

The Primary Doctrines of The East west Community Church

East West Community Church believes that the Bible is the very Word of God and all the principles, precepts, laws, convictions and , doctrines are based on the Word of God alone. Thus the central ministry of our church is to teach the Word of God to the people of God so that they may be equipped to know, worship and serve the Lord effectively and stand firm in their faith. It is our desire that people give pre-eminence to the Word of God in studying and teaching to others.

The following are the primary doctrines of the Christian faith and reflect the heart of the teaching of our Church:

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The Doctrine of the Holy Scriptures

According to 2 Timothy 3:16-17, "All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." We teach that Bible is the written revelation of God and that both the Old and New Testament are given through plenary (whole) and verbal (down to its very choice of words) inspiration by the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:7-14; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21).

The Word of God is very precious to us. God gave us with a purpose so that we can be mature in Him. We cannot fight against Satan without the Word of God. In this world, there are people who made rules and regulations to live, but they failed to follow them because the Spirit of the Living God is absent. We teach that the Bible is without errors, contradictions and, mistakes.

The Word of God is given for reproof, for correction for instruction in righteousness; If we need to be corrected in our understanding, only the Word of God can help us. WE need to know the standard of our righteousness that we can only understand from the word of God. Jesus Christ is our righteousness. He is a person, not an idea, as many people consider Him. If we want to have right relationship with the Lord, we need to read the word of God and walk accordingly. No one can correct with His ideas, but only the Word of God can help us to correct others and ourselves. If we need the proof, only the Word of God is the authentic book.

The Bible bears witness to one God who is consistent with Him and with the revelation concerning Him. The Bible is sufficient to be the sole guide for life and conduct (Mathew 5:18, 24:35; John 10:35, 16:12-13, 17:17; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20-21, 3:15-16).

The Doctrine of God

There is only one living and true God (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 45:5-7). We believe that He is perfect in all His attributes and characteristics. He eternally exists in three persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Psalm 139:8; Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14) each equally deserving the same worship and obedience (Acts 17:24-29; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Revelation 19:10)

God the Father

We believe that God the Father is the first Person of the Trinity, orders and disposes all things according to His own purpose and grace (Psalm 145:8,9; 1 Corinthians 8:6). He is the creator of all things (Genesis 1:1-31) and as the absolute and highest ruler of the universe: He is sovereign in creation, providence and, redemption (Job 1:6; Psalm 103:9; Romans 11:33).

We believe that He has graciously chosen from all eternity those whom He would have as His own (Ephesians 1:3-6); and that He saves from sin those who come to Him through Jesus Christ, relating Himself to His own their Father (John 1:12,18), Ephesians 1:3-6, 2:1-10; Hebrews 12:5-9).

We believe that throughout the Bible various attributes (qualities or characteristics) of God are described which includes but are not limited to; Holiness (Exodus 15:11; Psalm 99:9), Righteousness (Isaiah 43:13, 44:6), Immutability (Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 6:17-18), Omniscience (Job 34:21; Psalm 139:1-6), Omnipresence (Psalm 139:7-12; Proverbs 15:3), Omnipotence (Jeremiah 32:17; Revelation 19:6), Love (John 3:16; Romans 5:8), Truth (Psalm 31:5; 117:2), and Mercy (Psalm 130:3-4; 145:8-9).

God the Son

We believe that Jesus Christ, the second Person of the Trinity, is fully divine and fully man. He is eternal and equal to the Father (John 10:27-30; 14:9). We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ was born of virgin (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:25; Luke 1:26-35). God became man (John 1:1,3,14,18; 1 John 1:3) to reveal the True and living God to men, to redeem those who believe in God and believe that God sent Him, and to establish the Kingdom of Heaven on earth (Psalm 2:7-9; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:29; Hebrew 7:26; 1 Peter 1:19, 2:22; Hebrew 1:2-3). "Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after He has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet." (1 Corinthians 15:24)

We believe that in the incarnation Jesus Christ, divine nature of Christ was combined with a human nature in an eternal union, and so He became the God-Man (Philippians 2:5-8) with a fusion of humanity and deity into an indivisible oneness (Micah 5:2; John 14:9-10; Colossians 2:9; 1 John 5:20; Jude 25).

