

# Solel Sabbath Fellowship

## STATEMENT OF BELIEFS (HALAKAH)

### THE FOUNDATION OF THE SCRIPTURES

We believe in the authority and sufficiency of God's Word, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old Testament and New Testament. We believe that the Scriptures were verbally inspired by YHVH God and inerrant in the original manuscripts. We believe they were written by YHVH God through the use of men and their style/personality under the control of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, they are absolutely trustworthy in all matters of which they speak. We believe the Bible to be the true center of unity and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creed and opinions shall be tried.

We believe that the Torah (Pentateuch), the first 5 books of the Old Testament forms the foundation of all Scriptures. If there appears to be a contradiction between two portions of Scripture, we use the Torah to define the meaning of words, phrases, or teachings found in other parts of Scripture.

We do not accept any other extra-biblical books outside of the 66 books as Scripture. We may refer to many of these historical texts (Ex. Apocryphal books, Talmud, Didache, etc.). As such, we treat them with the same respect we would give to any other writing of man such as modern commentaries.

**Scripture references**—Deut. 4:2—Torah as foundation of all Scripture; Psalm 119:105; Matt. 5:18; James 3:17—God's Word is truth and everlasting; Proverbs 30:5-6—God's Word is without error; 2 Tim. 3:15-17—Inspired by YHVH (God); Heb. 4:12—Living and active; 2 Pet. 1:19-21—Moved by Holy Spirit; 2 Tim. 3:15-17, 2 Pet. 1:3-4—All we need for life and godliness

### ONLY ONE GOD (YHVH)

We believe there is one and only one living and true God, the creator and supreme ruler of Heaven and Earth. He has existed eternally in oneness that includes the unity of 3 persons/personalities/forms. These forms are the Father, the Son, and the Set-Apart Spirit who are equally in every divine perfection and power, executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of His creation. We believe it is our duty to praise Him, serve Him, and obey His instructions/commands. He commands that we worship Him and Him alone (Ex. 20:1-2). He also tells us not to worship Him in the manner of any other false gods.

**Scripture references**—Gen. 1:1, 26-27; Ex. 20:2,3; Deut. 4:35-36, 6:4; Psalm 90:2; Is. 42:8; 44:6-8; 45:5-6; Jer. 10:10-11; Matt. 28:19; 1 Cor. 8:4-6; 1 Tim. 2:5; 1 Pet. 1:2; 1 Jn. 5:7

### YESHUA (JESUS)

We believe that Yeshua (Jesus) of Nazareth, is God's son and the Messiah. He was conceived by the Set-Apart Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He lived a sinless life by full obedience to the Torah, died in our place to pay the penalty for our sins as a substitutionary sacrifice, rose from the dead after three days, ascended bodily into heaven, and is coming again to establish His eternal kingdom. He is the High Priest in the order of Melchizedek and currently sits at the right hand of the throne of the Father, interceding on behalf of all who place their faith in Him. We believe there is no other Messiah, and as His disciples, we seek to follow His Father's commands as He did. He is the living Word of God that became flesh and is not only our Savior but also our Master, and we follow His example in order to bring others to an understanding of who God is, of their sin, and their need of a Savior.

**Scripture references**—Deut. 18:17-22; Is. 9:6-7, 53:1-12; Matt. 1:18-25, 5:17-19, 28:18-20; John 1:1-18, 2:18-22, 36; 3:14-18; 14:6-15; Acts 1:8-9; Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 3:16-17; 1 Pet.1:3-5; 2 John 1:7-11

## **THE SET-APART SPIRIT (Spirit of God/Ruach HaKodesh/Holy Spirit)**

We believe the Set-Apart Spirit is a divine part of YHVH submissive to the will of the Father and the Son. Among many purposes, the Set-Apart Spirit is sent to indwell/immerse/fill us, seal us, help us, teach and instruct us, sanctify us, comfort us, and lift up Yeshua the Messiah among us.

We do not believe the Spirit of God can ever lead us contrary to the written Word of God, nor can He lead us into sin as defined in the Scriptures. Therefore, if someone makes a prediction for the future which does not come true in every way, or if someone speaks against Yeshua the Messiah, we know that person is a false prophet. In addition, if someone says, "The Spirit told me to..." and it is contrary to Scripture, we know that the Spirit was not truly speaking through that person.

