

I.C.A.L.M

International Covering Alliance & Licensing for Ministries

*A Worldwide Apostolic Prophetic
Ministerial Network Fellowship*

A Brief Introduction



- Covering Without Control
- Affiliation Without Assimilation
- Community With True Unity

*The Lord spread a cloud above them as a covering and
gave them a great fire to light the darkness.*

Psalm 105:39

Getting Acquainted

International Covering Alliance & Licensing for Ministries, hereinafter referred to as **ICALM** is a Full Gospel Spirit-filled Apostolic Prophetic Ministerial network with members from coast to coast and in various parts of the world. Being a full gospel Spirit-filled fellowship, our affiliate members are comprised of those individuals with Pentecostal / Charismatic / Evangelical backgrounds and experience. *"Spirit-filled"* is the terminology that ICALM uses to define our belief system and we believe that the Gifts of the Holy Spirit are still in operation today and that the Gift of the Holy Ghost is the evidence of his fullness in the believers life by the utterance of unknown tongues. All Bible-believing Christians who study the Word of God are in agreement that the gift of tongues is present in the inspired Scriptures. In the New Testament two lists of gifts appear in which the gift of tongues is included. In 1 Corinthians 12:8-11 *"kinds of tongues"* and *"the interpretation of tongues"* are sovereignly bestowed gifts of the Holy Spirit. In 1 Corinthians 12:28-30 *"tongues"* appears in the list of gifts. We call them *"spiritual gifts"* from the Greek word *"charisma,"* suggesting that the gift is a special bestowment of God's grace. It is not a natural ability that one might develop, but rather a special gift given. And the Holy Spirit is sovereign in the distribution of these gifts.

ICALM is a medium through which those of like mind, heart, and faith may work harmoniously together for the promotion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ around the world. We believe that *everybody* is a *somebody* and every ministry that is of God is important to God and for the benefit of all mankind.

Among the purposes and goals of ICALM is to assist and mentor all those called to Christian ministry through an *organized, reputable, apostolic prophetic network fellowship* thereby promoting *INTEGRITY, CREDIBILITY* and *ACCOUNTABILITY*.

God purposed and ordained that His messengers would come together in true unity and fellowship and be ONE in endeavor with Jesus Christ as the head and being fully dependent on the Holy Spirit for guidance. ICALM exists to help meet the needs that the messengers of God cannot conveniently meet on their own.

Our motto is:

- **Covering Without Control**
- **Affiliation Without Assimilation**
- **Community With True Unity**

We look forward to hearing from you and extending to you the hand of Spiritual Covering, Relationship, and fellowship.

ICALM Offers Ministerial Credentials

ICALM offers several types of ministerial credentials in the five-fold ministry offices. They are:

- CHRISTIAN WORKER
- ELDER
- DEACON
- CHAPLAIN
- GENERAL MINISTERIAL LICENSE (Entry Level - Reverend)
- APOSTLOLIC (Office of Apostle)
- PROHETIC (Office of Prophet)
- EVANGELISTIC (Office of Evangelist)
- PASTORAL (Office of Pastor)
- TEACHING (Office of Teacher)
- BISHOP / OVERSEER (Oversees all five-fold Ministries)

Note: *A pamphlet can be provided upon request giving the general requirements for each ICALM ministerial membership classification.*

A ministerial credential card will not help you minister the Word of God, that takes the anointing of God, but licensing and credentialing do have several benefits including the *"sense of belonging."* In addition, it provides a Church, Ministry, or Minister (clergy) proof of their ministerial status which is required by many in the marketplace, professional agencies, and institutions today. It also lends itself toward credibility where these secular institutions and others in the community are concerned.

ICALM members are submitted one to the other and through this submission a strong sense of accountability is formed. The actions and words of one affect the entire body. This type of unity allows for greater recognition and credibility in the Christian community and the world in general.

Churches & Ministries

Churches and Outreach Ministries can affiliate for many of the same reasons an individual clergyman would affiliate plus it opens the doors for interaction, fellowship, and networking. The ICALM organizational umbrella also provides spiritual covering for independent (inter-dependent) churches and ministries.

