

Our Beliefs

All scripture is given by inspiration of God,
and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction,
for instruction in righteousness

2 Timothy 3:16

We at **Blow the Trumpet** believe that God's word admonishes all His people to be ready always to give an answer of the hope that lies within them. Our work and those who support it proclaim that hope based on God's inspired word. This hope is expressed in the doctrines taught in scripture and affirmed by the obedience of all those God has called according to His purpose.

Below is a statement of beliefs that reflects the primary doctrines espoused by **Blow the Trumpet**. It is not the intent of this statement to defend these beliefs but rather to express them without ambiguity or uncertainty.

The Bible

We believe the Bible is God's instruction book for mankind and that all scripture is given by divine inspiration (God-breathed). Furthermore, we believe that no scripture is of private interpretation but that the Bible interprets itself. However, we do accept the fact that God inspires a greater level of scriptural understanding to those who submit to Him and are led by His spirit.

See: 2 Timothy 3:16; Daniel 12:8-9; Amos 3:7; 2 Peter 1:20-21

God

We believe that God is the eternal King of the universe. As King, He is not only the sustainer of all that exists but also the governor of its very destiny. Furthermore, we believe God resides in a spiritual dimension (Heaven) where His will is performed continually. The scriptures declare that God is eternal in existence and infinite in power, righteousness and love. We fully believe that declaration. Furthermore, we believe that God is spirit and those who worship Him must do so in spirit and in truth.

We also believe that God has an extraordinary plan that will culminate with His children becoming literal members of His family. At that time, those He has called according to His purpose will be given perfect righteous character and be comprised of spirit, just as He is. We believe that this is the ultimate destiny of all who yield to Him.

Blow the Trumpet and its supporters do not embrace the doctrine of the trinity. We believe God is a family currently consisting of God the Father and Jesus Christ, His Son. However, this family will one day include all those who have surrendered their will to the Father.

See: Revelation 4; Psalm 90:2; 99:9; 106:5; Jeremiah 32:17; John 4:24; 1:1-4; 5:26;
Acts 17:24-26, 28; Isaiah 40:22-28; Isaiah 46:9-10; 1 John 4:8,16; Eph.3:15

Jesus

We believe Jesus is the Son of God and has eternally existed. It is through Him God created all things and nothing has been created that was not fashioned by Him. We believe that Jesus was the God of the Old Testament and that all authority has been given to Him by the Father.

Furthermore, we believe Jesus has many titles that dramatically declare who He is. These titles include Savior, Redeemer, Mediator, the Word of God, High Priest, and Advocate, to name a few. We also acknowledge Jesus as King in our life.

We believe that as the Savior of the world Jesus demonstrated the supreme act of love in giving His life as a ransom for the sins of all mankind. We further believe that He is not only our redeemer, but is also the author and finisher of our salvation, that He was crucified and buried and on the third day rose again from the dead.

We believe Jesus currently resides in the third heaven where He sits at the right hand of God the Father, and that He will return to this earth as King of kings and Lord of lords. We also believe that Jesus is the active head of His church as well as the head of every individual who sincerely yields to Him.

See: Hebrews 1:2; 7:1-3; Revelation 11:15; 19:13; John 1:1-4; 6:63; Romans 8:14; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 1:20-22; 3:9; Colossians 1:16; 1 Timothy 2:5

The Holy Spirit

We believe that all Christians are exhorted to have the mind of Christ. That mind is imparted by the Holy Spirit. God's spirit reflects His virtue, His wisdom and His power and is given in measure to those who are converted and baptized.

We believe God's spirit empowers His children with the strength, courage, wisdom, and knowledge of His will. Furthermore, we believe that Jesus promised to make that Spirit available on the eve of His death and that He fulfilled that promise on the Day of Pentecost less than two months later. We believe God's Holy Spirit is the dynamic and personal presence of God in the lives of those who yield to Him and His law.

See: Exodus 31:2; Daniel 5:13-14; John 3:8; 14:15-20; 16:7,13; 1 Corinthians 2:9-16; Acts 2; 4:31; Philippians 2:5

The Gospel

We believe the gospel is a warning to mankind regarding this world's defiance to God as well as an announcement to mankind that God will make good on His promise to restore order to this earth. That promise will be fulfilled when Jesus Christ returns to earth in power and glory to subdue the nations. At that time God's Great Kingdom will be established and a system based on six thousand years of human mismanagement will be destroyed.

We believe this gospel was powerfully proclaimed two thousand years ago by Jesus Christ, the King of that Kingdom. Additionally, we believe the gospel was preached by the apostles during the first century, as well as God's servants down through the ages. The culmination of this message will take place at the very end of the age – a time which is rapidly approaching.

Furthermore, we believe that the preaching of the gospel is one of the commissions given to God's church and that Jesus Christ indicated that His coming was predicated on this warning being proclaimed as a witness to all nations.

