



IBAA Statement of Faith
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INTRODUCTION

The International Biblical Apologetics Association (IBAA) is steadfast in its mission to uphold, defend, and proclaim the truth of God's Word. Our statement of faith, a reflection of this unwavering commitment, guides our beliefs and practices. We affirm the following beliefs as central to our faith and practice:

THE BIBLE AND ITS INTERPRETATION

We affirm that the Bible is God's inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word, given through prophets and apostles under divine inspiration. The Scriptures, the ultimate authority in all matters of faith and practice, have been miraculously preserved by God throughout history. Complete and unchanging, the Bible is a rock of stability in a changing world, providing a firm foundation for our faith and allowing no room for additional revelation or alteration. All the historical events and miracles described in the Bible took place literally. The Bible is free of contradictions or scientific errors. We believe in Bible prophecy and its enduring relevance, connecting us to the past and guiding us towards the future. We commit to the literal grammatical-historical exegesis of the biblical text. Contextual study of Scripture is essential to rightly dividing the whole counsel of God. We should value and explore the Jewish roots of the Christian faith.

Scripture References: John 17:17; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:16, 17; Hebrews 4:12, 13; Revelation 22:18, 19.

GOD

We believe in YHWH, our One God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Who eternally exists as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each person is fully God, co-equal and co-eternal, yet distinct in function. God, in His sovereignty, is all-powerful, all-knowing, and ever-present. YHWH is the Creator of all things, having spoken the universe into existence in six literal days, with no gaps between them.

Scripture References: Genesis 1:1; Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 40:28, 29; Matthew 28:19, 20.

JESUS CHRIST

We affirm that Messiah Yeshua (Jesus Christ) is the eternal Word of God and Son of God, fully God and fully man (Immanuel). Yeshua was born of a virgin, lived a life untainted by sin, and died on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for humanity's sins. He rose bodily from the grave on

the third day, ascended to Heaven, and will return bodily and visibly to judge the world and establish His kingdom.

Scripture References: Isaiah 7:14; 52:13—53:12; Matthew 1:20—23; Luke 1:35; John 1:1—18; 14:6; Acts 1:11; 1 Corinthians 15:3, 4; 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the third person of the One God of Israel. The Holy Spirit, in His divine grace, indwells each believer at the moment of salvation, personally guiding them into truth and bestowing spiritual gifts. The Holy Spirit distributes these gifts to each believer as He wills, sealing them until the day of redemption.

We believe God empowers believers to preach the Gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit. We affirm that God works miracles and wonders according to His will. However, we must be vigilant and discern the spirits, guarding against false teachers, false prophets, and counterfeit supernatural phenomena, to ensure the purity of our faith.

Scripture References: Isaiah 11:2; 1 John 4:1—4; John 14:26; Romans 15:13; 1 Corinthians 12:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:21.

MANKIND

We affirm that mankind was created in God's image on the sixth literal Day of Creation. Humanity fell into sin through Adam and Eve's disobedience, bringing spiritual and physical death and separation from God. Every person is born with a sinful nature and is in need of salvation. While humans bear God's image and believers are invited to share in His divine nature, we are not gods.

Scripture References: Genesis 1:26—28; 3:1—13; Romans 5:12.

SIN & SALVATION

Sin is lawlessness against God's holiness and righteousness. All have sinned and fallen short of His glory. Our good works do not earn salvation but it is a gift of grace through faith in Messiah Yeshua alone. Christ's substitutionary death and resurrection provide the only means of reconciliation with God. The Holy One of Israel writes His laws on the hearts of God's people. Yeshua taught, "If you love me, keep my commandments." Faith without works is dead. While eternal salvation cannot be "lost" (as this terminology is not used in Scripture), the Bible strongly warns believers against apostasy.

Scripture References: Jeremiah 31:31—34; Matthew 7:21—23; John 3:16; 14:15; Romans 3:23; Ephesians 2:8, 9; James 2:14—26; Hebrews 5:9; 6:4—6; 10:26—29.

ANGELS & SATAN

We believe in the reality of angels as God's messengers and servants. Satan, a fallen spirit, led a rebellion against God and seeks to deceive and destroy. Believers must fight in spiritual battle against Satan and his demonic powers. Ultimately, Satan and his followers will be cast into the Lake of Fire.

