.

iii) The believer must then be baptized. See Doctrinal Point number 13.

iv) Sanctification (setting apart for a holy purpose) will become a part of the believer's life.

*John 17:17; Acts 26:18;
I Corinthians 1:2; 6:11;
II Timothy 2:21; Hebrews 13:12;*

I Peter 3:15; Jude 1.

Sanctification is a work of God, as illustrated in Genesis 2:3. "For both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one; for which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren..." (Hebrews 2:11). See also Hebrews 10:10.

v) Justification from sins through the Lord Jesus Christ will then occur.

John 1:29; Romans 3:14-26; 4:24-25; 5:1; 7:24-25.

Justification is the judicial act of the Lord to declare a sinner free from guilt or free from the condemnation of sin. The faith that brings about the working of Christ's justifying righteousness is a full and living one. The justified person does not come into judgment.

After we have been justified, we become sanctified by the truth of God's Word.

John 17:19; I Corinthians 1:2, 30; 6:11; Ephesians 5:26; Hebrews 2:11; 10:10.

When a person is baptized (buried with Christ) he should strive not to sin any more (Romans 6:1-6). Sin is the transgression of the Law of God (I John 3:4-

5). In Jesus was no sin.

He lived a sinless life, but the death which He died is what saves the believer and rescues him from his sins and the Second Death (Revelation 5:9; John 3:14-16; Acts 17:3; Revelation 14:13; 20:6).

13. Baptism is by immersion, for the remission of sins, typical of the burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is performed in the name, Lord Jesus Christ. After the immersion, hands should be laid on the candidate by the minister (or ministers) for the reception of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 6:3-6; Matthew 3:16; 28:19; Acts 8:14-20; 9:17-18; 19:1-6; I Peter 3:21; Galatians 3:27-28; Acts 2:36-39.

14. There is efficacy (power to produce) in the prayer of the righteous. The laying on of hands, with the prayer of faith, and anointing with oil shall save the sick.

Isaiah 55:6; Luke 21:36; Matthew 21:22; James 5:13-16; Colossians 4:2; I John 3:22; 5:14; Acts 16:25-26; Acts 12:5-7; Mark 6:13; Acts 5:15-16; 9:17-18; 28:8; Luke 9:1-2, 6.

15. The Lord's Supper is to be observed annually, as instituted by

Jesus Christ. He became the Passover and was slain on the 14th day of the first month, Abib. He fulfilled the Old Testament Passover on that same day (Exodus 12:2, 18; 13:4). The Lord's Supper is to be a perpetual statute until fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

Luke 22:8-18; I Corinthians 5:6-7; 11:23-30.

The visible new moon nearest the vernal equinox is the beginning of the first month. The day starts in the evening. Fourteen days thereafter is the Lord's Supper. The 14th day of the first month occurs during the season of the full moon.

16. We ought to wash one another's feet. The footwashing is to be a part of the Lord's Supper Service. It is to be done before the emblems of the Lord are presented. This is the order in which Jesus put it at His Last Supper.

John 13:1-17.

Jesus washed all twelve Apostles' feet. He then pointed out His betrayer, Judas Iscariot. After Judas left, Jesus instituted the unleavened bread and unleavened fruit of the vine (non-alcoholic), to be the emblems of His Body and His Blood. Jesus reminds us in John 13:15-

17, that we should do as He did. Therefore, we must obey and follow the same procedure. *Matthew 26:20-30; John 13:34-35; John 13:21-30.*

17. We should observe the seventh day of the week (Saturday), from even to even, as the Sabbath of the Lord our God. Evening is at sunset when day ends and another day begins. No other day has ever been sanctified as the day of rest. The Sabbath Day begins at sundown on Friday and ends at sundown on Saturday.

Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11; Isaiah 58:13-14; 56:1-8; Acts 17:2; Acts 18:4,11; Luke 4:16; Mark 2:27-28; Matthew 12:10-12; Hebrews 4:1-11; Genesis 1:5, 13-14; Nehemiah 13:19.

