



APPENDIX H

Axiomatic Truths

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Axiomatic Truths

A SOLID ROCK ... A FIRM FOUNDATION ... UNCHANGING AND TRUE

1. **THE HOLY SCRIPTURES**. The Bible is absolutely true; It contains no mistakes and it has no contradictions or inconsistencies. God's truth is not changed or affected by popular opinion, or by the rejection or disbelief by man. The writings of the Old and New Testaments are the very Word of God, verbally inspired in all of its parts and without error as originally given by God, as our fully sufficient and only infallible rule of faith and conduct. The canon of Scripture was closed with the Book of Revelation and we possess today an extremely accurate and reliable text. II Timothy 3:16,17; II Peter 1:20,21; John 17:17; Revelation 22:18,19.
2. **GOD**. The Godhead exists in three persons – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. These three have always existed and are one God, having the same nature, attributes and perfection. Romans 1:20; Matthew 28:19; Deuteronomy 4:35; John 17:5.
3. **JESUS CHRIST**. Jesus Christ is God. The Bible clearly establishes the deity of Jesus Christ; and Jesus Himself declared His deity. Jesus was begotten of the Holy Spirit and at the time of His condescension He was born of the Virgin Mary, truly God and truly man. John 1:1; John 1:14; Matthew 1:20; Luke 1:30, 31; Philippians 2:5-7; I Timothy 3:16; Colossians 1:19, John 5:17,22,23; 8:58; 10:25-30; 12:44-45; 14:7,9; 17:9-11; 20:28; Phil. 2:5-8; Heb. 1:8; 13:8; Rev. 1:8-17.
4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT**. The Holy Spirit is God. The Holy Spirit is the source and power for all acceptable worship and service, and is the infallible interpreter of the infallible Word of God. The Holy Spirit indwells every true believer the instant of salvation, and is ever present to testify of Christ, seeking to occupy us with Him rather than with ourselves or our experiences. The Holy Spirit is the dynamic and active Comforter, Helper, Guide and Teacher, and He convicts our conscience of our sins. Acts 9:31; John 14:16-26; 16:13; Romans 8:59,26; I John 4:1-6; John 15:26; 16:13,14; Acts 5:3,4; Acts 1:8; Romans 8:9, 26,27; I Corinthians 2:12, 14; 3:16; 12:13.
5. **THE NATURE OF MAN**. God created man (male and female) in the image and likeness of God, as recorded in the Bible; but the whole human race fell in “the Fall” of the first Adam (i.e. when Adam sinned, the consequences of sin fell upon Adam and upon the entire human race). Not only was man's moral nature grievously injured by the Fall, but all of mankind totally lost all spiritual life, becoming dead in trespasses and sins, and subject to the power of the Devil. “The carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can it be. So then, they that are in the flesh cannot please God.” (Romans 8:7,8). God declares that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). Therefore, man cannot see or enter the kingdom of God unless he or she is born again by receiving Jesus Christ as Savior, at which time he or she becomes a “new creature,” with a new spiritual nature imparted by God from above, indwelled and taught by the Holy Spirit. No degree of reformation however great, no attainment in morality however high, no culture however attractive, no humanitarian and philanthropic schemes and societies however useful, no baptism or other ordinance however administered, can make the sinner even one step closer to Heaven. Genesis 1:26,27; Romans 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3; John 3:3, 6,7; Titus 3:5.

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6. **CHRIST'S PROPITIATORY SACRIFICE.** God declares that the wages/penalty for sin is death (Romans 6:23). Man could not and cannot save himself from God's judgment for sin. Only Jesus Christ lived a perfect, sinless life, so that He did not need to sacrifice His blood for His own sins, and therefore He could shed His blood as the sacrifice for the sins of mankind. Jesus Christ became the sinner's substitute before God, and Jesus died as a propitiatory sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Jesus Christ was made a curse for the sinner, dying for the sinner's sins according to the Scriptures. No repentance, no feeling, no good resolutions, no sincere efforts, no submission to the rules and regulations of any church can add anything to the value of the precious blood sacrificially shed by Jesus Christ, or add to the merit of Christ's finished work wrought for us by Him, who tasted death for every man. Romans 5:8; I John 2:2; Hebrews 2:9; Galatians 3:13; Romans 3:22-26; 4:4,5; 6:23; Colossians 1:13,14,20,21.