The word "ministries" is used in reference to an evangelistic outreach organized for promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ and humanitarian efforts. These *"para-church ministries"* may include (*but not limited to*) emergency preparedness, addiction recovery, deliverance ministry, chaplaincy, prison ministry, hospital visitation, group homes and care centers, inner city outreach to the poor and indigent, teaching ministries, ministry of helps, worship teams, gospel singers, expressive dance troupes etc., and missions (*foreign and domestic*). Membership with ICALM provides these diverse ministries with greater strength through identification with the entire network fellowship of ICALM. Affiliate churches within the ICALM network will also have more access to available and anointed ministers and ministries within the fellowship of ICALM.

Legal covering is an important benefit of church or ministry affiliation. The group exemption under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service provides protection for the contributor to the ministry and offers other government and non-profit tax exemption status. A special pamphlet is available upon request that gives more detailed information concerning churches and ministries desiring affiliation with ICALM.

The independent (inter-dependant) church may also align and affiliate under the covering and guidance of ICALM. For those churches coming under the ICALM banner, they may become an official “recognized” ICALM church in their perspective city and state and use the authorized logo on church stationary and signs, as well as enjoy many other church start up “turn- key” privileges and benefits that our ICALM covering provides.

Alignment ~ Fellowship ~ Networking

Membership affiliation with ICALM provides the opportunity to meet, fellowship, network, and align with others of like faith and like vision. This provides an avenue to work with others to better enhance individual ministry. While there are areas of duplication in all ministries and churches, there are also areas of expertise unique to certain individuals. We cannot all be experts in every aspect of the Christian ministry, but this CAN be accomplished through alignment, fellowsip, and networking with others. If nothing else, it’s good to get together with others and just be friends. We all need healthy friendships outside of our own four walls.

Church Planting and Start Up Ministry

Assistance is provided by ICALM to those desiring to pioneer a new church or ministry. ICALM will assist through resources, counsel, procedures to incorporate a church or ministry, set up of local by-laws and constitution and government, and assistance in acquiring all necessary tax exemptions. ICALM is also involved in planting churches and providing pastors for those churches.

Conferences ~ Conventions ~ And Other Spirit-filled Gatherings

Uniting together, serving together and supporting each other we learn from one another by the gifts God has given. To help promote fellowship and meet the needs of the ministry, various fellowship functions are conducted each year. As can be well understood, more frequent activities are conducted in areas of greater representation. But it is our desire and goal to see ICALM expand in all areas so equal benefits can be enjoyed by the total membership on a more convenient basis.

ICALM has at least one Annual Conference per year where it is HIGHLY encouraged that all members and affiliates make the necessary travel plans and financial arrangements to attend. In addition, in areas where possible, other fellowship functions are provided including Glory Encounters and Breakthrough Conferences. Glory Encounters and Breakthrough Conference are organized revival services with powerful praise and worship and anointed five-fold ministry leaders as the keynote speakers. It provides for ICALM members as well as non-members alike to come together in a spirit of unity, meet, get acquainted, and receive necessary encouragement. Most importantly they provide a great venue for spiritual leaders to receive a refresh Word and receive special prophetic impartation from the Spirit of God.

Foreign Missions

Missions, foreign and domestic, are an important part of the Christian ministry. ICALM has foreign members as a part of the fellowship. Corporate mission projects are carefully selected and funded by supporting ICALM churches and ministries. Any church or ministry can send its mission support through the ICALM office for forwarding to the mission field. Presently ICALM sends dollar for dollar to the mission field minus any bank or financial institution transfer fees. Additional information concerning missions is available upon request.

Ministerial Educational Programs & Degrees

ICALM offers accredited Bible College credit through a 2 year AA-Associates degree, a 4 year BA-Bachelors degree, and 5 to 6 year MA- Masters and Doctoral degrees through Gateway International Bible Institute ICALM's Fast-track apostolic prophetic ministerial training center. GIBI provides corporate classes, online courses, and correspondence courses. Visit www.gibionline.org today!