See: Mark 1:14-15; Matthew 24:14; Luke 9:1-2; Luke 10:9;
Acts 8:12; 20:25; 28:30-31; Mark 16:15

The Kingdom

We believe the Kingdom of God is a literal realm that will be established on earth. It will be presided over by Jesus Christ and His saints. At that time, God's word will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea and all will come to know the Eternal. This Kingdom will reflect a period of great peace and prosperity in which God will put a new spirit in its citizens and write His law upon their hearts.

We believe the Bible provides a glimpse into that kingdom; it describes its cities, its government, its language, its economy, and its faith. The most notable features about this kingdom are that its citizens will be both physically and spiritually whole, that peace will be in abundance, that God's word will radiate throughout it, and that sorrow and sighing will flee away. We pray for that Kingdom to come.

See: Revelation 11:15-19; Micah 4:1-4; Daniel 7:18, 22; Revelation 1:6;
Isaiah 2:4; 32:18; 35:5-6, 10, 11:6-9; Zechariah 8:4-5; Jeremiah 33:10-11

Sin

We believe that sin is the transgression of God's immutable law and that the consequence of sin is eternal death. Furthermore, we believe that God hates sin and that sin actually separates us from Him.

It is our absolute belief, based on God's word, that all have sinned and come short of God's glory. However, we also believe that God has provided a plan in which the penalty of sin has been paid by Jesus Christ, thus making salvation and entrance into God's Kingdom available to all who would claim that sacrifice and yield to God's will in their lives.

See: 1 John 3:4; Romans 3:23; 6:23; Isaiah 59:1-2;
Titus 2:14; Hebrews 1:3; Ezekiel 18:4, 20

Born Again

We believe being born again is a process that begins upon receipt of God's Holy Spirit (a form of conception) and culminates at the resurrection when God's children will be literally born as incorruptible spirit beings and members of His family. At that time, His children will fully partake of His divine nature and be like Him. We believe this birth takes place at the last trump when the dead in Christ shall be raised incorruptible.

Furthermore, we believe that it is impossible to enter God's Kingdom without being born into it. We believe that Jesus Christ spoke of this process and clearly indicated that if a man does not experience this birth, he cannot even see the Kingdom.

See: John 3:1-8; 1 Corinthians 13:12; 15:50-52; 1 John 3: 1-2;
Philippians 3:21; Psalms 17:15; 2 Peter 1:3-4; 1 John 3:9

The Sabbath

We believe the Sabbath (Friday evening to Saturday evening) is a gift from God and an identifying sign of His children. Furthermore, we believe the Sabbath was made by God on the seventh day of creation, and at that time, God sanctified it. We believe that the Sabbath was made a formal command to the children of Israel on Mount Sinai and that the commandment was personally written by God Himself. It is our steadfast belief that the Sabbath pictures a time when Jesus Christ will reign on earth as its God-King. At that time He will free a world from the slavery it has experienced since the Adam and Eve rejected Him in the Garden of Eden.

Blow the Trumpet is in full agreement with the scriptures which assert that the Sabbath was practiced by God's people in the Old Testament, by Jesus and His apostles in the New Testament, and by Paul and the first century church, including gentile churches. We are also thoroughly convinced that the command to "remember the Sabbath and keep it holy" is alive and well today. Additionally, we believe that Jesus Christ is the Lord of the Sabbath and that the Sabbath will be kept when He establishes His millennial Kingdom on this earth.

See: Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11; 31:13-18; Mark 2:27;
Acts 13:42; 17:2; 18:4; Isaiah 66:23

Holy Days

We believe that God has created seven annual Holy Days and has instructed His children to assemble on these days as well as on His weekly Sabbath. We believe that these days are prophetic in nature and picture God's plan of salvation for all mankind.

Additionally, we believe that God has instructed His children to appear before Him on His feasts and that these days teach His people to reverence Him. Furthermore, we believe that God's festivals are a time of great rejoicing and we consider them to be a tremendous blessing. We also believe the scriptures clearly demonstrate that the Feasts of the Eternal were kept by the children of Israel, by Jesus and His apostles, by Paul and the New Testament church, and will be kept by all mankind during the Millennium.

See: Leviticus 23; Colossians 2:16-17; Exodus 34:18-22; Deuteronomy 16:3-17;
Ezra 6:22; Acts 18:21; 20:6; 1 Corinthians 5:7; Zechariah 14:16-19

Salvation

We believe that salvation is a process that begins with repentance and culminates with entrance into God's Kingdom. Furthermore, we believe salvation is a gift from God and cannot be earned.

However, we also understand that this precious gift is conditional and that God will not give it to anyone who would hold it in contempt. We believe it will be extended only to those who turn from sin, accept God's authority in their lives, and claim the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. We further believe that it is God's will that all would come to repentance, claim that gift, and that none would be lost.