Scripture References: Hebrews 13:2; Ephesians 6:12; 1 Peter 5:8, 9; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Revelation 20:10; 21:8.

THE CHURCH

The local Church is a body of baptized believers who gather for worship, edification, and the gospel's spread. It is to be holy, set apart, and governed under Christ's authority. Jewish believers, or Messianic Jews, belong to the universal Church and the physical remnant of Israel. Believers from other nations also belong to the Universal Church. Jewish and Gentile believers are equal heirs of divine promises and blessings, ensuring everyone is included and valued in the Church. We recognize and deeply value the rich Jewish traditions (those that do not contradict God's Word), allowing Messianic Jews to associate themselves with their people, live a recognizable Jewish life, and celebrate the feasts of the Lord by the biblical calendar.

Scripture References: Matthew 28:19; Romans 11:1–5; Ephesians 2:1–12; Galatians 3:26–29; Colossians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 12; 1 Peter 1:15.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper, a memorial ordinance instituted by Christ, signifies His body and blood given for our redemption. Believers observe it in remembrance of Yeshua's sacrifice and anticipation of His return. Yeshua established this ordinance during the Passover, using unleavened bread and wine. The cup of blessing signifies the communion of the blood of Christ, and the bread signifies the communion of the body of Christ. Those elements do not transform into Christ's literal body and blood.

Scripture References: Matthew 26:26–29; 1 Corinthians 10:16; 11:23–26.

BAPTISM

Baptism by full immersion is an act of obedience symbolizing faith in Christ. Baptism is an important step of faith, but it cannot save.

Scripture References: Matthew 28:18–20; Mark 16:16; Romans 6:4.

END TIMES

We generally affirm a premillennial eschatology. We believe in the literal second coming of the Messiah Yeshua from heaven to judge the wicked, resurrect the dead and transform the believers, redeem the Jewish people, and establish His millennial reign with Jerusalem as the capital city. Afterward, God will create a new heavens and earth where believers dwell eternally.

Scripture References: Isaiah 2:1–4; Zechariah 12–14; 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17; Revelation 20:10–15; 21:1, 2.

HEAVEN & HELL

The new heavens and the new earth is the eternal dwelling place of believers, and Hell is the place of eternal punishment for unbelievers. Both are real.

Scripture References: Mark 9:43–48; John 14:1–3; Revelation 21:8.

HUMAN SEXUALITY & MARRIAGE

Marriage is a lifelong covenant between one man and one woman. Any sexual activity outside biblical marriage is sin. Gender is God-ordained and unchangeable. Homosexuality and all other sexual perversions are an abomination in God's eyes. While we uncompromisingly uphold biblical truth and ethics, we must preach the gospel to all sinners.

Scripture References: Genesis 1:28; 2:24; Romans 1:26–28; 1 Corinthians 6:9.

SANCTITY OF LIFE

Life begins at conception. Abortion is the taking of innocent life and is morally equivalent to murder.

Scripture References: Psalm 139:14–16; Isaiah 44:24.

ISRAEL & ANTISEMITISM

We affirm that ethnic Israel remains God's chosen people. While Gentile believers are grafted into the blessings of salvation, God's promises to Israel still stand. We see the modern state of Israel as a significant prophetic millstone leading us to the final stage of the end times. All believers should strive to refute and denounce antisemitism (hostility towards and demonization of the Jewish people), racism, and racial discrimination, as well as pray for the salvation of Israel and peace in Jerusalem, actively promoting spiritual unity among believers based on sound doctrine.

Scripture References: Genesis 12:1–3; Psalm 122:6; Zechariah 8:20–23; Esther 4:13, 14; John 4:22; Romans 9:1–5; 10:1; 11:17–24.

WOMEN IN MINISTRY

Women are called to serve in ministry and use their spiritual gifts within the church. However, as outlined in Scripture, the role of pastor or elder is reserved for qualified men.

Scripture References: 1 Timothy 2:12–14; Titus 1:5–9.

CONCLUSION

The IBAA stands firmly on the foundation of Scripture. We uphold these doctrines as essential truths and commit to defending the faith once delivered to the saints (Jude 1:3).