

**Report of the Biblical Doctrine and Polity Committee
to the 99th International Assembly
of the Church of God of Prophecy**

A Statement of Faith for the Church of God of Prophecy

Introduction and Rationale

“Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints” (Jude 1:3 NKJV).

Late in the fall of 2015, the General Overseer and General Presbyters asked the Biblical Doctrine and Polity Committee to write a statement of faith that would clearly and concisely express the core beliefs of the Christian faith that have been historically embraced by the Church of God of Prophecy. In the course of its writing, members of both the Biblical Doctrine and Polity Committee and the General Presbytery made contributions to the document’s content. It is important to affirm that the resulting document does not replace the doctrinal positions in *Biblical Principles, Beliefs, and Practices of the Church of God of Prophecy*. On the contrary, we continue to hold the biblical and theological truths that identify and distinguish the Church of God of Prophecy as a church within the Classical Pentecostal movement.

The *Church of God of Prophecy Statement of Faith* offers a public statement of the basic tenets of the Christian faith in clear and simple language. The beliefs stated in the document express our solidarity and commonality with Christians within the Church throughout the world, while preserving some of our theological distinctions. It does not attempt to address every biblical teaching, theological position, or practice in orthodox Christianity or the Church of God of Prophecy. Instead, we hope to offer a clear and concise statement of our faith that will introduce people of other Christian traditions, and even people of non-Christian faiths to the Church of God of Prophecy. We are convinced that our present exposure to and cooperation with other Christians, and our exposure to people of non-Christian religions make such a statement imperative.

The *Church of God of Prophecy Statement of Faith* also offers a standard, unified, and cohesive declaration of the foundational articles of our faith that can be used by ministers and churches in printed and digital media.

Our prayer is that, as members of the Church of God of Prophecy, we may continue to boldly and “earnestly contend for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.”

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Pruitt, Chairman
Elías Rodríguez, Secretary
Delroy Hall
James Kolawole

Carswell Leonard
Timothy McCaleb
Nelson Joel Torres

Statement of Faith

We believe in the Holy Trinity—one God, eternally existing in Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe in one God the Father, creator of heaven and earth, of all things seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. All things were made through Him and for Him. He is true God and true man. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and was born of the virgin Mary. He suffered, died, was buried, and on the third day He rose from the dead. He ascended to the right hand of the Father, and He will return to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who eternally proceeds from the Father. He is Teacher, Comforter, Helper, and Giver of spiritual gifts. Through Him the saving and sanctifying works of Jesus Christ are applied to the life of believers. He is the empowering Presence of God in the life of the Christian and the Church. The Father has sent His Son to baptize with the Holy Spirit. Speaking in tongues and bearing the fruit of the Spirit are New Testament signs of being filled with the Holy Spirit.

We believe that salvation is by grace through faith in the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on the cross; and that He died in our place. The believer's sins are forgiven by the shedding of His blood. We believe that healing of mind, body, soul, and spirit is available to the believer through the blood of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit.

We believe that the grace of God brings forgiveness and reconciliation to those who repent, as well as transformation in holiness, enabling them to live a Christ-like life. Sanctification is both a definite work of grace and a lifelong process of change in the believer brought by the blood of Jesus, the Word of God, and the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.

We believe in one holy, universal Church, composed of all true believers in Jesus Christ, offering fellowship and calling for service to men and women of all races, nations, cultures, and languages. We believe in the spiritual and ultimate visible unity of the Church.

We believe that the Bible—both Old and New Testaments—is the inspired Word of God. The Bible is God's revelation of Himself and His will to humankind, sufficient for instruction in salvation and daily Christian living. The Bible is the Christian's rule of faith and practice.

We believe that God will ultimately reconcile all things in heaven and earth in Christ. Therefore, we look forward to new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Note: Document, with revisions, for presentation to the 99th International Assembly, Wednesday, July 13, 2016.