See: Ephesians 2:8-9; Hebrews 10:29; Acts 2:37-40, 4:10-12; Romans 6:23;
2 Peter 3:9; 1 Timothy 2:3-4; John 6:40; Titus 2:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:9-10

Repentance

We believe that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Furthermore, we recognize that our trespasses separate us from our Creator and that the ultimate result of sin is eternal death. However, we also understand that sin can be repented of and forgiven. Furthermore, we acknowledge that true repentance involves a change of mind and heart. Finally, we recognize that when one truly repents, he or she should not look backward at the sin of their past, but rather forward to living a righteous life with the help of a loving God.

See: Romans 3:23, 6:23; Isaiah 55:7; 59:2; Acts 2:38; Luke 13:1-9;
Jeremiah 3:13-15; Joel 2:13; Ezekiel 14:6, 33:11, 14-16

Tithing

We believe God has a prior claim of ownership on everything we possess. Tithing is a way we acknowledge that fact. We further believe that the practice of tithing was commanded by God in the Old Testament and affirmed by Jesus Christ in the New Testament. Additionally, we believe that failure to honor this command constitutes an act of theft and is warned against in scripture.

We believe it is important to understand that tithing is an expression of faith toward God and a statement of what His children place as most important in their lives. Furthermore, we believe God has promised to bless those who faithfully tithe and that He has even challenged His children to test this promise.

See: Haggai 2:8; Leviticus 27:30-34; Genesis 14:17-20, 28:20-22;
1 Samuel 8:15; Malachi 3:8-10; Matthew 23:23

Laying On of Hands

We believe that the laying on of hands was designed by God to convey a special blessing upon His people. It was practiced in both the Old and New Testaments by God's servants. This act is a formal recognition that God is the source of all blessings. It is through it that God's people appeal to Him to work directly in the life of the one on whom hands are laid. God's blessing has been sought through this practice at baptisms, marriages, ordinations, and healings.

See: Genesis 48:14; Acts 6:6; 8:17; 19:6; 28:8; 1 Timothy 5:22;
Mark 5:23; 6:5; 16:18; James 5:14

The Resurrection

We believe that man is mortal and that upon his death his thoughts perish. However, we also understand that man's Creator has provided a way for him to live again. That way is through a resurrection. We believe that all who are in the grave will one day be restored to life as a part of a great plan God has for the human family. **Blow the Trumpet** believes the Bible clearly describes three resurrections.

The **first resurrection** is reserved for those whom God has called in this life and have surrendered to His authority. We believe the scriptures declare that this is a resurrection to which all Christians should attain. It is the culmination of a process that involves true repentance and conversion and an acknowledgment that Jesus Christ is sovereign. This resurrection will take place at the last trump in which the dead shall rise and take on incorruption. At that time, these first fruits shall be a part of God's family for all eternity.

The **second resurrection** is for all those who have not been converted in this life. This resurrection, which will take place at the conclusion of the Millennium, will enable the billions of people who never knew the true God to learn of Him and His way and to decide whether or not to submit to His authority.

This is a physical resurrection in which those who are in the grave shall be made mortal -- comprised of flesh and blood and bone.

The **third resurrection** is reserved for all of those who are not a part of the first resurrection. This would include those who lived during the Millennium as well as those who lived during the second resurrection. During the third resurrection, these people will appear before Christ for final judgment. Some will inherit eternal life while others will be cast into a lake of fire and experience the second death. Those who are a part of the latter group suffer this fate because they refused to repent and submit to God's authority.

See: Isaiah 26:19; Ezekiel 37; Hebrews 11:35; John 5:28; Luke 14:14;
Revelation 20:4-6, 10, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 15:35-56; 1 Thessalonians 4:16

Eternal Judgment

We believe that God is a merciful and just God and that His judgment is perfectly righteous and unimpeachable, even by those who are found guilty. Furthermore, we believe that every work will come into judgment and that ultimately, the end result of God's verdict on all people is either eternal life with Him or eternal death. Additionally, we believe that God has appointed times of judgment regarding eternal matters. We believe that God's judgment is now upon those whom He has called in this life but that ultimately, all will appear before Him and be held accountable.

See: James 2:13; Psalms 116:5; Revelation 20:12-15; John 5:28-29;
Hebrews 9:27; Romans 14:10-11; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 Peter 4:17

Clean and Unclean Meats

We believe God has an opinion on every aspect of a Christian's life, including their diet. Furthermore, we believe God designed certain plants and animals to be consumed by man while others are to be avoided.

To this end, God created specific laws concerning clean and unclean meats. We believe that although these laws pertain to that which is physical, their purpose is profoundly spiritual. We believe that in these laws God is illustrating that He makes a distinction between the holy and the profane. By doing this, God wants man to know that we are to be holy, even as He is holy.

