

# The Statement of Faith of Dr. C. H. E. Sadaphal

## **The short statement of faith:**

(1) The Bible is the authoritative, infallible and inerrant revelation of God to humankind. (2) The God-Man, Jesus Christ, is the exclusive mediator between God and humankind. (3) We are saved by grace alone through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

## **The longer statement of faith:**

I adhere to the ancient statements of faith (the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Creed of Chalcedon) and I affirm the five solas of the Reformation: *sola fide* (by faith alone), *sola scriptura* (by Scripture alone), *solus Christus* (through Christ alone), *sola gratia* (by grace alone), *solus Deo gloria* (glory to God alone).

### *The Bible*<sup>1</sup>

I believe that the entire Bible is the authoritative, infallible, inerrant, and the divinely inspired Word of God. The Bible reveals God's ultimate truth and is the golden standard by which all other claims of truth are judged.

### *The Trinity*<sup>2</sup>

I believe there is one God, yet God is three distinct Persons each of whom is co-equally and co-eternally God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Each member of the Godhead is of the same substance and is equal in power and glory. God is a Spirit who is perfect, unchangeable, omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent.

### *Jesus Christ*<sup>3</sup>

I believe Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man in one person. Each nature retains its own attributes yet these two natures are inseparably united without mixture, confusion, or division. Subsequent to the Incarnation, Jesus was born of a virgin (Mary) and lived a life of perfect, sinless obedience. Jesus was crucified and died on the Cross and He bore the penalty of sin in His death. He was a substitute sacrifice for us all, and that substitution atoned for humanity, thereby reconciling us back to God. This was necessary because all have sinned, and atonement had to be made in order to pay the penalty of sin. The blood of Jesus Christ on the Cross made an eternal, complete, and totally sufficient atonement for all of humankind.

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<sup>1</sup> 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; John 3:16

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 28:19; John 10:30; Ephesians 4:4-6

<sup>3</sup> Matthew 1:23; John 1:1-4 and 1:29; Acts 1:11 and 2:22-24; Romans 8:34; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 1:1-4, 4:15; Luke 24:46-47; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Romans 3:23; 2 Corinthians 5:10-11; Ephesians 1:7 and 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57; Revelation 20:11-15

I believe in the bodily resurrection of Jesus on the third day after the crucifixion, His ascension into heaven to the right hand of the Father, and His coming return in power, glory, and judgment. Jesus is the exclusive mediator between God and humankind and only He is the way to salvation.

I believe the Holy Spirit is the exclusive agent that regenerates a person and enables them to respond to Jesus in faith. Christ imputes His righteousness to all believers who trust in Him alone for salvation. This secures a person's redemption and God will reward those who repent and confess faith in Jesus as the Messiah with eternal life with THE LORD in heaven. Anyone who denies Jesus as the Messiah will be banished to eternal torment in hell.

#### *The Holy Spirit<sup>4</sup>*

I believe the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son and He resides in the hearts of believers. The Holy Spirit accomplishes regeneration monergistically and operates synergistically with believers in the process of sanctification. It is the active work of the Holy Spirit that enables believers to live a life characterized by the fruits of the Spirit, holiness and godliness.

#### *Creation<sup>5</sup>*

I believe that God is self-existent and by His Word, He created everything from nothing. God is also immanent in His creation and He preserves and governs all the actions of His creatures.

I believe that in creation, God made two separate and distinct biological persons: man and woman, who by design are two parts of a whole. God is the one who defined marriage as the union between one genetic man and one genetic woman. This union is the foundation upon which the most basic social unit (the family) of human society is built upon. Life begins before conception and I do not believe in any ideology that upholds unbiblical definitions of gender, sexuality, or marriage.

#### *Mankind<sup>6</sup>*

I believe that God created humankind, both male and female, in His own image, yet because of the transgression of Adam, all have sinned and are born in a state of total depravity and therefore are deserving of death and the just punishment for sin. This inherent state of corruption makes humankind totally incapable of reconciling a broken relationship with God by their own devices. All human beings, elect or non-elect, are formed in the image of God. Therefore, all human life is sacred and fellow human beings ought to be treated with respect, dignity, and neighborly love.

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<sup>4</sup> John 3:5-8; Acts 1:8, 4:31; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Galatians 5:16-18; Ephesians 6:12; Colossians 2:6-10

<sup>5</sup> Genesis chapters 1-2, Genesis 2:24; Psalm 33: 6, 9; I Colossians 1:16; Job 12:10; Acts 17:25, 28; Colossians 1:17; Ephesians 4:6; Hebrews 1:3; Matthew 19:5-6; Mark 10:6-9; Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9

<sup>6</sup> Psalm 143:2; II Chronicles 6:36; Micah 7:2-4; Mark 10:18; Romans 3:23, 5:12, 11:32, 12:20-21; I John 1:8-10; Psalm 139:13; Isaiah 49:1; Jeremiah 1:5; Matthew 22:37-39; Galatians 6:10

### *The Law*<sup>7</sup>

I believe that the law of God mirrors God's perfect character and exposes humankind's iniquity. The Law defines what is evil and therefore restrains immorality. The Law also enables the elect to pursue righteousness by doing what is pleasing to God. The Law defines what is lawful and applies to all people, regardless of their acceptance of the Law or not.

### *The Church*<sup>8</sup>

I believe that Jesus, who is the head of the church, has established a visible church. Sincere believers constitute this unified body of Christ and are animated in word and deed by the Holy Spirit. Under the authority of God's Word, the Church is called to teach sound Christian doctrine, administer the sacraments of baptism and communion, worship God, evangelize (proclaim the gospel), nurture believers (discipleship), and execute church discipline.

### *The Christian faith and the world*<sup>9</sup>

I believe in and offer full support to any individual, institution or organization that confesses the final authority of God's Word, and the exclusive path of salvation through the Messiah, Jesus Christ. I commend any individual, institution or organization that is unafraid and undeterred to serve God and follow His commands. I believe that without exception, being a disciple of Christ means adopting a counter-cultural worldview and accepting the implications of obeying God's commandments despite objections from secular culture and society-at-large.

*Dr. C. H. E. Sadaphal*

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<sup>7</sup> Deuteronomy 13:6-11; 19:16-21; Matthew 28:20; Romans 3:20; 4:15; 5:13; 7:12; I Timothy 1:18; Galatians 3:19-24; Ephesians 2:10;

<sup>8</sup> I Corinthians 12:12, 27; Ephesians 1:22-23; Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:9-15; I Peter 3:15

<sup>9</sup> I Kings 18:16-40