Weekly corporate classes are currently held in Peoria, Arizona

located at: 9299 W. Olive Ave. Ste. 601, Peoria, AZ 85345.

Ofc. Phone: (623) 486-5000

ICALM Membership How to Apply

Membership affiliation with ICALM either Individual, Church, Evangelistic Outreach Ministries, or a combination thereof are by Application Only!

An official application(s) is available upon request. A Ministerial Recommendation Form is required if the applicant does not have a current ICALM minister as their sponsor. Other references may be required or requested as necessary.

Membership is not restricted by sex, race or national origin. When submitting any application, a recent passport type photo and annual dues (fees) should be included. Applications received are forwarded to Apostle Dr Brian Alton, Presiding Bishop of ICALM and to the ICALM regional apostolic membership committee for processing.

The Current Annual ICALM Membership Dues Are As Follows:

- **Individual Ministerial Credentials (Annually).....\$100.00**
- **Husband / Wife Ministerial Credentials (Annually)\$75.00 each**
- **Evangelistic / Outreach Ministries Covering (Annually).....\$200.00**
- **Start Up / Mission Church (10 to 100 members) (Annually).....\$300.00**
- **An Independent Sovereign Church Aligning with ICALM (Annually) \$500.00**
- **Full Covenant ICALM Affiliate Church (\$200.00 App. Fee) 10% weekly tithes**

Vision Statement

We are a Christ-Centered Apostolic Prophetic ministerial network fellowship called to help facilitate a stronger unity among the messengers of God, to create a medium through which those messengers may harmoniously work together in unity and to provide the necessary credentials, and spiritual covering , and assistance needed by the members to better equip them for their spiritual calling , purpose and destiny.

The Administration

The spiritual governing body of ICALM is made up of: A presiding Bishop (*Chief Apostle / Overseer*). Board of Directors made up of tried, tested, and trusted five-fold ministry leaders -- Apostles, Prophets, Pastors, Evangelists, & Teachers local, regional, and international. A college of commissioned and appointed Regional apostles made up of nationally and internationally recognized apostolic prophetic leaders who serve in an advisory capacity to the Presiding Bishop, Apostle Dr. Brian W Alton. More information on the ICALM Administration can be provided upon request.

The ICALM general offices are located at:

201 E. 4th St.
Loveland, CO 80537

The ICALM Mailing address is:

I.C.A.L.M.

Attn: Apostle Dr. Brian Alton

3730 Wittaker Circle

Johnstown, Colorado 80534

****(Please send all future correspondence to this MAILING ADDRESS ONLY!)****

Dr. Brian W Alton is the Founding Chairman and Presiding Bishop of ICALM. He and his wife, Pastor Phaedra Alton currently minister and flow in all five fold ministry gifts of Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor, and Teacher. They travel locally and internationally under the banner of Brian Alton Ministries, International Covering Alliance & Licensing for Ministries, Desert Rose Community Church, and Gateway International Bible Institute, conducting revivals, crusades, conferences, seminars, ministerial training and other special Spirit-filled meetings.

Apostle Brian is a popular conference speaker, favorite local television personality, bestselling author, and Bible college Professor. He is used by God to help the corporate Church worldwide experience a higher dimension of spiritual maturity and freedom. He has a powerful Psalmist anointing which releases divine healing and draws the manifest presence of the Lord in his meetings. Dr. Alton is considered an Apostolic Prophetic leader to the body of Christ. It has been said by many of his peers that he is a spiritual Father and a "Leader to Leaders." Dr. Alton trains, credentials, licenses, and oversees many leaders and ministry organizations around the world. His chief desire is to expand the Kingdom of God by empowering people to move toward their life's true Kingdom purpose and destiny.

