Apostolic Movement Aotearoa - Statement of Faith

All Scriptures are quoted from the New International Version (NIV).



1. The Authority of Scripture

We believe the Bible is the only infallible, reliable, and authoritative written Word of God. (2Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21)

- 1. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16)
- 2. Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (2Peter 1:20-21)

2. The Triune God

We believe in one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19, 2 Corinthians 13:14, Ephesians 2:18)

- 1. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)
- 2. "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." (2 Corinthians 13:14)
- 3. For through Him (Jesus) we both have access to the Father by ONE Spirit (Ephesians 2:18)

3. The Lord Jesus Christ

We believe in the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ—His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, atoning death, bodily resurrection, and ascension to the right hand of the Father. (John 1:1–3; Matthew 1:23; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Luke 19:37; Isaiah 53:4–6; 1 Corinthians 15:3–6; Mark 16:19)

- 1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... Through him all things were made. (John 1:1-3)
- 2. The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel (which means "God with us") (Matthew 1:23)
- 3. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2Corinthians 5:21)

- 4. The whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen. (Luke 19:37)
- 5. He was pierced for our transgressions... and by his wounds we are healed. (Isaiah 53:4-6)
- 6. Christ died for our sins... he was buried... he was raised on the third day... and he appeared to more than five hundred. (1Corinthians 15:3-6)
- 7. After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God. (Mark 16:19)

4. Salvation Through Christ Alone

We believe salvation comes through personal repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, by His blood. The saved will inherit eternal life; the lost, eternal separation from God. (Acts 2:38; Ephesians 1:7; Daniel 12:2; John 11:25–26)

- Repent and be baptised... for the forgiveness of your sins. (Acts 2:38)
 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins. (Ephesians 1:7)
- 2. Multitudes who sleep in the dust... some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. (Daniel 12:2)
- 3. I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die. (John 11:25-26)

5. Healing Through the Cross

We believe Christ's death provides healing through prayer and faith. (Isaiah 53:5; 1 Peter 2:24; James 5:14–16)

- 1. By his wounds you have been healed. (Isaiah 53:5), (1Peter2:24)
- 2. The prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well... pray for each other so that you may be healed. (James 5:14-16)

6. The Second Coming of Christ

We believe in the personal return of Jesus Christ and the gathering of His Church. (1 Thessalonians 4:16–17)

1. The Lord himself will come down from heaven... and we will be caught up... to meet the Lord in the air. (1 Thessalonians 4:16–17)

7. The Indwelling Holy Spirit

We believe the Holy Spirit dwells in every believer, empowering them for godly living. (John 20:22; Romans 8:11; 1 Corinthians 3:16)

- 1. He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." (John 20:22)
- 2. The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you. (Romans 8:11)
- 3. "Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?" (1 Corinthians 3:16)

8. Baptism in the Holy Spirit

We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit as a gift following salvation, evidenced by speaking in tongues and boldness to witness. (Luke 11:13; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:4)

- 1. How much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! (Luke 11:13)
- 2. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses... (Acts 1:8)
- 3. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues. (Acts 2:4)

9. Gifts of the Holy Spirit

We believe the gifts of the Spirit are for today and are given to build up the Church. (1 Corinthians 12:8–10; Hebrews 2:3–4)

- 1. To one there is given... word of wisdom... healing... prophecy... speaking in tongues... (1Corithians 12:8-10)
- 2. God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit. (Hebrews 2:3-4)

10. Water Baptism & Communion

We believe in baptism by full immersion and the ongoing practice of communion. (Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38; 1 Corinthians 11:23–26)

- 1. Go and make disciples... baptising them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)
- 2. Repent and be baptised... for the forgiveness of your sins. (Acts 2:38)
- 3. Do this in remembrance of me... you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1Corinthians 11:23-26)

11. Tithes and Offerings

We believe in the biblical practice of tithing and generous giving. (Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:8–10; Matthew 23:23; 2 Corinthians 9:7)

- A tithe of everything... belongs to the Lord. (<u>Leviticus 27:30</u>)
 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse... see if I will not open the floodgates of heaven. (<u>Malachi 3:8-10</u>)
- 2. You should have practised the latter, without neglecting the former. (Matthew 23:23)
- 3. God loves a cheerful giver... you will abound in every good work. (2Corinthians 9:7)

12. The Local Church

We believe the local church is God's primary vehicle for Kingdom expression in the world. (Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 3:10, 20–21)

- 1. On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. (Matthew 16:18)
- 2. Through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known... (Ephesians 3:10)
- 3. To him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. (Ephesians 3:20-21)

13. God-Given Authority

We believe the Kingdom functions through delegated authority established by God. (Matthew 8:5–10; 1 Corinthians 11:3; Romans 13:1–5)

- 1. Just say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I myself am a man under authority... (Matthew 8:5-10)
- 2. The head of every man is Christ... the head of Christ is God. (1Corithians 11:3)
- 3. There is no authority except that which God has established. (Romans 13:1-5)

14. The Great Commission

We believe every believer is commissioned to go and make disciples of all nations. (Matthew 28:19–20, Mark 16:15)

- 1. Go and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. (Matthew 28:19-20)
- 2. "He said to them, 'Go into the world and preach the gospel to all creation" (Mark 16:15)

15. Unity of Believers

We believe in the spiritual unity of all believers in Christ. (Psalm 133:1; Colossians 3:14)

- 1. How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! (Psalm 133:1)
- 2. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. (Colossians 3:14)