



By The Hand Club Statement of Faith

Since By The Hand is a faith-based organization, it is essential that volunteers understand and are in support of the By The Hand statement of faith. Also, we welcome any questions you might have regarding the statement. We believe all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are God's own written Word, given by the inspiration of God in the sense that the Holy Spirit guided holy men of old in their choice of the very words of the sacred writing; and that His divine inspiration is not in different degrees, but extends equally to all parts of these writings. We believe in the only true God, who created all things, and upholds all things by the power of His Word, in whom we live and move and have our being. We believe that the Godhead eternally exists in three distinct persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; and that these three are one God, having precisely the same nature, attributes and perfections, and worthy of precisely the same homage, confidence and obedience. We believe that by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin. We believe that man, originally created in the image and after the likeness of God, fell into sin and totally lost all spiritual life, becoming dead in trespasses and sins, and subject to the power of the devil. We believe that there is no other name under heaven whereby we must be saved than the name of Jesus Christ. We believe that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; that He was buried, and that He rose again on the third day according to the Scriptures and sat down on the right hand of God, now to appear in the presence of God for us. We believe that Christ, in the fullness of the blessings He has secured by His obedience to death, is received by faith alone, and that the moment we trust Him as our substitute and therefore our Savior, we pass out of death into everlasting life, being justified from all things, accepted before the Father according to the measure of His acceptance, loved as He is loved, and being one with Him forever. We believe in the imminent personal return of Christ to establish His kingdom. We believe that the Holy Spirit was given on the day of the Pentecost to unify all believers into one body, the church. His presence in the lives of believers is revealed by His fruit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. We believe that the Holy Spirit is the source and power of all acceptable worship and service, for which we were created, and is our abiding Comforter and Helper, that He never departs from the church nor from the feeblest of the saints, but is ever present to testify of Christ, seeking to occupy us with Him and not with ourselves. We believe that we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, remembering our responsibility to pray for all those in authority and to do good to all, especially those in the household of faith. We believe that we are called with a holy calling to walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit, and so to live in the Spirit that we should not fulfill the lusts of the flesh; but the flesh being still in us to the end of our earthly pilgrimage, needs to be kept constantly in subjection to Christ, or it will surely manifest its presence to the dishonor of His name. We believe that the church is composed of all those who are united by the Holy Spirit to the risen and ascended Son of God, and that by that same Spirit we are all baptized into one body, and are responsible in good conscience to keep that unity of the Spirit, loving one another with a pure heart, fervently. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ who is the Head over all the church, commanded His people to observe two ordinances, neither of which is a means of salvation but is an evidence of obedience and fellowship with Jesus. In neither of them has the unbeliever any part. Jesus commanded us to teach all nations, baptizing believers in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and to observe the Lord's Supper therefore proclaiming His death until He comes.