

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

OF THE CHURCH OF GOD.

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Agreeable to a request of Editor of The TALENT NEWS, we herewith submit the following declaration of principles as held and maintained by the Church of God:

1st, The denominational name, or title, "The Church of God," is accepted and applied as the only "name" authorized by the scriptures of divine truth—1 Cor. i, 2; x, 32; xi, 22; xv, 9; Acts, xx, 28—

2nd—We believe in the existence of one true and living God, father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; creator of all the hosts of heaven and earth and all things therein.

3rd—We affirm our faith in the covenant and oath of God to Abraham and his seed—Gal. iii, 16-18—by virtue of which covenant is secured to Christ and they that are his at his coming—1 Cor. xv, 23—an eternal home and inheritance in the earth—Gen. xii, 1-7; xv, 18; xvii, 7-8; xxii, 17-18, Psa. cv, 8-12; xxxvii, 9-29, 34, Math. v, 5, Heb. xi, 8-9, 13, Rev. v, 9-10.

4th—We believe and affirm that by reason of the covenant and oath of God to David—Psa. lxxxix, 3-4, 34-37, Acts ii, 30—that the Lord Jesus Christ, his royal son, and heir—Jer. xxiii 5; Math. i, 1 Luke i, 32-33—will again return to this earth and restore to imperial glory, majesty and power the throne and kingdom of his father David—Acts xv, 13-16—and reign over the house of Jacob forever. Luke i, 32-33, Eze. xxxvii, 21-22, Mica iv, 7.

5th—We affirm our faith in the second personal and literal coming of our Lord Jesus Christ—John xiv, 1-3, Phil. iii, 20-21, Acts i, 11, Heb. ix, 28, Rev. xxii, 12—the resurrection of the righteous dead—Luke xx, 35-36, 1 Thess. iv, 16; the instantaneous change of the then living saints to a condition of immortality—1 Thess. iv, 17; 1 John iii, 2; Phil. iii, 21—and their entrance at that time into his kingdom—Math. xxv, 34; 2 Peter i, 11; 2 Tim. iv, 6-8.

6th—We furthermore affirm our faith in the establishment of the kingdom of God on this earth at the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ—2 Tim. iv, 1; Luke xix, 12-15, 21, 31, 34; 2 Thess. i, 4-5; James ii, 5; Dan. ii, 44; vii, 13-14, 27; Rev. xii, 10; xi, 15—and the immortalized saints will then become associated with Christ as joint-heirs and rulers with him

—2 Tim. ii, 12; 1 Cor. vi, 2; Rom. viii, 16-17; Rev. ii, 26-27—in the administration of the affairs of the government of God over all nations—Dan. ii, 35; Math. xix, 28; Luke xxii, 29-30; Dan. vii, 14; Rev. xix, 15—then shall the Lord be king over all the earth—Zech. xiv, 9;—all kings shall worship him—Psa. lxxvii, 7-11—all nations shall serve and obey him—Dan. vii, 14, 27.

7th—We affirm our belief in the fact that eternal life is the gift of God through our Lord Jesus Christ—Rom. vi, 23; John x, 27-28; 1 John ii, 25; Col. iii, 3-4—that the righteous alone will receive eternal life, or immortality as a reward of faithful continuance in well doing in the resurrection from the dead—Luke xx, 35-36; Mark x, 29-30; Rom. ii, 6-7; 1 Cor. xv, 51-54—that natural immortality is not the common lot of all mankind—Gen. ii, 7; iii, 19-24; Eze. xviii, 4; Rom. vi, 12, viii, 11; 2 Cor. iv, 11; Ps cxxxvi, 4; John iii, 36—The first man Adam did not transmit immortality to his posterity—1 Cor. xv, 45-46—but rather sin and death—Rom. v, 12; Gen. ii, 17; James i, 15; Rom. vi, 23—that immortality was brought to light or manifested by the death, burial and resurrection of Christ—John xi, 25; 2 Tim. i, 10—that Christ alone of the seed of Abraham hath immortality—1 Tim. 6-16.

8th.—That the dead from death to the resurrection are reclining in the environments of unconsciousness, and know not anything—Ecl. ix, 5-6; Job. xiv, 10-14; Psa. ciii, 4; vi, 5; lxxviii, 10-12; Ecl. iii, 19-21—that the righteous, dead and living, will be rewarded with a crown of life at the coming of the Lord and resurrection of the just—Luke xv, 14; 1 Peter v, 4; Rev. xxii, 12; 2 Tim. iv, 8—and that the wicked are reserved to the day of Judgement to be punished, 2 Peter ii, 9; 2 Thess. i, 7-10—and whatever a man soweth that shall he also reap—Gal. vi, 7-8—they shall receive the reward of their unrighteousness and shall as natural brute beasts utterly perish in their own corruption—2 Peter ii, 12-13.

9th—That immortality is offered to man as a reward upon stipulated conditions, through our Lord Jesus Christ, and never once mentioned in the Scriptures of divine truth as man being in possession of it. The true immortality is mentioned five times in all the Scriptures; in Rom. ii, 6-7, it is referred to as a condition of life to be sought for, and obtained through Christ, in 2 Tim. i, 10; it is represented as having been brought to light by the death of Christ; in 1 Tim. vi, 16, it is positively affirmed that Christ alone hath immortality in the resurrection; in