7. **THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST.** Jesus Christ voluntarily allowed Himself to be arrested, mistreated, illegally tried, and then crucified upon the awful cross of Calvary. Jesus died and was buried according to the Scriptures. On the third day the crucified body of Jesus Christ was in fact resurrected. He Lives! Jesus was raised from the dead according to the Scriptures, and He ascended into Heaven where Jesus now sits at the right hand of God as the believer's high priest, intercessor and advocate. Luke 24:39; Acts 1:10,11; Romans 8:34; Ephesians 4:10; Hebrews 1:3; I John 2:1.

8. **THE ONLY MEANS OF SALVATION.** Jesus is the only way to be saved. John 14:6. The salvation Jesus Christ secured, by His death and resurrection, is received by God's grace through faith alone, and the moment a person genuinely trusts in Jesus Christ as Savior, he or she passes out of death into everlasting life, justified from all sins, accepted before the Father as a member of God's family forever, loved as Jesus Himself is loved and made one with Him. At the moment of acceptance of Christ as Savior, the Lord comes to dwell within the believer and to live out His life of holiness and power through the believer. Hebrews 9:15; John 5:24; Romans 3:28; Romans 4:3,23-25; Ephesians 1:3; John 17:23; Galatians 2:20; Galatians 4:6,7; Galatians 5:16; Acts 1:8. When a person truly believes in and receives the Lord Jesus as personal Savior that person is born from above ("born again") into the family of God, and will (without any exceptions) have eternal life (eternal security) and will (without any exceptions) be with Christ forever. John 3:16; John 6:37,44; John 10:27-29; Romans 8:35-39; Philippians 1:6; Hebrews 13:5, I John 2:19.

9. **THE CHURCH.** The true Church is composed of all those who truly believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior, i.e. all who have been "saved" and born again (i.e. "born from above"). The Church is the body and bride of Christ. Every believer, whether Jew or Gentile, is spiritually baptized into the body of Christ by the Holy spirit at the instant of salvation. Having thus become members of one another, believers are responsible to find their place in a local assembly of Bible-believing Christians for worship, instruction, edification, encouragement, and fellowship, and to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, rising above all sectarian prejudices and denominational bigotry and fervently loving one another with a pure heart. Hebrews 10:24,25; Ephesians 2:19-22; Ephesians 1:22,23; Ephesians 5:25-27,31,32; I Corinthians 12:13; Romans 12:4,5; Ephesians 4:1-3; I Corinthians 1:10; I Corinthians 13:4-8a.

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10. **THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.** The life of a Christian is to be characterized by abundant joy and peace. John 15:11; II Corinthians 8:2; Philippians 4:4; I Peter 1:8; Galatians 5:22; Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:14; Philippians 4:6-9. Christians are to do all to the glory of God. I Corinthians 10:31-32. They are to be increasingly conformed to the image of Jesus Christ, with the aim to please the Lord. Romans 8:29; II Corinthians 5:9. All believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are called into a life of separation from worldly and sinful practices, and should abstain from any activities, amusements and habits that would cause others to stumble, or bring reproach upon Jesus Christ. II Corinthians 6:17-7:1; I Thessalonians 4:7; Romans 14:19-21. Believers are created in Christ Jesus unto good works. “As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.” Galatians 6:10; I John 2:15,16; Romans 14:13; Romans 13:14; I Corinthians 10:31; Ephesians 2:10.

11. **THE CHRISTIAN'S MISSION.** The supreme mission of every believer is to glorify God and Christians are to live for that purpose. I Chronicles 16:23-28; Psalm 22:23; 34:3; 69:30; 86:9, 12; 118:28; Isaiah 42:12; 60:21; 61:3; I Corinthians 6:20; Philippians 1:11; I Peter 4:11. Every believer is called to participate in the evangelization of the world. Part of glorifying God is to preach the Gospel to every person in the world, including the evangelization of children, youth and adults of all ages. Mark 16:15; II Corinthians 5:18,19; Matthew 18:14.