18. The paying of the tithe (a tenth of all increase) and offerings is a continued obligation.

Genesis 14:18-20; Hebrews 7:4-10; Hebrews 6:20-7:10; Numbers 18:21-26; Malachi 3:8-12; Matthew 23:23; I Corinthians 9:11-14.

19. We stand opposed to carnal warfare.

Matthew 26:52; Revelation 13:10; Romans 12:19-21.

The weapons of our warfare are not carnal but spiritual (II Corinthians 10:3-5; Ephesians 6:11-18).

20. The Bible teaches the eating of clean meats as found in Leviticus 11:1-47, but the eating of unclean meats continues to be an abomination to God.

Leviticus 11:1-47; Deuteronomy 14:3-20; Leviticus 20:25-26; Isaiah 66:15-17; 65:3-4; I Timothy 4:1-6; II Corinthians 6:17-18; Revelation 21:8, 27; Genesis 7:1-3; Acts 15:20, 29.

21. Since we are children of God and temples of the Holy Spirit, we stand opposed to drunkenness, intoxication, and addiction to any narcotics or nicotine.

Proverbs 31:4-5; 23:29-32; Daniel 1:8, 12; Luke 21:34; Romans 13:13; Galatians 5:21; I Corinthians 5:11; 6:10; I Timothy 3:3, 8.

Everything we can eat and drink should be sanctified by the Word of God and with prayer and that it be partaken of in moderation.

I Corinthians 9:25; 3:16-17; Colossians 2:21-23, 16-19; I Timothy 4:4-5.

22. The lot system is the biblical method for choosing officers of the Twelve. It may also be used by the general body down to the local congregation when necessary. God is in the disposition of the lot when His guidance is asked for with prayer.

Proverbs 16:33; 18:18; Acts 1:15-26.

23. The Ten Commandments should be taught and kept. This is the perfect "law of liberty," it is "holy, just and good," and a "royal law."

Exodus 20:1-17; James 2:8, 10-12; Romans 7:12; Deuteronomy 5:1, 21; Psalm 19:7-9; Isaiah 42:21; Matthew 5:17-32; 19:16-19; I John 5:3; Revelation 12:17; 14:12; 22:14; Proverbs 28:9; James 1:25; I John 3:4.

Jesus was asked: "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" The answer that Jesus gave is so conclusive: "Keep the commandments" Then Jesus quoted His Father's Ten Commandments (Luke 10:25; 18:18-20; Mark 10:18-19).

24. Jesus Christ completed the atonement on the cross. The two goats of the Old Testament Day of Atonement made an atonement to-

gether, one representing the crucified Jesus and the other the resurrected Jesus.

Leviticus 16:5, 7-10; Romans 5:10-12; I Corinthians 15:20-23.

The Lord's goat and the scapegoat made an atonement together. The Lord's goat was sacrificed, representing the crucified Jesus. The scapegoat was taken alive into the wilderness. This represents the alive and resurrected Jesus who is away from camp, but is still interceding and mediating after making atonement for us (I John 2:1-2; I Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 7:15).

25. The law of commandments contained in ordinances was nailed to the cross. Jesus fulfilled these ceremonial laws that were added because of transgression. These added laws were written in a book and placed in the side of the ark (Deuteronomy 31:24-26); whereas, the everlasting Ten Commandments were written by the finger of God on tables of stone and placed in the ark (Exodus 24:12; 31:18; Hebrews 9:4; Deuteronomy 10:25).

When Jesus died on the cross, the veil was rent in twain making the way to the holiest place (heaven itself). Now we can boldly approach the Throne of Grace

through prayer in Jesus' name (Hebrews 10:19-20; Hebrews 9:8-15).

Jesus fulfilled the added laws as the sacrificial Lamb of God:

- (1) It is finished (John 19:30; John 17:4).
- (2) The end of the law contained in sacrifices and ordinances (Ephesians 2:14-15).
- (3) Blotting out the law of ordinances by nailing them to the cross (Colossians 2:14, 16-17).
- (4) Removed all nationalistic and social distinctions (Galatians 3:13, 27-28; 4:21-31).
- (5) Took away some of the powers of Satan (Colossians 2:15).

