

FAITH.—Faith is a conviction of the intellect that God will perform all that He has promised, and an implicit trust of the heart in Christ as a personal Saviour. It includes a hearty concurrence of the will and affections with the whole plan of Salvation as revealed in the Gospel, and is a condition of justification and of cleansing from the pollution of sin, and of all subsequent Gospel blessings.

JUSTIFICATION.—Justification is an act of God, wherein He accepts as righteous the sinner, to whom is imputed the perfect righteousness of Christ, on the condition of faith alone.

PERSEVERANCE.—We believe that persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes real Christians from superficial professors. If any who have been born of God, altogether lose the grace received at regeneration, there is for them no renewal unto eternal life.

This does not mean, however, that the regenerate may not become backsliders.

SANCTIFICATION.—The Scriptures teach that Sanctification is the process by which, according to the Will of God, Christians are made partakers of His holiness; that it has its beginning in regeneration, and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, in the continual use of the appointed means—the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.—We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations, by the devout observance of all the means of Grace, both private and public, and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

A GOSPEL CHURCH.—We believe that a Church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws; and exercising the gifts, rights, and privileges invested in them by His Word; that the only scriptural officers of a church are Bishops, or Pastors, and Deacons, whose qualifications, claims, and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus. In a more general sense, the word church is used to designate all whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

BAPTISM.—This is the immersion of believers in water, into the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, in which are represented their death to the world, the washing of their souls from the pollutions of sin, their resurrection to newness of life, the burial and resurrection of Christ, their resurrection at the last day, and their engagement to serve God.