

## **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

### *Section 1*

The Downsview Baptist Church affirms its faith in the following doctrines:

### *Section 2*

**THE BIBLE:** We believe the Bible to be the complete Word of God; that the sixty-six books, as originally written, comprising the old and new testaments were verbally inspired by the Holy Spirit of God and were entirely free from error; that the Bible is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice and the true basis of Christian union.

### *Section 3*

**GOD:** We believe in one God, Creator of all, holy, sovereign, eternal, existing in three equal persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

### *Section 4*

**CHRIST:** We believe in the absolute and essential deity of Jesus Christ, in His eternal existence with the Father in preincarnate glory, in His virgin birth, sinless life, substitutionary death, bodily resurrection, triumphant ascension, editorial ministry, and personal return.

### *Section 5*

**THE HOLY SPIRIT:** We believe in the absolute and essential deity and personality of the Holy Spirit, who convicts of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment: who regenerates, sanctifies, illuminates and comforts those who believe in Jesus Christ.

### *Section 6*

**SATAN:** We believe that Satan exists as an evil personality, the originator of sin, the arch enemy of God and man.

### *Section 7*

**MAN:** We believe that man was divinely created in the image of God; that he sinned, becoming guilty before God, resulting in total depravity, thereby incurring physical and spiritual death.

### *Section 8*

**SALVATION:** We believe that salvation is by the sovereign electing grace of God; that by the appointment of the Father, Christ voluntarily suffered a vicarious, atoning, and propitiatory death; that justification is by faith alone in the all-sufficient sacrifice and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and that those whom God has effectually called shall be divinely preserved and finally perfected into the image of the Lord.

### *Section 9*

**FUTURE THINGS:** We believe in the personal, bodily and glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ; in the resurrection of the just and the unjust; in the eternal blessedness of the redeemed and in the judgment and conscious, eternal punishment of the wicked.

### *Section 10*

**THE LOCAL CHURCH:** We believe that a local church is a company of immersed believers, called out from the world, separated into the Lord Jesus, voluntarily associated for the ministry of the Word, the mutual edification of its members, the propagation of the faith and the observance of the ordinances. We believe it is a sovereign, independent body, exercising its own divinely awarded gifts, precepts and privileges under the Lordship of Christ, the Great Head of the Church. We believe that its officers are Pastors and Deacons.

### *Section 11*

**ORDINANCES:** We believe there are two ordinances for the church regularly observed in the New Testament:

**BAPTISM** which is the immersion of the believer in water, whereby he obeys Christ's command and sets forth his identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection.

**THE LORD'S SUPPER** which is the memorial wherein the believer partakes of the two elements, bread and wine, which symbolize the Lord's body and shed blood, proclaiming His death until He comes.