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross for the redemption of humankind, and that His death was voluntary, vicarious, substitutionary, propitiatory, and redemptive (Romans 3:25, 5:8; 1 Peter 2:24). We believe that Jesus Christ was physically resurrected from the dead, which confirms His deity and the acceptance of His atoning work on the cross, which at the same time guaranteeing that all believers in Christ will one day be bodily resurrected. On basis of His death and resurrection, the believing sinner is freed from the punishment, the penalty and, the power. He has made them righteous, given eternal life, and made them the part of the family of God (John 10:15; Romans 3:25, 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; 1 Peter 2:24, 3:18). It is by believing in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, men can receive salvation (John 14:6; Acts 4:12). He presently is at the right hand of the Father where

He is ministering as our Advocate and High Priest (Mathew 28:6; Luke 24:38-39; John 5:28-29, 14:19, Acts 2:30-31; Romans 1:4, 4:25, 6:5-10; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, 20,23).

We believe in various attributes of Jesus Christ which are described in the Word of God, but are not limited to: Holiness (Acts 3:14-15), Righteousness and Justice (Acts 3:14), Sovereignty (Mathew 28:18), Eternality (1 John 1:1-2), Immutability (Hebrew 13:8), Omniscience (Colossians 2:2b-3), Perfection/Sinless (2 Corinthians 5:21), Love (1 John 3:16), Truth (John 14:6), and Mercy (Mathew 15:32).

God the Holy Spirit

We believe that God the Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity, is divine Person {possessing emotions (Ephesians 4:30), intellect (1 Corinthians 2: 10-13), and a will (1 Corinthians 12:11)} Eternal, possessing all the divine excellences. He is equal and eternal with the Father and the Son {Acts 5:3-4, compare Jeremiah 31:31-34 with Hebrew 10: 15-17}. We recognize His sovereign activity in creation (Genesis 1:2), the incarnation (Mathew 1:18), the writing of the Bible (2 Peter 1:20-21) and the work of salvation (John 3:5-7).

We believe that then Holy Spirit was sent by the Father at the time of Pentecost as promised by Christ (John 14:16-17, 15:26), to initiate and complete the building of the Body of Christ, which is His church (1 Corinthians 12:13). The broad scope of His divine activity includes convicting the world of sin, righteousness and judgment, and glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ by transforming believers into Christ likeness (John 16:7-9; Acts 1:5, 2:4; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Ephesians 2:22). He is the supernatural and sovereign agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13) and indwelling, instructing, and empowering them for service, and sealing them until the day of redemption (John 16:18; Roman 8:9; 2 Corinthians 3:6; Ephesians 1:13).

We Believe that the Holy Spirit alone administers spiritual gifts to the Church for the purpose of glorifying God and implementing His work of redeeming the lost and building up believers in the faith (John 16:13-14; Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; 2 Corinthians 3:18). The Holy Spirit is described which includes but are not limited to: Holiness (Acts 5:3-4), Eternality (Hebrew 9:14), Omniscience (Isaiah 40:13-14), Omnipresence (Psalm 139:7), and Truth (John 16:13, 5:7).

The Doctrine of Man

We believe that the Triune God in His image and likeness created man. Man was created free of sin, personal, rational and moral being. God gave him intelligence, volition, self-determination, and moral responsibility (Genesis 2:25-26); 1 Thessalonians 5:23; James 3:9). Man possessed the elements of personality similar to those of the divine Person. He was placed in sovereignty over the earth, crowned with glory and honor (Ps.8: 5-8), yet subject to God his creator. The purpose of man's creation was he should glorify God, enjoy the fellowship of God in obedience, live his life in the will of God, and by this accomplish God's purpose for the man in the world (Isaiah 43:7; Colossians 1:16; Revelation 4:11).

