

# Who Are the People of The Covenant of Peace Church?

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Who are the people that make up the Covenant of Peace Church? We are a very diverse group of people from different cultural, educational, and economic backgrounds who assemble together under the Banner of Love of the Lord Jesus Christ. And while there may be many ways to describe us, perhaps the *best* way is by looking at two important aspects: Who we are *Theologically*, and Who we are *Practically*.

## ***Theologically***

### **We are “Christian”**

We believe and teach those unique and historic Christian Doctrines which have been carefully and prayerfully extracted from Scripture over the 2,000- year life of the Church. These Doctrines are believed, taught, and practiced by the one single Church that Jesus established, which was founded on the “Rock” of the Divine Revelation sovereignly given to the Apostle Peter:

**“You[Jesus] are the Christ- the Son of the living God!” (Matthew 16:16)**

We believe that such a Church, built and sustained by the Lord Himself, will belong solely to Jesus, and that Church will be: One, Holy, Worldwide, and Apostolic. That Church will remain faithful to that Divine Revelation and will be physically on the earth to be presented to her Head (Jesus Christ) when He returns.

We believe and teach that Salvation is obtained solely by Grace alone through Faith alone in the finished Work of the Lord Jesus Christ alone, apart from any human works. And we believe and teach that those who have been truly saved will *continue* in the Faith, they will *continue* to believe, *continue* to follow, *continue* to repent and trust, and they will *continue* to strive to obey Jesus. We also believe and teach that visible and tangible “good works” will *normally* and *naturally* flow out from these saved people to the lost world.

### **We are “Biblical”**

We believe and teach that the 66 Books of the Holy Bible are the inspired, inerrant, infallible, relevant, sufficient, and authoritative Word of the one, true, and living God. And these unique Books are the only “Rule” of both our Faith and Practice. We believe and teach that the Holy Scriptures are a *finished* Revelation of both God’s Will and Voice in the earth. We also seek to employ the Reformed concept of “Sola Scriptura” in all our Teachings, so that all Church Doctrine, all

Teaching, all godly Correction, and all Counselling comes “from the Scriptures” and “from the Scriptures *alone*”.

Therefore, we seek to understand what God has said in that Divine Revelation by consistently engaging in deep, serious, and expositional studies of the Scriptures, employing the literal, historical, and grammatical method of interpretation under the superintendence of the Holy Spirit.

### **We are “Christ-centered”**

Jesus Himself said that all of Scripture was about Him (**Luke 24:27**). Therefore, we seek to “see” Jesus and delight ourselves in His finished Work in every Sermon and Teaching, so that Christ will be our greatest Treasure and exalted in all that we say and do.

### **We are “God- honoring”**

We seek to promote and rejoice at the Supremacy of God in all things. Therefore, we make a conscious effort to take our focus off Man and place our focus on God in all our Songs, Sermons, and Teachings. We believe and teach that God is the most Desirable, most Beautiful, most Important, and the most Worthy Being in the Universe. And so, we seek to honor God and bring Glory to Him in all that we do and say.

### **We are “Protestant”**

We are the living heirs of the Protestant Reformation of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century and have not lost our “protest” against the unbiblical, apostate, and man-made religious system of Rome. We also strive to stand firmly against all who believe and teach unbiblical doctrines and who engage in unbiblical practices.

### **We are “Evangelical”**

We believe and teach that no one can be saved unless and until they hear the Gospel, believe the Gospel, repent of their sins, confess Jesus as God in human flesh, believe that God raised Jesus from the dead, and put all their trust and hope in Jesus personally and in His finished Work. Therefore, we see the ongoing proclamation of the biblical Gospel as being our primary focus. We seek to proclaim the full Gospel to as many people as we can, every single day, as God gives us opportunity. We also seek to live in accord with the Gospel that we proclaim to give our voice credibility.

We, also, actively look for ways to minister the Love of God to our Community, and that is why you can find us in the Jails and in the Nursing Homes and Hospitals, as well as engaging people in the streets about the Savior.

### **We are “Missional”**

We believe that it is our duty and responsibility to “go”, “tell”, “teach”, “baptize”, and hold accountable all men throughout the entire world. Therefore, we actively support various Missionaries who preach the biblical Gospel to other lands, as well as look earnestly for ways to preach the Gospel in our own Community.

**We are “Reformed”**

We seek to adhere to the great Truths of the Reformation which recovered the Supremacy of God and the sufficiency of Scripture in all of life by upholding and proclaiming the “Doctrines of Grace” to this generation.