In Summary

ICALM - IS a covering ministry medium through which those affiliated may work harmoniously in cooperation with each other. It is NOT nor shall it ever be a legalistic religious denomination which exercises ecclesiastical or hierarchical authority over its members. ICALM shall NEVER attempt to impose a single attribute of power or authority over any church, ministry or individual member that would limit the sovereignty of that member or ministry. However certain ICALM guidelines and policies must be in place to provide proper Biblical spiritual covering and credibility, but we recognize the sovereignty of all members under one SOVEREIGN, the LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Every minister, church, or evangelistic outreach ministry will be free to carry on their own programs as they are led by the Spirit of God. Members and affiliates of ICALM are expected to conduct their affairs and morals in such a way that would truly be reflective of a Christian life of holiness, character and integrity.

We offer the hand of fellowship to those individuals, churches and ministries that are genuine and sincere in their spiritual calling and can embrace the ideas and goals as put forth by **International Covering Alliance & Licensing for Ministries**.

***Statement of Faith ***

We believe that...

- **We Believe the Bible to be The Inspired Word of God;** the infallible Word of God. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Timothy 3:16). The Bible is the only God-given authority which man possesses; therefore, all doctrine, faith, hope, and all instruction for the church must be based upon, and harmonize with, the Bible. It is to be read and studied by all men everywhere, and can only be clearly understood by those who are anointed by the Holy Spirit (1 John 2:27). "... no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (2 Peter 1:20, 21).
- **We Believe in the One Ever Living, Eternal God** infinite in power, Holy in nature, attributes and purpose; and possessing absolute, indivisible deity. This one true God has revealed Himself as Father, through His Son, in redemption; and as the Holy Spirit, by emanation. (1 Cor. 8:6; Eph. 4:6; 2 Cor. 5:19; Joel 2:28). The Holy Scripture prove the existence of God; it asserts, assumes and declares that the knowledge of God is universal. (Romans 1:19, 21, 28, 32; 2:15). God is invisible, incorporeal, without parts, without body, and therefore free from all limitations. The first of all the commandments is, hear, O Israel; the Lord our God is one Lord" (Mark 12:29; Deut. 6:4). "One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all" (Eph. 4:6). This one true God manifested Himself in the Old Testament in divers ways; in the Son while He walked among men; as the Holy Spirit after the ascension.
- **We Believe in Jesus Christ, the Jehovah of the Old Testament, took upon Himself the form of man, and as the Son of man in the New Testament, was Born of the Virgin Mary.** As Paul says "and without controversy great is the mystery of Godliness:

God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory" (1 Timothy 3:16). "He came unto His own, and His own received Him not" (John 1:11). This one true God was manifest in the flesh, that is, in His Son Jesus Christ. ". . . God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them. . ." (2 Cor. 5:19).

- **We Believe that in Jesus Christ Dwells all the Fullness of the Godhead Bodily.** "For it pleased the Father that in Him should all fullness dwell" (Col. 1:19 & 2:9). Therefore, Jesus in His humanity was man; in His deity was and is God. His flesh was the lamb, or the sacrifice of God. He is the only mediator between God and man. "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 2:5). Jesus on His Father's side was divine, on His mother's side, human; Thus, He was known as the Son of God and also the son of man, or the God-man. "For He hath put all things under His feet. But when He saith all things are put under Him, it is manifest that He is excepted, which did put all things under Him" (1 Cor. 15:27). "And when all things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him that put all things under Him, that God may be all in all" (1 Cor. 15:28). "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty" (Rev. 1:8).
- **We Believe in the Name of Jesus.** God used different titles, such as "God Elohim", "El Shaddai", "Jehovah", and especially "Jehovah Lord", the redemptive name in the Old Testament. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: ... and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6). This prophecy of Isaiah was fulfilled when the Son of God was named, "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call His name Jesus: for He shall save His People from their sins" (Matt. 1:21). "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).
- **We Believe in The Creation of Man and His Fall.** In the beginning God created man innocent, pure and holy; but through the sin of disobedience, Adam and Eve, the first of the human race, fell from their holy state, and God banished them from Eden. Hence by one man's disobedience, sin entered into the world. (Gen. 1:27; Rom. 3:23, 5:12).
- **We Believe in Repentance and Conversion.** Pardon and forgiveness of sins is obtained by genuine repentance, a confessing and forsaking of sins. We are justified by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 5:1). John the Baptist preached repentance, Jesus proclaimed it, and the Apostles emphasized it to both Jews and Gentiles. (Acts 2:38, 11:18, 17:30). The word "repentance" comes from several Greek words which mean, change of views and purpose, change of heart, change of mind, change of life, to transform, etc.