We believe that sin entered, which is rebellion against the will of God and Adam was separated from God (Genesis 3:8-10) and lost sovereignty over the earth. Man lost his innocence; and He died spiritually and faces the physical death., because wages of sin is death (Genesis 2:16-17; John 3:36; Romans 3:23, 6:23). We believe that Adam was a representative of all man, and all have to face the consequence of that sin. With Jesus Christ being the only exception. Thus all men are sinners by divine declaration, by nature, and choice (Psalm 14:1-3; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3: 9-18,23,5:10-12; 1 Timothy 2:13-14; James 2:10; 1 John 1:8).

After the fall of man, the goal of God is to restore sinning man to His likeness, fellowship and dominion (Romans 8:29; Revelation 21:3; 20:6; 22:5). We believe that, apart from Christ's redemptive work, man is under the judgment of God and hopelessly and totally separated from God, spiritually dead in his own sin, hostile to God, blinded by Satan and held captive to do his will, powerless to overcome sin's hold on his life, unable to understand the things of God, unable to please God, unable to walk in God's way, and incapable of living a spiritually fruitful and meaningful life (Isaiah 55:8-9; John 8:34, 15:4-6, Romans 1:28-32; 3:9-12, 23, 5:12, 6:16, 23, 8:7-8; 1 Corinthians 2:14; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4; Galatians 2:16, 5:19-21; Ephesians 2:1-3, 5, 11-12, Colossians 1:21, 2:13; 2 Timothy 1:9, 2:24-26; Titus 3:5-7; Hebrew 11:6; 2 Peter 2:19).

The Doctrine of Salvation

We teach that the man was directly and immediately created by God; in His image and likeness. Man was free of sin with a rational nature, intelligence, volition, self-determination, and moral responsibility (Genesis 2:25-26); 1 Thessalonians 5:23; James 3:9). The purpose of man's creation was the divine intention that he should glorify God, enjoy God's fellowship, live his life in the will of God, and by this accomplish God's purpose for the man in the world (Isaiah 43:7; Colossians 1:16; Revelation 4:11).

We teach that in Adam's sin of disobedience to the revealed will and word of God, man lost his innocence; incurring the plenty of spiritual and physical death; became subject to the wrath of God; and became inherently corrupt and utterly incapable of choosing or doing that which is acceptable and pleasing to God (Genesis 2:16-17; John 3:36; Romans 3:23, 6:23).

We teach that Adam was a representative of all man, and that the consequence of that sin has been imputed (transmitted) to all men of all ages, with Jesus Christ being the only exception. Thus all men are sinners by divine declaration, by nature, and choice (Psalm 14:1-3; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3: 9-18, 5:10-12; 1 Timothy 2:13-14; James 2:10; 1 John 1:8).

We teach that, apart from Christ's redemptive work, man is under the judgment of God and hopelessly and totally separated from God, spiritually dead in his own sin, hostile to God, blinded by Satan and held captive to do his will, powerless to overcome sin's hold on his life, unable to understand the things of God, unable to please God, unable to walk in God's way, and incapable of living a spiritually fruitful and meaningful life (Isaiah 55:8-9; John 8:34, 15:4-6, Romans 1:28-32; 3:9-12, 23, 5:12, 6:16, 23, 8:7-8; 1 Corinthians 2:14; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4; Galatians 2:16, 5:19-21; Ephesians 2:1-3, 5, 11-12, Colossians 1:21, 2:13; 2 Timothy 1:9, 2:24-26; Titus 3:5-7; Hebrew 11:6; 2 Peter 2:19).

The Doctrine of the Church

We teach that salvation from the curse of sin and the judgment of God is wholly by the grace of God, through the redemption provided by the shed blood of Jesus Christ not on the basis of human merit, works or by any other name under heaven (John 1:12, 14:6; Acts 4:12; Ephesians 1:7, 2:8-10; 1 Peter 1:18-19).

Election – We teach that election is the act of God by which, before the foundation of the world. He chose in Christ those whom HE graciously regenerates, saves and sanctifies. (Mark 13:27; Romans 8:28-33; Ephesians 1:4-11; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 2:10; 1 Peter 1:1-2).

