



THE SEVEN CARDINAL DOCTRINES OF CHRISTIANITY

("Cardinal" means *of basic importance; primary; main; chief*)

1. THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

This is the belief that God has no beginning or end; that He exists totally and completely within Himself, depending upon no one or nothing for His existence. God is a triune God, existing as three divine persons in one nature, co-equal and co-existent.

2. THE VIRGIN CONCEPTION AND BIRTH

This is the belief that Jesus became a human through the virgin birth. He was conceived in Mary's womb through the working of the Holy Spirit and was born as a perfectly sinless human.

3. THE DEITY OF CHRIST

This is the belief that though He was born as a human, He did not cease to be fully God. Prior to the virgin birth He was God. He continued to be God while on earth and He exists today as fully God. That He led a sinless life, performed supernatural acts and rose from the dead are proofs of His deity.

4. THE BLOOD ATONEMENT

This is the belief that Jesus Christ gave up His life as a substitutionary sacrifice to God the Father in order to redeem man from sin and its consequences. Christ's death is the only adequate means of salvation.

5. JUSTIFICATION BY FAITH ALONE

This is the belief which emphasizes salvation by faith alone in the atoning death of Jesus Christ. We believe that the salvation of an individual is a free gift of God received through repentance from sin, and faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Nothing can be added to the work of Christ as a means to salvation.

6. THE INSPIRATION AND AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE

This is the belief that the Bible is God's inspired and authoritative Word. It is without error in all its teaching, including creation, history, its own origins and salvation. Since it is God's Word, Christians are to submit to its authority, both individually and corporately, in all matters of belief and conduct.

7. THE RESURRECTION AND JUDGMENT

Jesus Christ rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and is now seated at the right hand of God. He will come again at the end of the age to judge all mankind. To the righteous He will give eternal life. To those who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be eternal separation from Him.