Our Core Beliefs

1. All of life is about God and His Glory.
2. All people matter to God
3. Jesus is the hope of the world

A Look At Theology

At Paradox we take a conservative approach to theology but a liberal approach to contextualizing that theology within the culture live and serve. With that said here’s a further explanation. At Paradox we handle theology with two hands. There is basically one of two positions we take on any point of theology of theology; generous & open to continued commentary or convinced and firm. A generous and open to commentary approach alone (an open handed approach) tends to lead to a very liberal theology, meaning that most everything is up for grabs and there is little that is not questioned. Held very loose is any concrete belief or behavior that transcends time and culture. A convinced & firm approach alone (a closed handed approach) tends to lead to very legalistic theology. It is an approach that leaves little mystery to the person of God and the expectation of a follower. It is an approach that holds all its beliefs and positions in a tight fist that is seldom open to questions and more seldom open to ongoing commentary. Our approach to theology is one that recognizes that there are things that need to go in the open hand and others that need to be in the closed hand, the key is to figure out what goes where. Although we believe that there is much to go in the open hand, needing to be continually commented, what’s included here is a look at what we believe to be the more important closed hand beliefs that we hold to.

1. We were created to be image bearers Genesis 1:26-27 Most theology begins with sin and its eternally destructive nature. Although a proper understanding of sin is foundational to the Christian belief it is not where the bible begins. The bible begins with man and woman being created in the image and likeness of God. Redemption is ultimately about returning men and women to their original design as image bearers.

2. We are all born sinful Romans 3:10-11 The problem is IN US the answer is IN CHRIST. Sin is not a problem that lies outside of us but is a problem with the very nature of unredeemed mankind. Sin is what has distorted the image of God.
in us and has broken our relationship with our creator. Sin is the biggest problem we have and is the reason for all that is wrong and evil with the world and with people. Everyone has sinned and it is sin that needs to be dealt with if we are to be reunited to God and begin the journey to reclaim our original and intended image and design.

3. Penal Substitution II Corinthians 5:21 & I Corinthians 15

Since sin is the problem and we all have it then it needs to be dealt with and we can’t do that ourselves. We believe that God became man in the form of a Jewish Rabbi named Jesus. Jesus; being man and yet fully God was perfect (sinless) and able to deal with our sin. It was Jesus death alone that provided cleansing of sin for all men and women. To accept Jesus work on the cross we must admit and confess our sin and need for Jesus and then simply accept His forgiveness.

4. The Resurrection

So often communicated as the center point to the Christian faith is the cross and yet without Jesus coming back to life the cross is meaningless. Equal to the cross is the resurrection. We believe that although Jesus died he did not stay that way but of His own power rose from the dead three days latter, proving His power over all creation and providing for our restoration.


We believe that all the redeemed, once saved, are kept by God’s power and are thus secure in Christ forever (John 6:37-40, 10:27-30; Romans 8:1, 38, 39; 1 Corinthians 1:4-8; 1 Peter 1:5). 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 clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion for the flesh (Romans 13:13, 14; Galatians 5:13; Titus 2:11-15).


We believe in the Trinity - one God, eternally co-existing in three persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) being of the same substance, having the same nature and worthy of the same praise and obedience. We believe in the Holy Spirit - the third person of the Trinity; His is the work of conviction, regeneration, indwelling, and enablement of those who truly are regenerate. We believe the Holy Spirit operates as our guide and counselor as well as our power and authority.
7. The authority and inerrancy of Scripture II Timothy 3:16 We believe that the bible is inspired thoughts of God Himself written through the unique personalities and perspectives of its authors. We believe it is accurate and full of no errors in the original writings. We believe that while there are many paradoxes in the bible we hold to the belief that it is never inconsistent but is a living text and able to speak to us in different ways at different times while never compromising its consistency and accuracy.

8. The Church We believe the church is the living body of Jesus it is a spiritual organism made up of all who have trusted in the person and work of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins (Ephesians 1:22, 23; 5:25-27; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 2 Corinthians 11:2). The church began at Pentecost and is the missional model for today’s church as found in Acts 2. We are to be a place of mission, evidenced by surrender and service - all for the purpose of glorifying God, through leading those far from God into repentant relationship with Him and teaching them to live As Christ lived. We recognize believer’s baptism and the Lord’s Supper as scriptural means of testimony for the church (Matthew 28:19, 20; Acts 2:41, 42; Acts 18:8; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

9. Eternal life and Death John 17:3 While the location one spends eternity (heaven / hell) is inseparable from the Gospel message, it is not the totality of the Gospel message. The apostle John was clear that eternal life actually begins before the after life and that it is not defined by residence in Heaven but by a relationship to the God of Israel through the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus message was one of relationship & restoration not fire insurance. We believe strongly that the focus of eternal life and eternal death is not so much one of eternal residence but of eternal relationship. Although, we do believe that the scriptures are clear the there is a literal heaven and a literal hell and that all of humanity will spend all of eternity in one location or the other depending on what they do with the person of Jesus while living on this side of eternity.