

## At e2, we believe...

- Jesus of Nazareth is King of all and the Chosen One of God (“Lord” and “Messiah” / “Christ”).

### Applicable Scriptures:

2 Samuel 7.16      Psalm 89.3-4, 29-37      Psalm 110.1      Acts 2.36      Philippians 2.9-11

- The Bible’s sixty-six books are inspired of God, authoritative for all matters of living our lives in this world, infallible and inerrant at least in their original writing and no less than wholly sufficient in their current translations. Despite their complexities and even difficulties, they are completely reliable as we submit to their authority over us.

### Applicable Scriptures:

Deuteronomy 4.1-6      Deuteronomy 6.1-9      2 Chronicles 34      Nehemiah 8      Psalm 1  
Psalm 119      Matthew 5-7      Matthew 15.6-9      Matthew 28.19      John 12.44-50  
Acts 2.42      Acts 17.10-11      2 Timothy 3.16-4.4      2 Peter 1.20-2

- God is triune; as one philosopher wrote “too *many* to be one, but too *one* to be many.” God the Father, God the Son (“Jesus”) and God the Spirit are eternally united and yet, also distinct.

### Applicable Scriptures:

Genesis 1.1-2      Numbers 27.18      Judges 3.10      1 Samuel 19.23  
2 Samuel 23.2      Psalm 2.7      Matthew 3.16-17      Matthew 24.36  
John 8.58      John 10.30      Acts 13.33      Romans 8.26

- The good news (gospel) lived and proclaimed by Jesus in His teaching and His death, burial and resurrection is that we humans are estranged from God by living our own way (sin), but that God has provided the way to be reconciled to Him – He sent His Son to us. Jesus, God the Son, died to pay for, rectify, and undo our brokenness.

### Applicable Scriptures:

Genesis 8.21      Psalm 111.9      Isaiah 44.21-22      Romans 6.23      1 Peter 1.18-19

- His resurrection proves and demonstrates His authority over everyone and everything. Though Jesus isn’t tangibly, physically in this world any longer, He will be again someday – He will return; in the meantime, He reigns at God’s right hand over everything. Because Jesus was perfectly humble and never demanded His own way, God has now completely exalted Him and given Him authority over all.

### Applicable Scriptures:

1 Corinthians 15.20      Philippians 2.6-11      Hebrews 7.16

- After Jesus’ death/burial/resurrection, He rose into Heaven from this world, entrusting His mission to His subsequent followers. Said another way, God’s “Plan A” for the salvation of the world is His Church – and there is no “Plan B.”

### Applicable Scriptures:

Matthew 28.18-20      Acts 1.7-8      Revelation 2.5

- Just as Jesus “came to destroy the work of the devil,” we, His followers, take His light and life to people who are estranged and far from God, helping them see that God calls them out of this dark world and into His wonderful light. *All* people across *all* time in *all* places are made in God’s image. We are priceless – every individual is worth the “price tag” of Jesus’ death. We deal with people in the extreme – ideally, even infinite – compassion that Jesus Himself extended to everyone He met. “It is God’s kindness that brings us to repentance.” God came to us in kindness to save us from ourselves and this world; being made in His image, we treat others as He first treated us.

### Applicable Scriptures:

Genesis 1.26-27      Malachi 2.10      Matthew 6.15      Matthew 9.36  
Matthew 18.31-35      Luke 12.7      Romans 2.4      2 Corinthians 5.18-20  
1 Peter 1.18-20      1 Peter 2.9      1 John 3.8

- Our “being saved” is both a process and an event. It includes: a) hearing God’s good news, b) believing that Jesus lived, died, rose and what He said was true, c) rejecting our own way of life (repentance from sin), d) admission that we depend wholly on Him (confession), e) immersion as part of our conversion experience, the beginning of our new life in Jesus and in obedience to His command and example, and f) perseverance in what He expects of us.

[Applicable Scriptures:](#)

Matthew 3.1-9	Matthew 4.17	Matthew 28.18-20	Mark 16.15-16	Acts 2.36-39
Romans 10.9-15	Hebrews 12.1-4	James 2.12-26	1 Peter 3.18-21	Revelation 2.10

- Our rescue and redemption from this world require humility. Just as Jesus was humble in His life, we humble ourselves both before Him and in the way that we live our lives every day among people. Jesus came to *serve* people and God, not to be served by people. Likewise, we, Jesus’ followers, in any way we can, seek to serve people – our families, circle of friends, and all in our spheres of influence. Pastors, elders, deacons, volunteers – everyone – who wears the name of “Jesus” as one of His followers is defined in God’s Kingdom by their humility and service, not by position, title, rank, or notoriety.

[Applicable Scriptures:](#)

2 Samuel 22.28	Psalms 18.27	Psalms 138.6	Proverbs 3.34
Matthew 5.3	Mark 10.45	Luke 22.24-27	John 13.12-17

- Labels that we often use in churches – “pastor,” “elder,” “deacon,” etc. – should be understood not (merely) as offices but much more so as role descriptions and job descriptions. We are *all* under the leadership and headship of Jesus; *all* of us are responsible to stand on and live out the “one-anothers” of the New Testament: “submit to one another,” “share each other’s burdens,” “love one another,” “serve one another,” and so on.

[Applicable Scriptures:](#)

John 13.34-35	Ephesians 1.21-23	Ephesians 4.15	Ephesians 5.21-23	Galatians 6.1-2
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- There are essential, important, and personal matters of our Christian faith and we do great harm when we confuse those categories. Jesus’ identity, role, sufficiency and work comprise much, but *not* all, of the essential part of our faith. Recognizing essential, important, and personal distinctions, we want to stand on a sentiment that has been part of our church movement’s history for the past two centuries: “In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in everything, charity.” Though we pursue non-essential matters, especially what can be understood as important, with all diligence and intentionality, we want to, above all, do so with great charity and humility, both in our attitude and the depth of conviction. Despite the gravitas of many important matters, we are convinced of the truth in the lyrics of an old hymn: “Turn your eyes upon Jesus ... the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.” After the restoration of all things, we know that the vastest majority of all opinion and important matters will simply cease to exist, and we want to be anchored to those essential things which endure eternally.

[Applicable Scriptures:](#)

2 Samuel 16.10	2 Samuel 19.22	Isaiah 40.7-8	Matthew 16.26
Matthew 23.17, 19, 23	Mark 8.37	Mark 12.25	Mark 12.33
Luke 11.42	Acts 15.25	Romans 14	1 Corinthians 1.10-13
1 Corinthians 3.3-9	1 Corinthians 6.13	1 Corinthians 9.8	1 Corinthians 15.1-4
Galatians 1.6-9	Galatians 6.15	Ephesians 4.4-6	Philippians 2.2
Philippians 4.2-3	2 Timothy 2.8	1 Peter 4.8	