**Statement of Belief for *Absorbed in Him***

**Word of God:** The Bible was written by divinely inspired men and is God’s revelation of himself and his will to man. The Bible in its entirety is the Word of God, and as such is wholly true in everything it affirms.  The Scriptures are the unique, full and final authority on all matters of faith and practice (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20, 21; Ps. 18:30; 119:96).

**Trinity:** The Godhead exists eternally in three persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit - and that these three are one God, and are worthy of precisely the same confidence, obedience, and worship (Matt. 28:18-19, Mk. 12:29, Jn. 1:14, Acts 5:3-4).

**Creation:** God created all things and that by his sovereign power He continues to sustain His creation (Gen. 1:1; Col. 1:17).

**God, the Father:** God as Father reigns with providential care over His universe, His creatures, and the flow of the stream of human history according to the purposes of His grace. He is all powerful, all knowing, all loving, and all wise. God is Father in truth to those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. He is fatherly in His attitude toward all men (Genesis 1:1; 2:7; Psalm 19:1-3; Isaiah 43:3,15; 64:8; Romans 8:14-15; 1 Corinthians 8:6; 1 Peter 1:17; 1 John 5:7).

**Jesus, the Son of God:** Jesus Christ in the flesh was fully God and fully man, that He was born of a virgin and that He lived a sinless life, in which He taught and worked mighty works and wonders and signs as recorded in the four gospels, that He was crucified, died as a penalty for our sins and was later raised from the dead bodily on the third day.  Later, He ascended to the Father’s right hand where He is head of the church and intercedes for believers, and from whence He is coming again personally, bodily, and visibly to this earth to set up His millennial kingdom. (Heb. 1: 2; 4:15; 1 Cor. 15:3-8; Rom. 8:34; Matt. 16:27)

**The Spirit:** Holy Spirit is a person, is God and possesses all the divine attributes. He convicts the world of sin.  He indwells all believers, and baptizes and seals all believers at the moment of salvation.  He uniquely endows each believer with gifts for the building up of the body.  He guides believers in understanding and applying the Scriptures and empowers us to lead a life of Christ-like character.  (Jn. 16:7-15; Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 15:3-8; Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 4:30; Jn. 16:13, Gal. 5:22-23)

**Mankind and Sin:** Man is the special creation of God, made in His own image. He created them male and female as the crowning work of His creation. The gift of gender is thus part of the goodness of God's creation. In the beginning man was innocent of sin and was endowed by his Creator with freedom of choice. By his free choice man sinned against God and brought sin into the human race. Through the temptation of Satan man transgressed the command of God, and fell from his original innocence whereby his posterity inherit a nature and an environment inclined toward sin. All men have defied God and have chosen to go their own independent way and, thereby, stand condemned by God (Genesis 1:26-30; Romans 1:19-32; Rom. 3:23; 5.8; Eph. 2:8; Colossians 1:21-22; 3:9-11).

**Salvation:** We believe that God, by His sovereign choice and His love for mankind, sent Jesus into the world to bring people back into fellowship with God, and that this salvation, with its forgiveness of sin, is a gift, wholly a work of God’s grace, not the result of human works, and that this salvation must be personally appropriated by repentance and faith.  We believe that a true believer is eternally secure, that he cannot lose his salvation, but that sin may interrupt the joy of his fellowship with God and bring the loving discipline of his heavenly Father. Justification is God's gracious and full acquittal upon principles of His righteousness of all sinners who repent and believe in Christ. Justification brings the believer unto a relationship of peace and favor with God. Sanctification is the experience, beginning in regeneration, by which the believer is set apart to God's purposes, and is enabled to progress toward moral and spiritual maturity through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in him. Growth in grace should continue throughout the regenerate person's life. Glorification is the culmination of salvation and is the final blessed and abiding state of the redeemed and all creation (Mk. 1:15; 1 Jn 5:12-13; Jn. 10:28; Heb. 12:5-6; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:5).

For more see [The Baptist Faith and Message 2000](http://www.bible-researcher.com/baptistfaith.html).