

Finding faith

Biblical Christianity

(Adapted from Rose Publishing)

FOUNDED, LOCATION

- Founded by Jesus Christ, about AD 30–33, in the Judean province of Palestine (Israel today), under the Roman Empire.

Followers of Jesus Christ became known as Christians

KEY WRITINGS

- The Bible, written originally in Hebrew and Aramaic (Old Testament), and Greek (New Testament).

WHO IS GOD?

- The one God is Triune (one God in three persons, not three gods): Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- God is a spiritual being without a physical body.
- He is personal and involved with people.
- He created the universe out of nothing.
- He is eternal, changeless, holy, loving, and perfect.
- Often the title “God” designates the first person of the Trinity, God the Father.

WHO IS JESUS?

- Jesus is God, the second person of the Trinity.
- As God the Son, he has always existed and was never created.
- He is fully God and fully man (the two natures joined, not mixed).
- As the second person of the Trinity, he is coequal with God the Father and the Holy Spirit.
- In becoming man, he was begotten through the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
- Jesus is the only way to the Father, salvation, and eternal life.
- He died on a cross according to God’s plan, as the full sacrifice and payment for our sins.
- Jesus physically ascended to heaven.
- He will come again visibly and physically at the end of the world to establish God’s kingdom and judge the world.

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- The Holy Spirit is God, the third person of the Trinity.
- He is a person, not a force or energy field. He comforts, grieves, reproves, convicts, guides, teaches, and fills Christians.
- He is not the Father, nor is he the Son, Jesus Christ.

HOW TO BE SAVED

- Salvation is by God’s grace, not by an individual’s good works; it must be received by faith.
- People must believe in their hearts that Jesus died for their sins and physically rose again, which is the assurance of forgiveness and resurrection of the body.
- This is God’s loving plan to forgive sinful people.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER DEATH?

- Believers go to be with Jesus.
- After death, all people await the final judgment. Both saved and lost people will be resurrected.
- Those who are saved will live with Jesus in heaven.
- Those who are lost will suffer the torment of eternal separation from God (hell).
- Jesus' bodily resurrection guarantees believers that they will be resurrected and receive new immortal bodies.

OTHER BELIEFS, PRACTICES

- Baptism and Lord's Supper (Communion).
- Group worship, usually in churches.
- No secret rites.
- Active voluntary missionary efforts.
- Aid to those in need: the poor, widows, orphans, and downtrodden.
- Christians believe that Jesus is the Jewish Messiah promised to Israel in the Old Testament.
- Jesus said his followers would be known by their love for one another.