Jesus said, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3). Luke 24:47 says, "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

- **We Believe in Water Baptism by Immersion.** Water baptism is only for those who have fully repented, having turned from their sins and the love of the world (their old life). Baptism is in obedience to the Word of God after salvation, and in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to the Acts of the Apostles 2:38, 8:16, 10:48, 19:5; thus obeying and fulfilling Matthew 28:19 that says, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:"
- **We Believe in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.** John the Baptist, in Matthew 3:11, said, "...He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire." Jesus, in Acts 1:5, said, "...ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." Luke tells us in Acts 2:4, they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues (languages), as the Spirit gave them utterance." The terms "baptize with the Holy Ghost and fire," "filled with the Holy Spirit," and the "gift of the Holy Ghost" are synonymous terms used interchangeably in the Bible. It is scriptural to expect all who receive the gift, filling, or baptism of the Holy Spirit to receive the same physical, initial sign of speaking with other tongues. The speaking with other tongues, as recorded in Acts 2:4, 10:46, and 19:6, and the gift of tongues, as explained in 1 Corinthians, chapters 12 and 14, are the same in essence, but different in use and purpose. The Lord, through the Prophet Joel, said, I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; ..." (Joel 2:28). Peter, in explaining this phenomenal experience, said, having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, He (Jesus) hath shed forth this which ye now see and hear." (Acts 2:33). Further, "...The promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." (Acts 2:39).
- **We Believe in the Gifts of the Spirit.** We believe that it is possible for Christians today to receive special gifts of the Spirit. In regard to the spiritual gifts as they are listed in 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will." It is important to note especially verse 11 where we find that the Holy Spirit gives the gifts according to His own will.

He (the Holy Spirit) chooses who gets which gifts, and He dispenses them at His good pleasure. The Gifts of the Spirit are special abilities provided by the Holy Spirit to Christians for the purpose of building up the body of Christ. The list of spiritual gifts in I Cor. 12:8-10 includes wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, speaking in tongues, and interpretation of tongues. Similar lists appear in Eph. 4:7-13 and Rom. 12:3-8. The gifts of the Spirit are simply God enabling believers to do what He has called us to do. 2 Peter 1:3 says, "His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness." The gifts of the Holy Spirit are part of the "everything we need" to fulfill His purposes for our lives.

Gifts of the Spirit - Simple Definitions

There is some controversy as to the precise nature of each of the gifts of the Spirit, but ICALM adheres to this simple list of spiritual gifts and their basic definitions:

The gift of wisdom is the special ability to make wise decisions and to give others spiritual guidance and wise counsel according to the leading of the Spirit concerning God's perfect will for their lives.

The gift of knowledge is the special ability to have an in-depth understanding from the Spirit of God concerning spiritual or natural issues that they or others are facing in any given circumstance or situation.

The gift of faith is the special ability in the Spirit to trust God and encourage others in the Spirit to trust God, no matter what their circumstances, situation, or lot. A special ability to believe for the miraculous.

The gift of healing is the special and miraculous ability in the Spirit to use God's healing power to restore a person who is sick, injured, diseased, or suffering.

The gift of miracles is the special ability to work with the Holy Spirit to perform signs and wonders that give authenticity to God's Power, God's Word and the Gospel message.

The gift of prophecy is the special ability to deliver and proclaim through the leading and empowering of the Spirit a direct personal message from God himself to an individual person, a city, a nation, or the world.