26. The dead are unconscious in their graves and immortality is conditional.

Job 14:12-14; Psalm 6:5; 115:17; Ecclesiastes 9:5-6; Psalm 49:16-17; Ecclesiastes 3:19-20; Psalm 13:3; Acts 11:34; Hebrews 11:13, 39-40.

When God formed Adam, out of the dust of the ground, and before Adam could live, God breathed the breath of life into his body: "And man became a living soul" (Genesis 2:7). See also Ezekiel 18:4, 20. Psalm 146:4 says, "His (man's) breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth (dust); in that very

day his thoughts perish." No man has ascended to heaven except Jesus Christ (John 3:13).

John 5:28-29; Isaiah 26:19; I Corinthians 15:51-56; I Thessalonians 4:13-18.

27. The First Angel's Message of Revelation 14:6-7, the hour of God's judgment, and the everlasting gospel was preached to the world during the early days of the Church of God and is still a continued message today.

John 9:39; 12:31-32; Romans 1:29-32; 10:15; 2:1-2; I Timothy 5:24; I Peter 4:17; Acts 16:9-10; 15:7; Galatians 1:8-9; Romans 1:16; Acts 24:25.

28. The Second Angel's Message of Revelation 14:8 is "Babylon is fallen", and is being preached by the Church of God warning the people of the apostate doctrines of Babylon.

II Thessalonians 2:6-7; Revelation 17:5, 9, 18; Revelation 18:2.

29. The Third Angel's Message of Revelation 14:9-12 is a present day message, and will continue to the second advent of the Lord Jesus. This message is a warning against

worshipping the beast, his image, or receiving his mark in the forehead or hand. The Seven Last Plagues, "the wrath of God" are literal and fall at the termination of the Gospel Age. We should not obey pagan doctrines, or traditions of apostate Babylon, which are contrary to the Scriptures. All who oppose the Bible doctrines, the Commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus, shall receive these plagues, Therefore, this is a warning to all mankind to escape the indignation of God.

*Revelation 18:4; Isaiah 26:20-21;
Revelation 15:1; Revelation 16:1-21;
Revelation 12:17.*

The trumpets of Revelation (chapters 8-11) are the same as the vials of Revelation 16 and point out the dreadfulness of God's indignation and wrath.

30. The beast of Revelation 13:1-10 and the 17th chapter is the Pagan Roman Empire. The mouth given to the beast of Revelation 13:5-6, and the woman rider of the 17th chapter is the Papacy. The golden cup in her hand is full of abominations and filthiness of her sins and represents the false doctrines and traditions of Pagan Rome, which were made into so-called Christian doctrines but are not ac-

ording to the Scriptures.

Here are summed up some of the pagan practices that have been claimed by Protestants, as well as Catholics, to be Christian, but are not:

Changing the Sabbath to Sunday, Easter, Lent, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, All Saints' Day, Christmas, Halloween, A Trinity, Infant Baptism, Purgatory, etc.

31. The return of Jesus will be literal, visible, personal and is imminent.

*Acts 1:9-11; Matthew 24:27;
Revelation 1:7; Titus 2:13.*

This Second Coming will be in two parts:

The Reaping Phase

Christ comes first for the Saints and His Church. He comes only as far as the clouds and air. The Saints are caught up to meet Him.

*Revelation 14:14-16; I Corinthians 15:51-53; I Thessalonians 4:13-17;
Ephesians 5:27;
II Thessalonians 2:1.*

Jesus is the "King of Saints" (Revelation 15:3).

The Warring Phase

The second part of His return is the warring phase. Jesus, sitting on a white horse and wearing many crowns, comes with His Saints as "King of kings" and "Lord of lords" to smite the armies of the nations who are gathered against Him.

