



Endurance Ministries'
Doctrinal Statement
(summary of our Statement of Faith within our Constitution)

We receive the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the revealed Word of God and as such, the only infallible rule of faith and practice.

We believe God, in His desire to communicate through His Word, does so with the intent to do just that – communicate. As a result, the sixty-six books of the Bible are to be read literally unless the context of the passage clearly indicates otherwise. The *He-means-what-He-says-and-says-what-He-means* style of literature accepts the simple meaning of the text while not rejecting a variety of genres within Scripture.

We confess our faith in the One living God revealed in the authoritative Scripture as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. As such, we believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. Three days later He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty from where He will come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.

We acknowledge man as defined, in part, in Genesis 1:26,27. As male and female, man is blessed with the image of God, though deeply marred by sin, even to the extent of eternal ruin if left to himself. Man must believe the Lord Jesus Christ made atonement for the sins of mankind through His death and resurrection and, through this sacrifice, has provided the way of salvation for all mankind. This salvation is offered freely to every person willing to receive the Person and Work of Jesus Christ by faith. Those who do so will experience regeneration by the Holy Spirit, endure in their faith and not perish but have everlasting life.

In obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ, His People are to discern the *times* prior to His Second Advent and thus be ready for His glorious return. It is commitment to this readiness which brings/highlights EM's distinctive. Although a theological chronology of end-time events is offered, this ministry emphasizes current cultural trends which are addressed in the Word as important end-time themes having eternal significance. A list of these consequential concerns is included in Article Twelve of our Constitution - below. Because of these God-given mandates, EM takes seriously the tasks of Evangelism and Discipleship.

12.1 General

The Bible emphasizes some crucial end-time *themes*. This thematic emphasis is one of the distinctives of Endurance Ministries. The following topics of concern, toward the end of evangelism and discipleship and ultimately unto the glory and praise of God as His Word is obeyed (I John 5:1-5), will therefore be among the top priorities of Endurance Ministries. Before the list of major concerns is developed below, an introduction is appropriate.

Truth matters, especially given the consequence which comes as a result of acting upon belief. But just how does one go about forming belief, including general worldview and specific perspective on particular topics? One must have a quality epistemic foundation upon which to stand. Christians have as their foundation, the Word of God. This essential allows for the living out of God's worldview. In the Bible we find warnings of deceptions, deceptions lying not in the distant future but ones present today. Through the Word of God, the discerning of worldly culture, in which lies these deceptions, is extended. One of the lists of end-time character qualities includes hatred of God and His People. As the cultural deceptions are exposed (we are to forewarn others of the looming evils which bear great consequence), the Word of God teaches that great persecution will come to those who, as a result of genuine loving care for those around them, expose the deceptions. God's Word does not stop here.

Other related concerns are emphasized. God's People are to patiently endure under these circumstances. They are to remain faithful to sound doctrine in the midst of a world that has rejected Truth for myth. As the world mandates a global culture, syncretistic demands will be made. God's People are told to respond, not in agreement, but in rejection – we are to separate from the worldly system. As a result, a further wave of persecution will occur. This takes place under the leadership of one who the Bible calls “antichrist.” As one in absolute opposition to Jesus Christ, even claiming to be Christ (“anti” communicates two ideas: *against* and *instead of*), Christians will have no part with this figure but will remain faithful to the True Messiah, Jesus Christ. Given all these are revealed in Scripture, Endurance Ministries seeks to provide help and encouragement in response. Included in the list of topics below are the themes upon which Endurance Ministries will focus its help and encouragement.

12.2 Truth Foundations

Starting point presuppositions will affect outcome. Epistemological (how we know what we know) assumptions which speak with varying degrees of quality and authority are

crucial but seldom understood. Ps. 11:3 ; Ps. 119:160 ; Jn. 8:31,32 ;

12.3 Deception

Jesus Christ clearly warned of deception in the last days. The written Word of God also designates this concern as among some of the top end-time issues. Dan. 8 ; Mt. 24:4,5 ; I Tim. 4:1-5 ; II Tim. 3:13-17 ;

12.4 Discernment

Critical thinking skills which are Biblically based offer essential tools to expose the many contemporary lies. Dan. 11:32-35 ; Jn. 16:4 ;

12.5 Hatred of God and His Way

As God's Word is faithfully shared by His people, a reaction against Truth will grow. This opposition will come in many forms. Dan. 12:10 ; Jn. 15:18-25 ; II Thes. 2 ;

12.6 Love for God, His Way and All People

As outlined in Scripture, we are to be reactionary in a loving manner – speaking the Truth in love, as opposed to some of the militant alternatives which occasionally arise under growing persecution. Jn. 15:9-17 ;

12.7 Persecution Against God's People

The Bible also forewarns of great hostility during the days of the end. EM helps prepare for such days. Dan. 7:21-25 ; Mt. 24:9-22 ;

12.8 Endurance

God stresses the importance of enduring to the end as opposed to apostasy. Mt. 24:13 ; I Tim. 2:12 ; Heb. 3,4 ; I Pet. ; Rev. 14:12 ;

12.9 False Teaching

As society becomes more like the father of this world (i.e., more satanic), false teaching will continue to rise. Mt. 24:11,23-28 ; II Tim. 4:1-5 ;

12.10 Correct Doctrine

Because Truth matters, God's people must continue in His Truth due to the eternally significant results tied thereto. I Jn. 2:20-23; 4:1-6 ; II Jn. 7-11 ;

12.11 Pluralistic and Syncretistic Globalism

Political, economic, national, religious and other elements of culture are moving to a one-world system. Rev. 13,14 ;

12.12 Separation

God's people cannot adopt but must "come out of" the one-world system lest they suffer the consequences outlined in the Scriptures. Rev. 18:4 ;

12.13 Difficult Days

Earthly conditions are stated to be quite intense in the days of the end. Mt. 24:4ff ; Rev. 6-18 ;

12.14 The Antichrist

The Word of God clearly identifies the antichrist as an individual who will seek global allegiance. Dan. 8:9-12 ; Dan. 11:21ff ; I Thes. 5:23,24 ; II Thes. 2 ; Rev. 13 ;

12.15 Jesus Christ

As the Alpha and the Omega, the True Jesus Christ will return and overthrow darkness. The Word has much to say on this victorious note! Daniel 7:9-27 ; Rev. 21:4 ;