The gift of discerning spirits is the special ability from the Holy Spirit to determine whether or not a message, a person, a spirit, or an event is truly from God or from a fleshly or demonic source in direct opposition to God's redemptive plan and purpose.

The gift of tongues is the ability to speak in a divine heavenly language that you do not have knowledge of, in order to communicate corporately to the body of Christ prophetically. This is typically followed up by another who has been given a divine interpretation from the Spirit of such messages in tongues in a language that others will easily understand (like English) in order to hear the divine mystery of such a prophetic message.

The gift of interpreting tongues is the special ability from the Spirit to translate the tongues speaking and prophetically communicate it back simply to others in an understandable language (like English).

The gift of administration is the special ability in the Spirit to be able to keep things properly organized, managed, maintained, and one who is empowered to recognize and administer heavenly strategies in accordance with God's divine kingdom principles and purposes.

The gift of helps is always having the desire and special ability in the Spirit to help and to serve others, to do whatever it takes to get a task accomplished.

The Holy Spirit distributes all these gifts in such a way that every believer has at least one gift which is uniquely his own. You may have been given a certain gift by God, but it would be a mistake for you to say everyone else should have that same gift. We must keep in mind that the spiritual gifts are given by the Holy Spirit and must not be considered unimportant. The use of them is to exalt the Lord and to equip and build up the body of believers. The possession of a spiritual gift is not to be thought of as making one believer more holy or more spiritually advanced than another. It is important to note that the apostle Paul admonishes that these gifts must be governed by love and that all things should "be done decently and in order" (1 Corinthians 14:40). A good test of any spiritual ministry or experience is whether or not it honors God and exalts the Lord Jesus Christ in all humility.

- **We Believe in Divine Healing.** The first covenant that the Lord (Jehovah) made with the children of Israel after they were brought out of Egypt was a covenant of healing. The Lord said, ". . . if thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord (Jehovah-Rapha, the Lord that healeth) thy God, and wilt do that which is right in His sight, and wilt give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians; for I am the Lord that healeth thee." (Exodus 15:26). He (Jesus) being our physician or doctor, we have the most capable in the whole world. Our Lord Jesus Christ went about Galilee, preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and disease among the people. (Matthew 4:23, 24). "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

The vicarious suffering of the Lord Jesus Christ paid for the healing of our bodies, the same as for the salvation of our souls, for with His stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5). Matthew 8:17 reads, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses" (See also I Peter 2:24). We see from this that divine healing for the body is in the atonement. That being true, then it is for all who believe. Jesus said of believers, ". . . they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Later, James wrote in his Epistle to all the churches: "Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:14-16). All of these promises are for the church today.

- **We Believe in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.** On the night of our Lord's betrayal, He ate the Passover supper with His Apostles, after which He instituted the sacrament. "And He took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, this is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper saying, this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you." (Luke 22:19-20). Paul instructed the church how to observe it (I Cor. 11:23-34). Thus was instituted the use of bread and the fruit of the vine, which are partaken of literally, as emblems (symbols) of His broken body and shed blood. There is spiritual significance and supernatural blessings that come to all believers who partake of this sacred and holy sacrament.
- **We Believe in Holiness and Godly Living.** Godly living should characterize the life of every child of the Lord, and we should live according to the pattern and example given in the Word of God. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and Godly, in this present world" (Titus 2:11,12). "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps: who did no sin, neither was 'guile found in His mouth: who, when He was reviled, reviled not again; when He suffered, He threatened not; but committed himself to Him that judgeth righteously" (1 Peter 2:21-23). "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14). "But as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, be ye holy; for I am holy.
- **We Believe in The Grace of God.** "For the grace of God that brings salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and Godly, in this present world" (Titus 2:11,12). "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ" (John 1:17). A Christian must walk with God and keep himself in the love of God (Jude 21) and in the grace of God. The word "grace" means "favor."

