

# *Silent Word Ministries - Articles of Faith*

## **(In accordance With Baptist Doctrine)**

Silent Word Ministries is a missionary ministry and mission board dedicated to taking the Gospel to Deaf people and then teaching them in accordance with the Great Commission. We publish and print Sunday School program, manuals to aid deaf workers, books, literature, Deaf Bible Institute program, tracts, and a bi-monthly newspaper. All literature, preaching and teachings of SWM and mission team members are from the King James Version.

**1. THE HOLY SCRIPTURES** - We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments (the 66 books) to be the verbally inspired Word of God, the final authority for faith and life, inerrant in the original writings, infallible and God-breathed (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Matthew 5:18).

**2. THE GODHEAD** - We believe in one Triune God, eternally existing in three persons – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, co-equal in power and glory, and having the same attributes and perfections (Deuteronomy 6:4; 2 Corinthians 13:14).

### **3. THE PERSON AND WORK OF CHRIST**

(a) We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, in order that He might reveal God and redeem sinful man (John 1:1-2,14; Luke 1:36; 1 Timothy 3:16).

(b) We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice; and that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead (Romans 3:24-25; 1 Peter 2:24; Ephesians 1:7).

(c) We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to Heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God, where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate (Acts 1:9-10; Hebrews 9:24; 7:25; Romans 8:34).

### **4. THE PERSON AND WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

(a) We believe that the Holy Spirit is a Person who convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and of judgment; and that He is the Supernatural Agent in regeneration, baptizing all believers into the body of Christ, indwelling, and sealing them unto the day of redemption (John 16:8-11; Ephesians 1:13-14, 2 Corinthians 3:6; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; Romans 8:9).

(b) We believe that He is the Divine Teacher who guides believers into all truth, and that it is the privilege and duty of all the saved to be filled with the Spirit (John 16:13; 1 John 2:20-27; Ephesians 5:18).

**5 THE TOTAL DEPRAVITY OF MAN** - We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but that in Adam's sin, the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God; and that man is totally depraved, and of himself utterly unable to remedy his lost condition (Genesis 1:26-27; Romans 3:22-23, 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3).

**6. SALVATION** - We believe that salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, whose precious blood was shed on Calvary for the forgiveness of our sins (Ephesians 2:8-9; John 1:12; Ephesians 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19).

### **7. THE ETERNAL SECURITY - ASSURANCE OF BELIEVERS**

(a) We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God's power and are secure in Christ forever (John 6:37-40;10:27-30; Romans 8:1-2).

(b) We believe that it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Word, which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion to the flesh (Romans 13:13-14; Galatians 5:13).

**8. THE TWO NATURES OF THE BELIEVER** - We believe that every saved person possesses two natures, with provision made for victory of the new nature over the old nature through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit, and that all claims to the eradication of the old nature in this life are unscriptural (Romans 6:13; 8:12-13; Galatians 5:16-25; Ephesians 4:22-24).

**9. SEPARATION** - We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Saviour and Lord; and that separation from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices and association is commanded by God (2 Timothy 3:1-5; Romans 12:1-2; 14:13; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 John 9-11; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1).

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**10. MISSIONS** - We believe that it is the obligation of the saved to witness by life and by word to the truths of Holy Scripture and to seek to proclaim the Gospel to all mankind (Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8).

**11. THE MINISTRY AND SPIRITUAL GIFTS** - We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowing of all His gifts, and that the gifts of evangelists, pastors, and teachers are sufficient for the perfecting of the saints for the work of the ministry, and for the edifying of the Body of Christ today (Ephesians 4:7-12).

### 12. THE CHURCH

(a) We believe that the Church, which is the body and the espoused bride of Christ, is a spiritual organism made up of all born-again persons of this present age (Ephesians 1:22-23; 5:25-27; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14).

(b) We believe that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures (Acts 14:27; 20:17, 28-32).

(c) We believe that a New Testament church is a local group of baptized believers united for His purposes and the knowledge and spreading of the Word, including world wide missions. We believe that it is completely self-determining and responsible only to Christ, the Head of the Church (Colossians 1:1-18).

**13. THE PERSONALITY OF SATAN** - We believe that Satan is a person, the author of sin and the cause of the fall; that he is the open and declared enemy of God and man; and that he shall be eternally punished in the Lake of Fire (Job 1:6-7; Isaiah 14:12-17; Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10).

**14. THE SECOND ADVENT OF CHRIST** - We believe in that "Blessed Hope," the personal, imminent, pre-tribulation, and premillennial coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His redeemed ones (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Zechariah 14:4-11; Revelation 19:11-16; Daniel 2:44-45; Isaiah 11:1-9).

### 15. THE ETERNAL STATE OF MAN

(a) We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men; the saved to eternal life, and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment (John 5:28-29).

(b) We believe that the souls of the redeemed are at death absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection, when spirit, soul and body are reunited to be glorified forever with the Lord (2 Corinthians 5:8; Philippians 1:21-24; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).

(c) We believe that the souls of the unbelievers remain after death in conscious misery in Hell until the second resurrection, when the soul and body reunited shall appear at the Great White Throne Judgment, and shall be cast into the Lake of Fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscious punishment (Luke 16:19-26; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; Jude 6-7; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 20:11-15).

This is what we preach, teach and believe in accordance to the Holy Scriptures. We believe that the Bible is the absolute authority and assurance from God. Without the Word of God – There is no Work of God. We are dedicated to publishing the Word of God to evangelize and teach deaf people.

**Ministry Verse:** "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Philippians 1:6). He began a good work in us in 1966, and He is still performing it. It is His ministry, not ours.

**Ministry Motto:** The desire and goal of Silent Word Ministries is "Prayer for boldness to share Christ, wisdom for the best way, and open doors of opportunity that deaf people will be saved, families strengthened and churches served." We are here to serve you.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**"I/we agree with these guidelines, policies and articles of faith. I will follow them to the best of my ability."**

**Signed:** Team Member(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: Signature remains active as guidelines and policies are updated in the future. Please advise if ever not in agreement.)

**Return Copy to:**

**Silent Word Ministries – PO Box 889 – Trenton, GA 30752**

(Articles of faith available: SilentWord.org)