12. **CHRIST IS COMING AGAIN.** The next great event is the rapture at the close of this age, when Jesus Christ will come again, down from heaven, for His bride – the Church – and the dead in Christ will rise first, then all Christians alive at that time will all be caught up together to meet the Lord Jesus Christ in the air, and to thereafter be with Christ forever. The rapture is the “blessed hope” for which every believer is to be constantly watching as an any moment possibility. Philippians 3:20; John 14:1-3; I Thessalonians 1:10; I Thessalonians 4:16, 17; I Thessalonians 5:9; Daniel 9:24-27; II Thessalonians 2:6-8; Titus 2:13; Revelation 3:10. The imminent return of Jesus Christ should cause Christians to live a holy and God-honoring life so as to be found faithful when Christ appears. II Peter 3:11-14; I John 3:2-3; Hebrews 10:25.

13. **AT THE DEATH OF A CHRISTIAN.** The souls of the “saved” (those who have trusted in Jesus Christ for salvation i.e. truly born again Christians) at death immediately pass into God's presence, and there remain in conscious bliss (no “soul sleep”) until the resurrection of the body at Christ's coming, when soul and body re-united shall be with the Lord forever in glory. That is, Christians go to heaven the instant they die and are eternally blessed and are joyfully in the presence of the Lord eternally. Luke 23:43; II Corinthians 5:8; Luke 16:22,25; Philippians 1:23; I Thessalonians 4:15-18.

14. **AT THE DEATH OF A NON-CHRISTIAN.** The souls of the “lost” (those who did NOT trust in Jesus Christ for salvation i.e. they died without Christ) at death are immediately cast into hell and are in misery until (and after) the final judgment at the great white throne, when soul and body are reunited and shall be cast “into the lake of fire,” which is the “second death,” to be “punished with everlasting destruction” outside of the presence of the Lord. That is, non-Christians go to hell the instant they die and are eternally punished. II Thessalonians 1:8,9; Luke 16:22,23,27,28; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 20:5,11-15; II Thessalonians 1:7-9.

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15. **SATAN AND SPIRITUAL WARFARE ARE REAL.** Satan is a real being, referred to in the Bible as “that old serpent,” called “the Devil” and “Satan.” Satan is the deceiver of the whole world. Satan is a liar, and the father of lies. John 8:44; Revelation 12:9; Ephesians 6:11,12; I Peter 5:8; Revelation 20:10. Satan opposes the work of God. I Thessalonians 2:18. Christians are now engaged in spiritual warfare. Ephesians 6:12. Therefore Christians should take up the whole spiritual armor of God to be able to withstand evil. Ephesians 6:10-18. Christians can and should have peace and victory in the face of the Devil and evil forces because of God’s promises that when the believer resists the Devil, the Devil shall flee, James 4:7; and that greater is the Lord within the believer, than Satan and his legions who are in the world. I John 4:4.

16. **MORE GLORIOUS TRUTHS.** The Bible is truth and is 100% true. As God’s Word the Bible answers all of the “big questions” that exist. God’s revealed truths, as recorded in the Bible, allow one to know God, to know what is right, good and moral, to know what is wrong, bad and immoral, to know how one should live, to know how to be an excellent person, to know how to be an excellent spouse, parent, child, employer, employee, friend (and all other relationships), to understand why there is suffering and wrong in the world, to know for sure what happens when one dies, to know how to have full and abiding joy, to know how to have genuine peace in one’s life and heart, to know how to be content, to know how to love, and on and on and on.

If you sincerely desire TRUTH, then I encourage you to study the Bible for yourself. Because the Bible IS TRUE and because God is alive and dynamic you can legitimately expect that as you sincerely, and honestly study the Bible, God will prove to you that His Word is true, and that all that God declares about Himself and about you is true as well.

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We live in a time when many say that truth is “relative.” That is false. Others say, “You can have your truth and I will have my truth.” That is false. Still others declare, “You are intolerant and ignorant if you say that the Bible is the only valid Scripture, or if you say that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation.” That is false. I’m so glad that God’s truth does not depend upon some public opinion poll, and that Christianity - as the only true religion - is not man-made or just the latest “flavor of the day” religion. The Bible is true. If you reject the Bible, you do so at your own eternal peril! If you accept the Bible as true, you can find genuine eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, and you can have a life with purpose, strength, fruitfulness, peace and joy.

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*Pronounced “Ray’-fee-or”