

# EVANGELICAL SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, INC.

## ESCUELA EVANGELICA PARA SORDOS

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The Evangelical School for the Deaf, its full-time commissioned workers and members of the Board of Directors adhere to these beliefs. We ask all visitors to respect these beliefs while visiting our ministry.

### **The Holy Scriptures:**

We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the verbally inspired word of God, the final authority for faith and life, inerrant in the original writings, infallible, and God breathed. (*2Tim 3:16-17; 2 Pet 1:20-21; Matt 5:18; John 16:12-13*)

### **The Godhead:**

We believe in one triune God, eternally existing in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, co-equal in power and glory and having the same attributes and perfections. (*Deut 6:4; 2 Cor 13:14*)

### **The Person and Work of Christ:**

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary and lived a sinless life. He came that He might reveal God and redeem sinful man. (*Luke 1:35; John 1:1,2,14*)

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice in providing an unlimited atonement for the sins of the whole world and our justification is verified by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead. (*Romans 3:24,25; Ephesians 1:7; Hebrews 2:9; I Peter 1:3-5; 2:24; I John 2:2*)

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate. (*Acts 1:9,10; Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25; 9:24; I John 2:1,2*)

### **The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit:**

We believe the Holy Spirit is the person of the Godhead who in this present age convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment; who regenerates and baptizes into the body of Christ those who believe; and who indwells and seals them unto the day of redemption. (*John 16:8- 11; Romans 8:9; I Corinthians 12:12-14; II Corinthians 3:6; Ephesians 1:13,14*)

We believe the Holy Spirit is the Divine Teacher who guides believers into all truth and it is the privilege of believers to be filled with, and their duty to walk in, the Holy Spirit. (*John 16:13; Galatians 5:16; Ephesians 5:18; I John 2:20,27*)

### **The Total Depravity of Man:**

We believe man was created in the image and likeness of God; in Adam's sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God; and man is totally depraved and unable to remedy his lost condition. (*Genesis 1:26,27; Romans 3:22,23; 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3,12*)

### **Salvation:**

We believe that salvation is the gift of God brought to man by grace, and received by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ whose precious blood was shed on Calvary for the forgiveness of our sins. (*Eph 1:7, 2:8-10; John 1:12; 1 Pet 1:18-19*)

### **The Eternal Security and Assurance of Believers:**

We believe that:

- a) 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; Rom 8:1, 38-39; 1 Cor 1:4-8; 1 Pet 1:5*)
- b) it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's word, which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion to the flesh. (*Rom 13:13-14; Gal 5:13, Titus 2:11-15*)

### **The Church:**

We believe that the church, which is the body and espoused bride of Christ:

- a) is a spiritual organism made up of all born again persons of this present age. (*Eph 1:22-23, 5:25-27; 1 Cor 12:12-14; 2 Cor 11:2*)
- b) that the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures. (*Acts 14:27, 20:17, 28-32; 1 Tim 3:1-3; Titus 1:5-11*)

### **Ordinances:**

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ established two ordinances for the Church in this present age. These are believer's water baptism, practiced by immersion, and the Lord's supper, observed as a memorial of His death. (*Acts 8:12,35-39; 10:47,48; 1 Corinthians 1:14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-34*)

### **Separation:**

We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Saviour and Lord. That separation from religious apostasy, worldly and sinful pleasures and associates is a command of God. (*2 Tim 3:1-5; Rom 1:26-28, 12:1-2, 14:13; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 Cor 6:14, 7:1*)

### **The Ministry and Spiritual Gifts:**

We believe that:

- a) there are many different gifts of the Spirit mentioned in Scripture and given by the Holy Spirit as He chooses and to whom He chooses, for the perfecting of the saints and the edifying of the body of Christ. (*1 Cor 12:4-11; Eph 4:11-16; Rom 12:6-8; 1 Pet 4:10-11*)
- b) the Bible commands Christians to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Speaking in tongues is not proof of being filled with the Spirit and is not acceptable as a practice at E.S.D. Rather, we encourage a spirit of rejoicing, thankfulness, love for the brethren and power in witnessing. (*Eph 5:18-20; John 13:34-35; 1 Cor 13:1-3; Acts 1:8, 4:31-32; 2 Tim 1:7*)

c) God does hear and answer the prayer of faith for the sick and afflicted, in accordance with His own will. (*John 15:7; 1 John 5:14-15*)

**Missions:**

We believe that it is the obligation of the saved to witness by life and by words to the truths of Scripture, and to seek to proclaim the Gospel to all mankind. (*Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8; 2 Cor 5:19-20*)

**The personality of Satan:**

We believe that Satan is a person, the author of sin and the cause of the fall. That he is the open and declared enemy of God and man and that he will be eternally punished in the lake of fire. (*Job 1:6-7; Isa. 14:12-17; Matt 4:2-11, 25:41; Rev 20:10*)

**The Second Advent of Christ:**

We believe in the "Blessed Hope" of the personal, imminent, pre-tribulation and pre-millennial coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His redeemed ones, and in His subsequent return to the earth with His saints to establish His millennial kingdom. (*1 Thess 1:10, 4:13-18, 5:9; Zech 14:4-11; Rev 3:10, 19:11-16, 20:1-6, 10*)

**The Eternal State:**

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment. (*Matthew 25:46; John 5:28,29; 11:25,26; Revelation 20:5,6,12,13*)

We believe the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection when spirit, soul, and body are reunited and glorified to be forever with the Lord. (*Luke 23:43; II Corinthians 5:8; Philipians 1:23; 3:21; I Thessalonians 4:16,17; Revelation 20:4-6*)

We believe the souls of unbelievers are, at death, absent from the body and in conscious misery until the second resurrection, when with soul and body reunited they shall appear at the Great White Throne Judgment and shall be cast into the lake of fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscious punishment. (*Matthew 25:41-46; Mark 9:43-48; Luke 16:19- 26; II Thessalonians 1:7-9; Jude 6,7; Revelation 20:11-15*)

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