



WESLEY BIBLICAL SEMINARY

Statement of Faith

AS CONTAINED IN THE CHARTER AND DULY RECORDED IN THE RECORDS OF HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

1. The supreme authority of the Word of God which stands written in the sixty-six books of the Holy Bible, all therein being divinely inspired by Almighty God and therefore without error or defect in the autographs. Believing the Bible to be the Word of God written, the only infallible rule of faith and practice, Wesley Biblical Seminary asserts the authority of Scripture alone over the life of the Church and its individual members. We therefore believe that a reverent and loyal approach to the study of the Bible recognizes and affirms its full inspiration and its absolute trustworthiness as the divinely revealed and authoritative Word of God.
2. The one true God as Creator, Sustainer and Sovereign Ruler of the Universe, eternally existent in the Holy Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, each with personality and deity.
3. The Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, as manifested in the flesh through a miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and virgin birth, who lived a sinless life and then died on Calvary, making a full and satisfactory atonement for the sins of all men, rose bodily the third day, ascended into Heaven and is enthroned at God's right hand as our abiding Intercessor.
4. The Holy Spirit as the Lord and Giver of life, taking the things of Jesus Christ and applying them to man and to his salvation and service. Assurance of personal salvation and the fruit of the Spirit are clearly distinguished from the gifts of the Spirit which are for the edification of the Church and which carry no guarantee of personal holiness or destiny.
5. The special original creation of man in God's image and likeness and the willful disobedience through which man became deeply fallen and tragically lost apart from God's redeeming grace.
6. The privilege and necessity of each person's being made a new creature in Christ by the life-giving Holy Spirit, adopted into God's family, and delivered from the penalty and practice of sinning. In this context sinning is regarded as known, willful violation of the will of God.
7. The second definite work of grace subsequent to regeneration, accomplished by the baptism with the Holy Spirit, thereby purifying the heart from original sin and empowering for continuous growth in grace, victorious living and fruitful service. The result of this epochal experience—termed perfect love and/or entire sanctification—is maintained by faith as expressed in continuous obedience to God's revealed will, thus giving perfect cleansing moment by moment (Acts 15:8-9; I Thessalonians 5:23; I John 1:7-9, 4:13-21). Life in the Spirit is dynamically expressed in maturing and enabling grace to progress from glory to glory in personal holiness and Christian mission (II Corinthians 3:18).
8. The possibility of forfeiting divine grace and being lost since persons are Christians solely by their willing response to the gracious call and enabling of the Holy Spirit. However, backsliders may be restored to their forfeited state of grace if they truly repent and return to the Lord in obedient faith.

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9. The Church as the living body of Christ, constituting all who are united by faith to Him as members of His body and who are under the commandment to love one another with pure and fervent hearts. While in its spiritual essence the Church is an organism created by the Holy Spirit, it is also a divine-human institution functioning visibly on earth. As an institution, its divinely assigned mission is the universal proclamation of the Gospel. Application of the Gospel in the political, social, and economic needs of mankind is inherently proper, but secondary and subservient to its primary spiritual commission.
10. At the end of this Age, the return of Jesus Christ to gather His Church, to judge the world and to rule over all in righteousness.
11. The everlasting blessedness of all who die in Christ and the everlasting pain and loss of all others.
12. The obligation of all who are truly Christ's to live righteously, joyously, and sacrificially, to endeavor to bring salvation to all persons everywhere, and to express compassionate love in ministering to every kind of human need.

STATEMENT OF FAITH ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I have read and acknowledge my subscription to the WBS Statement of Faith as contained in the Charter and duly recorded in the records of Hinds County, Mississippi.

Signature	Date
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Ethos Statement

The members of this community are expected to evidence commitment to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord by walking in the Spirit so that they can grow in the fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:16, 22-24) as evidenced by a life of honesty, purity, respect, and concern for the welfare of others.

Members of the seminary community are also expected to abstain from the “works of the flesh” (Gal 4:19-21), such as drunkenness, unruly behavior, gossip, evil-speaking, gluttony, illegal or harmful addictive substances, occult practices, pornography, commercialized sexual entertainment, and all sexual practices outside of the marriage relationship between a man and a woman. Personal attire, appearance, and conversation should exemplify godliness in the Christian community and the world.

The seminary faculty is committed to consensual Christianity, as expressed in the ecumenical creeds, and to the evangelical and Wesleyan emphases of our statement of faith. Students from various traditions that affirm Christianity's creedal essentials will find a warm welcome and a place of academic freedom that encourages respectful, critical enquiry into both the issues that divide Christians and Christianity's interaction with the non-Christian world. The diverse denominational, racial, and national nature of the seminary community provides a wholesome environment for theological inquiry, spiritual formation, and preparation for ministry in the present world.

ETHOS STATEMENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT

As an applicant for employment with Wesley Biblical Seminary, I have read and affirm my commitment to live by the WBS Ethos statement in the event that I am offered and accept a position of employment.

Signature	Date
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