We believe the laws concerning clean and unclean meats were given before the flood, were restored to the congregation in the wilderness, were honored by God's people in the Old Testament, and were kept by Jesus Christ, His apostles and all of the New Testament churches.

We further believe that these laws serve a very important purpose for God's people. They are designed to be a daily reminder that God's children must make a distinction between the clean and the unclean – the holy and the profane – as it pertains to their conduct. **Blow the Trumpet** honors God's instruction concerning clean and unclean meats.

See: Genesis 7:1-5; Leviticus 11; Deuteronomy 14; Acts 10:14

Eternal Security

We believe that all Christians are admonished in God's word to earnestly contend for the faith once delivered. Additionally, we believe complacency is a mortal enemy to faith and that salvation is predicated on God's people enduring to the end.

We believe the doctrine of "once saved, always saved" is not taught anywhere in scripture. Furthermore, we believe that God's word instructs us to let no man take our crown and to not look back. We also believe the scriptures warn that salvation can be lost and that names can be removed from God's Book of Life.

See: Jude 3; 1 Corinthians 9:27; 10:12; Hebrews 6:4-6;
Revelation 3:11; 22:19; Luke 9:62

Baptism

We believe that baptism is an expression of faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This act symbolizes a Christian putting to death the works of the flesh and rising in newness of life.

We realize that Jesus Christ Himself was baptized as an example and that He commanded His disciples to do the same. We also understand that baptism was practiced in the early New Testament church and that it was done in conjunction with the laying on of hands. At that time a true Christian would receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Furthermore, it is our belief that all Christians are commanded to be baptized and that baptism is preceded by repentance. Additionally, we believe the scriptures declare that baptism is to be done by immersion.

See: Hebrews 6:2; Mark 16:15-16; John 3:22; Matthew 28:19-20;
Colossians 2:12; Romans 6:3-6; Acts 2:38; 8:12; 22:16

Works

We believe that although it is impossible for a Christian to be saved by works, they nevertheless represent a significant role in a believer's life. We believe that God is very concerned with works and that every work will ultimately come into judgment. Furthermore, we believe that although a Christian is saved by grace, he or she is rewarded according to works. We also believe that works and faith are inseparable.

See: Ecclesiastes 12:14; 1 Timothy 5:25; Revelation 2:23; 22:12;
Romans 2:6; Matthew 16:27; Hebrews 6:10

The Unpardonable Sin

We believe that although God's mercy is infinite, He has fixed His perfect will to create a "point of no return" with respect to sin. Furthermore, we believe that the Bible clearly identifies this point. We believe the consequence for the unpardonable sin is eternal death.

See: Matthew 12:31-32; Hebrews 6:4-6; 10:26; Revelation 22:19; Luke 13:1-9;
Psalm 37:9-10, 20; Isaiah 66:24; Malachi 4:1-3

Grace

We believe grace is God's divine favor on His children and is reflected in His plan of salvation. We also believe that Christians are saved by grace and not by works.

Furthermore, we believe that the sacrifice of Jesus Christ was the ultimate expression of divine grace and that God's grace begins when He calls His children to repentance and continues as He works with them so that they can become more like Him.

See: Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 2:4; 3:23-25; 5:6-8; 11:5-6;
Galatians 1:15

Faith

We believe faith is a gift of God's and that it is impossible to please Him without it. We also recognize that faith is essential to salvation and that it is made manifest by submitting to God and His will.

We understand that God has instructed His children to exercise their faith. In other words, to apply it in their everyday lives -- to "walk by it." **Blow the Trumpet** recognizes that faith comes by hearing, and hearing by God's word. Furthermore, we do not believe faith is expressed solely by emotion, but rather by action, and apart from obedience to God and yielding to His ways, faith is meaningless.

See: Hebrews 2:4;11; James 2:15-26; Ephesians 2:8; Galatians 2:16; 5:22;
Romans 1:17; 5:1-2; 2 Corinthians 5:7

Healing

We believe God has created both spiritual and physical laws. Furthermore, we believe that the breaking of His physical law (sometimes referred to as physical sin) brings upon us physical consequences, and if severe enough, could ultimately cause our death.

We believe God is a great healer and that the Bible chronicles numerous examples of His intervention in man's physical existence. In a very real sense, we believe healing is the process in which God forgives the breaking of His physical laws and removes the consequences associated with it. We believe healing is an event beyond the power of any known physical law to produce and that it is a supernatural occurrence produced by the power of God.

We also believe God has outlined specific instructions for His children when they are sick. These instructions includes asking in faith for God's intervention, calling on the elders of the church, having the elders pray over the them, and being anointed with oil.

See: Psalm 107:17; Exodus 15:26; Psalm 103:3; James 5:14-15; Matthew 9:2-7;
Luke 8:48; 18:42; Acts 14:8-10; Jeremiah 30:17