*Revelation 11:15; Revelation 16:13-16; 17:13-14; Revelation 19:11-19;
Zechariah 14:1-5; Isaiah 66:15-16.*

32. The New Jerusalem - The City of God - is the Bride of the Lord Jesus Christ (Revelation 21:9-10). The Saints are the invited guests to the marriage of the Lamb and their righteousness adorns the City of God, the Sea of Glass (Revelation 19:8; 21:2). Jesus and the Saints will dwell in this golden city (clear as crystal, Revelation 21:11-12).

*Revelation 5:9-10; 15:1-4; 19:7-9;
Luke 14:15; Matthew 25:10; 22:2-9;
John 3:29; Revelation 20.*

The Sea of Glass to which the Saints are caught up is the New Jerusalem, which comes down with the Lord Jesus Christ at the Reaping Phase of the Second Coming of Christ. It is the reward of the Saints and home of the Saved.

*John 14:1-3; Hebrews 11:16;
Hebrews 13:14; Galatians 4:25-26;*

Revelation 15:1-4; 22:12-14;
Revelation 3:12; Hebrews 12:22-23.
The Saints will be in the city and will be safe from the plagues.

Isaiah 26:20-21; Psalm 27:5.

33. The Millennium, known as the Thousand Year Reign of Christ on the earth, is the time when the "meek shall inherit the earth." The Saints shall dwell in safety and peace and shall rule the nations and people that are left after the battle of Armageddon.

Matthew 6:9-10; Matthew 5:5;
Psalm 37:11; I Corinthians 15:24-28; Zechariah 14:9; Revelation 2:26-27; 5:9-10; Revelation 12:5; 17:14; 19:15-16.

34. At the end of Christ's thousand year reign, Satan shall be loosed "for a little season." Satan tries, for the last time, to destroy the works of God. He encompasses the City of God. Fire comes "down out of heaven" and destroys those that come against the City of God. Satan is put into the "Lake of fire." The last act of Christ is to destroy "death and hell" ("hell" means the place of the dead or grave). This is the termination of the "second death."

Revelation 20:7-15; Ezekiel 28:18.

After the Millennium, the Kingdom is turned over to the Father in heaven (I Corinthians 15:21-28).

35. The dispersed nation of Israel is now being regathered, and this process will continue. The whole house of Israel (all twelve tribes) are included in the regathering.

Ezekiel 36th and 37th chapters;
Jeremiah 30th to 33rd chapters;
Amos 9; Hosea 3:4-5;
Ezekiel 39:22-29.

36. The 144,000 of Revelation 7 and 14 are of the literal twelve tribes of Israel. They were the "firstfruits" unto God and the Lamb (Jesus Christ) being the called out ones (the faithful) of Israel by Jesus Christ and the Apostles.

Matthew 10:5-6; Revelation 7:4-8;
14:1-5; James 1:1, 18;
Romans 11:1-7; Romans 1:16.

37. The Church of God stands opposed to divorce and remarriage for any cause except as recorded in Matthew 19:9.

Matthew 5:31-32; Luke 16:18;
Mark 10:2-12.

The Word of God is full of warnings against breaking the seventh command-

ment.

I Corinthians 6:18-20;
I Corinthians 7:1-11.

We recommend all members of the Church to marry in the faith and be married by a Church of God minister.

38. There are two general resurrections. One is for the righteous and the other is for the wicked. The righteous will be raised to eternal life while the wicked are raised to final judgment and annihilation.

I Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 20:5-6; John 5:28-29; Matthew 25:46; Acts 17:31; 24:15; Malachi 4:1-3.

*** NOTE ***

Any minister who teaches any doctrine contrary to any point of our essentials of faith as is taught by the body, and published through our literature, either by precept or example, shall not be considered a minister of the Church of God.

New doctrine shall not be accepted as the faith of the Body of Christ - The Church - until it is first presented to a Council of the Twelve, the Seventy and the Seven, and decided unanimously by the Twelve Apostles, after fasting and praying.

This edition of the doctrinal points has been accepted as prescribed by the

Church Constitution, Art. 8; Sec. 2: they have been first presented to the Twelve, the Seventy, and the Seven, and decided unanimously by the Twelve, after fasting and prayer.

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