

"1. That human formulations of dogma, whether in the form of written creeds or articles of religion, are neither conducive to unity of faith nor preventive of error, and that the Holy Scriptures alone are the true standard of religious belief.

"2. That as the Bible is the inspired revelation of the Divine mind and will, to the diligent and prayerful student light may be expected to break from its pages. Nevertheless, from its devout study for ages by the best and wisest men, such light, while it may secure a richer development of its fundamental truths, will certainly never mar nor displace them.

"3. That as a denomination we are unwilling to accept the theology of any man or class of men as authoritative: nevertheless on all material points we are still in general accord with the cardinal doctrines held by the fathers of Congregationalism, holding such views, not because they held them, but because, like them, we find them in the Word of God.

"4. That, whilst we claim, we concede the free exercise of private judgment on all matters coming within the legitimate range of reason; hence every brother must be held responsible for his own distinctive opinions without compromising the opinions of his brethren. Nevertheless we rejoice in the substantial doctrinal harmony which exists amongst us.

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT.

The Congregational Churches of Canada hold—

1. That the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the inspired records of God's mind and will.

2. That there is one God, infinite in his nature and perfections, the Creator and Governor of the universe.

3. That the Father is divine, that the Son is divine, and that the Holy Spirit is divine; divine in the sense that they are one God.

4. That the Son, as the Divine Word, was in the beginning with God and was God, but that to redeem us from sin and death, in the fulness of the times, he took upon him our very nature, and in our nature suffered even unto death.

5. That by the Holy Spirit the soul is born again and sanctified.

6. That man was originally created in the divine image, but through disobedience to the command of God, fell from his first estate and involved himself in ruin.

7. That salvation has been secured through the absolute righteousness and atoning death of the Lord Jesus; that through faith in him alone can we be saved, and that a true faith will ever be followed by holiness of life.

8. That the Lord Jesus will come again to judge the quick and dead; that at the last day there will be a general resurrection; that after the judgment those who are approved of Christ shall enter on a life of everlasting blessedness, but that those who are condemned shall receive the due wages of sin, everlasting punishment.

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