

# Across Nations Doctrinal Statement

(approved by AN Board of Directors April 18, 2016)

*Article I:* We believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments only, is verbally inspired by the Holy Spirit, is inerrant in the original manuscripts, and is the infallible and authoritative word of God. (Psalms 12:6-7; II Tim. 3:16; II Peter 1:20-21)

*Article II:* We believe that the one triune God exists eternally in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Duet.6:4; Matt. 28:19; John 1:1, 14; Acts 5:3-4; II Corinthians 13:14)

*Article III:* We believe that Adam, created in the image of God, was tempted by Satan, the god of this world, and fell. Because of Adam's sin, all men have guilt imputed, are totally depraved, and need to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit for salvation. (Gen. 1:27; 3:5-6; Rom. 5:12)

*Article IV:* We believe that Jesus Christ is God, was born of a virgin, died vicariously, shed His blood as man's substitutionary sacrifice, rose bodily, and ascended to heaven, where He is presently exalted to the Father's right hand. (Isaiah 7:14; 53:5,8; Matt. 1:18, 21-23; John 1:1-2, 14; Eph. 1:20)

*Article V:* We believe that salvation consists of the remission of sins, the imputation of Christ's righteousness, and the gift of eternal life received by faith alone, apart from works. (Acts 4:12; Rom. 3:23-24; Eph. 2:8-10; Heb. 9:22; II Cor. 5:21; I Peter 1:18-19)

*Article VI:* We believe that the return of Jesus Christ is imminent, and that it will be visible and personal. (Zech. 14:4; John 14:1-3; Acts 1:11; I Cor. 15:51-53; I Thess. 4:13-18; Phil. 3:20-21; Rev. 1:7; 19:11-16; 22:20)

*Article VII:* We believe that the saved will be raised to everlasting life and blessedness in heaven, and that the unsaved will be raised to everlasting and conscious punishment in hell. (Matt. 13:42, 25:34, 41-46; Mark 9:43-48; Luke 16:19-26; John 5:28-29; 11:25-26; II Thess. 1:7-9; Rev. 20:11-15)

*Article VIII:* We believe that believers comprise the Church and are one Body, having Christ as their Lord, God's glory as their aim, and making disciples as Jesus commanded as their mission. This Body is manifested in local congregations that seek to represent His spiritual Body, the universal church, with baptism, teaching, fellowship, prayer, discipline, and the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christ commanded the church to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, baptizing and teaching those who believe to observe everything our Lord commanded His disciples. (Matt. 28:18-20; II Tim. 2:2)

*Article IX:* We believe that the Holy Spirit baptizes every believer once, at the moment of salvation, and indwells the believer thereafter. We believe that believers are filled with the Holy Spirit, as they yield control of their lives to Christ. We believe that the Christ-controlled life is the evidence of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit in one's life. (Deut. 4:2; Rev 22:18-19, Acts 1:21; I Corinthians 15:7-9; John 3:5; Galatians 5:22-23; Acts 1:8; Isaiah 8:19-20; I Corinthians 14:37)

*Article X:* We believe God's plan for human sexuality is to be expressed only within the context of marriage, that God created man and woman as unique biological persons made to complete each other. God instituted monogamous marriage between male and female as the foundation of the family and the basic structure of human society. For this reason, we believe that marriage is exclusively the union of one male and one female. (Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:5-6; Mark 10:6-9; Rom. 1:26-27; I Cor. 6:9)

*Article XI:* We believe that human life is sacred from conception to its natural end; and that we must have concern for the physical and spiritual needs of our fellow men. (Psalm 139:13; Prov. 31:8-9; Isaiah 49:1; Jer. 1:5; Matt. 22:37-39; Rom. 12:20-21; Gal. 6:10)