**We are “Confessional”**

We agree, in principle, with the historic Confessions of the Christian Faith which consist of accurate summaries of what the Scriptures teach about various subjects.

**We are “Catechists”**

We seek to learn God’s Truth in an ongoing, systematic, line-upon-line and precept-upon-precept manner, through reasoned and inquisitive minds that involve questions and answers, thought, reading, and discussion.

**We are “Elder-led”**

We believe that Scripture teaches that there is to be a “plurality of Elders” who lead and govern the Church of Jesus. These are men who are qualified (both Theologically and Morally) to lovingly “shepherd the sheep” and to counsel them in the Ways of the Lord through teaching, preaching, and practical helps.

**We are “Deacon-served”**

The Church is served and cared for *sacrificially* by men and women who lovingly look after the physical needs of the sheep.

**We are “Family-oriented”**

We believe and teach that God created the Family as the building block of Civilization, and so, we promote the unity of the Family in all of our Services. We teach, encourage, and equip mothers and fathers to raise their children in the fear and nurture of the Lord.

**We are “Complementarian”**

We believe and teach that God made them uniquely Male and Female on purpose. Therefore, we teach, promote, and celebrate those God-ordained sex distinct roles in all that we say and do.

**Practically****We are Unworthy**

We acknowledge our own personal inherent unworthiness before God, which exalts the magnificence of God’s Grace.

### **We are Grateful and Thankful**

The knowledge of that inherent unworthiness has made us grateful and thankful that God has graced us with His Love. God uses His undeserved Love to cause us to seek after genuine humility.

### **We are Sincere**

We recognize that, as fallen human beings, we can be wrong about very important issues, even though we strive very hard to be correct. Therefore, in order to “get the Gospel right” we strive not to be a “law unto ourselves”, so we seek counsel and wisdom from various learned men of God and biblical organizations which help us to arrive at Divine Truth. Those men and organizations are both living and historical.

### **We are Struggling**

We realize that, as frail humans, we routinely fall short of God’s Glory. Therefore, we strive to depend upon God to grace us to continue to struggle against the lusts of our flesh, by the Power of the Holy Spirit, to live in humble and joyful submission to the Authority of Scripture, in our daily lives, all to the Glory of God.

### **We are Trembling**

The knowledge of the Truth has brought about a “reverential fear” and respect in us about God and His Word that is both weighty and constant.

### **We are Penitent**

That causes us to honestly hold ourselves accountable to the Word of God and to confess sin quickly when the Holy Spirit brings conviction, and to eagerly turn from that sin as God give us the Grace and Strength to do that.

### **We are Joyful**

That has brought about a deep and all-consuming Joy in us that both grows and remains through the trails and struggles of life. Our hope lies in the fact that because of the finished Work of Jesus Christ, God is no longer angry with us, and His Wrath against us, because of our sins, has been forever removed.

### **We are Loving and Caring**

We seek to make Jesus known and to display Him as being irresistible to everyone with whom we meet and have access. We desire to care for one another as we all struggle with the deceitfulness of sin and worldliness and temptations in a biblical and God-honoring way. Therefore, we weep with those who weep, we rejoice with those who rejoice, and we embrace the feeble and the poor and walk with each other through the trials of life.

### **We are Hopeful**

Even though we live in powerful days of great upheaval, compromise, and change, where we are tempted to fear and trust in our own sufficiency, we labor, by

God's Grace, to remain hopeful in God's Sovereignty and Providence and Provision as we look earnestly ahead to actually possessing the Promises of God through our own resurrection and the day when Jesus returns.

We base our hope in the Promise that our loving Heavenly Father, Who cannot lie, is Providentially working "all things" that come into our lives (both what we would call "good" and what we would call "bad") together for the ultimate "Good" of the Glory and Will of God in conforming us into the Image of our Savior Jesus Christ, which will be to our eternal Joy.

As "pilgrims and strangers" we seek to find the balance between this world not being our home and "occupying till He comes". We seek to be distinct and set aside from the world (holy), while at the same time being approachable and ready to give an answer as to the Hope that lies within us.

The people of the Covenant of Peace Church are an assembly of God loving, Christ forgiven, Spirit empowered people who certainly do not lay claim to have "arrived" at full spiritual maturity, but rather those who, by God's Grace, and for God's Glory, are on the straight and narrow path following Jesus, and loving each other. And we would love for you to come and go with us on this exciting and challenging Journey, all the way to Heaven!