Justification – We teach that justification before God is an act of God by which HE declares righteous those who believe in Christ (Romans 8:33). This righteous is apart from any virtue or work of man

(Romans 3:20), and involves the imputation of our sins to Christ (Colossians 2:14; 1 Peter 3:18) and the imputation of Christ's righteousness to us (Romans 4:6; 1 Corinthians 1:30). By this means God is enabled to "be just, and the justifier of the one who has faith in Christ" (Romans 3:26, 4:3-5).

Sanctification – WE teach that every believer is sanctified (set apart) to God by the death of the Lord Jesus Christ. Every believer is, therefore, declared to be holy and identified as a saint (Acts 20:32; 1 Corinthians 1:30, 6:11). By the work of the Holy Spirit an experienced sanctification takes place, by which the state of the believer is progressively brought closer to the standing the believer enjoys through justification. By obedience to the Word of God and the empowering of the Holy Spirit, the believer is able to live a life of increasing holiness in conformity to the will of God, becoming more and more like the Lord Jesus as the Holy Spirit provides victory over sin (John 17:17,19; Romans 6:1-22; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Ephesians 5:26; Galatians 5:16-25; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-4, 5:23).

Security – We teach that all the redeemed once saved are kept by God's power and thus are secure in Christ forever (John 5:24, 6:37-50, 10:27-30, 17:15-20; Romans 5:9-10, 8:1, 31-39; 1 Corinthians 1:4-8; Ephesians 4:30; Hebrews 7:24, 13:5; 1 Peter 1:5; Jude 24). However, believers must never take advantage of their salvation by using Christians liberty as an occasion for sinful living (Romans 6:15-22, 13:13-14, Galatians 5:13, 25-26; Titus 2:11-15).

Perseverance – We teach that all of those truly redeemed by God, through Christ, will persevere in their faith and good works until death or the return of Christ (Luke 8:15). While works are not able to save, they do reveal the reality of salvation as believers are commanded to bear fruit in keeping with their salvation (Matthew 3:8; John 15:1-11; James 2:17-26).

The Doctrine of Last Things

Death – We teach that physical death involves no loss of our material consciousness (Matthew 10:28; Revelation 6:9-11), that the soul of the redeemed passes immediately into the presence of Christ (Luke 23:43; Philippians 1:23), that there is a separation of soul and body (Philippians 1:21-24), and that such separation will continue until the first resurrection (Revelation 20:4-6), when spirit, soul and body will be united to be glorified forever with the Lord (Philippians 3:21; 1 Corinthians 15:35-44; 50-54; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17). Until that time, the souls of the redeemed in Christ remain in joyful fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:8). We teach the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life (Romans 8:10-11, 19:23; 2 Corinthians 4:14), and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment (Daniel 12:2; John 5:29; Revelation 20:6, 13-15).

The Rapture of the Church – We teach the personal, bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:16, Titus 2:11-13) to receive His Church from this earth (John 14:1-3; 1 Corinthians 15:51-53; 1 Thessalonians 4:15- 5:11), and to reward believers according to their works (1 Corinthians 3:11-15; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

Eternity – We teach that the saved will enter the eternal state of glory with God; that the elements of this earth are to be "dissolved" (2 Peter 3:10) and replaced with a new earth where only righteousness dwells (Ephesians 5:5; Revelation 20:15, 21-22), and that the heavenly city that comes down out of heaven (Revelation 21:2) is to be the dwelling place of the saints, where they will enjoy fellowship with God and with one another forever (John 17:3; Ephesians 2:11-16; Revelation 21 and 22).

We teach that the unsaved descend into Hades (Job 3:11-19), where they are kept under punishment until the second resurrection (Luke 16:19-26; Revelation 20:1-15), when the soul and resurrected body are united (John 5:28-29). They shall then appear at the Great White Throne judgment (Revelation 20:11-15) and shall be cast into lake of fire (Mathew 25:41-46), cut off from the life of God forever (Daniel 12:2; Mathew 25:41-46; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9).