When a person transgresses and sins against God, he loses his favor. If he continues to commit sin and does not repent, he will eventually be lost and cast into the lake of fire. (Read John 15:2, 6; 2 Peter 2:20-21). Jude speaks of the backsliders of his day, and their reward. (Also, read Hebrews 6:4-6). "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8).

- **We Believe in the Literal Second Coming of Jesus Christ and the Eternal Kingdom of God.** The Second Coming is when Jesus Christ will return to earth in fulfillment of His promises and to fulfill the prophecies made about Him. Jesus Himself promised, "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory" (Matthew 24:30). Revelation 19:11-12 proclaims this about the Second Coming, "I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself." Those who witnessed Christ's ascension into heaven after his death and resurrection heard the angels declare in Acts 1:11, "Men of Galilee...why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." The Second Coming is the literal return of Jesus Christ to earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords reigning in power and glory to rule for a thousand years (Revelation 20:1-6). The Second Coming of Christ is when He (Jesus Christ) will fulfill all the Old Testament and New Testament prophecies about the Messiah's second coming. Christ's first coming was to stand in our place and receive the penalty exacted for sin. His Second Coming will defeat sin for all eternity. The Second Coming is undisputed. The Second Coming is the event when Jesus Christ returns to the earth to defeat evil and establish His reign of justice and peace.
- **We Believe in the Prophesied Restitution of All Things.** We understand the scripture to teach the restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began. The apostle Peter spoke of the coming "times of restoration of all things" (Acts 3:21). The word restoration implies "a return ... to a former, original, normal, or unimpaired condition, or the restitution of something taken away or lost." Just what is this prediction about? Peter was speaking of a future time when things would be restored to their original state. The apostle explained that God had spoken this prophecy "by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began" and that Jesus would remain in heaven until it was time for this event to unfold. Christ's return and the times of restoration are thus linked together, and many Bible passages point to these events happening in various stages, right here on earth. Numerous Bible verses describe the coming Day of The Lord as a prerequisite to the first phase of the "restoration of all things." God warns that a dreadful time of punishment will come upon the inhabitants of the earth because of disobedience to God's laws (Isaiah 13:11; Malachi 4:1-3; Joel 2:11; Revelation 6:15-17).

This short, agonizing period will climax with Christ's return to earth in great glory, to be witnessed by the whole earth (Matthew 24:29-30). Then, as people humble themselves and repent of their sins, an era of global peace will begin. As God told the ancient Israelites, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon" (Isaiah 55:7). Once Christ returns and establishes His Kingdom on earth, the times of restoration can begin. The Bible often uses terms like "in those days" and "in those days, and at that time" to introduce explanations of what will occur during the reign of Christ on earth for 1,000 years and beyond (Joel 2:29; 3:1; Jeremiah 33:15). The "restoration of all things" includes changes to the earth, the way it is governed and the relationship God will have with humanity. Regarding this last change, God desires to have a close relationship with all humans similar to what He had with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden before they sinned. Describing this wonderful event, Paul wrote, "For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the [entire physical] creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption [decay and destruction] into the glorious liberty of the children of God" (Romans 8:19-22). In addition to the saints of this first resurrection being changed to spirit to meet Jesus Christ at His return (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17) and rule with Him for a thousand years (Revelation 20:6), Satan's kingdom will be banished! The ruler of the world will be "cast out" of his position and "bound for a thousand years" (John 12:31; Revelation 20:1-3). Christ will then begin ruling over the whole earth with justice and fairness (Psalm 98:9; Isaiah 11:3-5; Revelation 11:15). One of the key components of restoration during the thousand-year reign of Christ on earth (a period of time also called the Millennium) will be a massive rehabilitation of the land and its cities. Once the sins of Israel are forgiven, God will cause this nation's land to be restored to beauty like the Garden of Eden. "On the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will also enable you to dwell in the cities, and the ruins shall be rebuilt. ... So they will say, 'This land that was desolate has become like the garden of Eden; and the wasted, desolate, and ruined cities are now fortified and inhabited'" (Ezekiel 36:33, 35).