**Scripture references**—Deut. 34:9; 1 Sam. 10:6-10; Neh. 9:20; Ps. 51:10-11; Dan. 4:18, 5:11; Mt. 1:18, 20, 12:32; Mk. 3:29, 12:36; Lk. 4:1, 12:12; John 7:39, 14:26; 16:13, 20:22; Acts 1:8, 15-17, 2:4, 33, 38, 4:8, 31, 5:32, 7:51, 8:15, 17-19, 9:31, 15:8, 28; Rom. 5:5, 8:9, 14, 14:17, 15:13-16; 1 Cor. 2:10-13, 3:16, 6:19; 12:3; 2 Cor. 13:14; Eph. 1:13-14, 2:18-22, 3:5, 16-17, 4:30; 1 Thess. 1:5, 4:8; 2 Tim. 1:14; Titus 3:5; Heb. 2:4, 3:7-11, 6:4-6, 9:6-8, 10:15; James 1:13-17

## **MANKIND**

We believe the Scriptures teach that man was created by a direct act of YHVH in His image, and innocent of God's Law (Torah). By voluntary transgression, man fell from his state of innocence through defiance of YHVH's commands. All mankind from then on are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward YHVH and His Torah (Law), which is called "sin." Consequently, all men are now sinners by nature and choice, without defense or excuse.

**Scripture references**—Gen. 1:26-27, 2:7-25, 3:1-6; Is. 53:6; Rom. 1:28-32; 3:10, 23; 5:5, 8, 10-19; Gal. 3:22; 1 Jn. 1:8-10, 3:4, 5:17

## **SALVATION AND JUSTIFICATION**

We believe the Scriptures teach that salvation of sinners is divinely initiated, wholly of grace (God's favor), and accomplished only through the work of Yeshua the Son of God who mediates on our behalf. Salvation is God's free gift to us. We can only be saved from sin by grace because our hearts will never choose to walk in obedience without rebirth and a new Spirit indwelling us. We cannot ever stand before a righteous God and claim to have no sin. It is only by His graciousness and love for us that He sent His son, Yeshua the Messiah, to pay the penalty for our sins as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice. All who believe in Yeshua and claim Him as their Master and Savior are justified on the grounds of His shed blood.

We do not perform works in order to become saved. We can never make up for sin by self-improvement or good works. However, we seek to do works to please Him because He chose us first. Part of these works is to follow our faith in Yeshua the Messiah by being immersed/mikvehed as a public acknowledgement of being a disciple to Yeshua.

**Scripture references**—John 1:12, 3:16, 14:6; Acts 2:38, 8:34-39; Rom. 3:23-26, 5:8-9; 6:23; Eph. 1:4-7, 2:8-10; Titus 3:4-7

## **HOLINESS (BEING SET APART)**

We at Solel Sabbath Fellowship believe the Scriptures teach that every believer should be separated unto YHVH and from worldliness, and by the aid of the Holy Spirit, should walk in love and holiness, as defined in **ALL of the Scriptures**. We believe that the commands of God, as given in the "Torah" (the first 5 books of the Bible), are

God's definition of holy behavior and that the New Testament clarify these commands further for those living in a sinful world and dispersion.

**Scripture references**—Deut. 30:11-14; Psalm 19:7-11 ; Eccl. 12:13-14; John 15:10; Rom. 10:6-8; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; 1 John 5:2-3

## **SEPARATION**

We believe God's Word teaches that every believer should be separated from apostasy as exemplified in ecclesiastic organizations/ministries which includes those who sanction theological compromise (see 1 John 4:1-6).

If we listen to the advice of "experts" who don't follow God's Word, then we allow bad information into our minds and homes. If we follow this advice, we, our families, and our congregation will pay the consequences. Only God's Word will stand the test of time, and we can depend on His advice for us, our family, and our local assembly.

**Scripture references**—Deut. 18:18-22; Matt. 7:15-20; Acts 20:28-32; 2 Cor. 6:14-18; Gal. 6:7

## **JUDGMENT AND RESURRECTION**

We believe the Scriptures teach the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust. Believers by faith in the Messiah will spend eternity in the presence of God, unbelievers in everlasting punishment.

**Scripture references**—John 3:18; 1 Cor. 15:51-57; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Rev. 20:10-15

## **END TIMES**

We believe and teach a premillennial bodily return of Yeshua to the earth to set up His kingdom in the Millennium. We believe He will meet His people in the air and we will forever be with Him, transformed into our glorified bodies.

We believe in Satan and his constant battle to defeat God's plan of redemption for the world and to destroy God's. We believe in His ultimate defeat and casting along with his followers into the Lake of Fire.

While seen as a disputable matter, we desire to study and understand the godly principles that our Heavenly Father desires us to learn from studying revelatory, prophetic and eschatological teachings in the Scriptures. However, most end-times teachings are not an issue that we feel is worth separating from other believers over. While we do believe that our view of the future can affect our interpretation of Scripture and even our decision making, we believe that the purpose of prophecy is not to give believers a crystal ball into the future, but that its purpose, once revealed and come to pass, is to produce the conviction that YHVH is the one, true God, and therefore, to inspire repentance and faith.

**Scripture references**—John 14:1-4; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; 2 Thess. 2; 1 Cor. 15:25, 51-57; Rev. 3:10, 10:14, 20:6, 10-15

## **SABBATH/SHABBAT**

We believe God's Word teaches that His day is **not** the first day of the week, but **the seventh day**. Throughout Scripture we see from Genesis to Revelation that the Seventh day is a set apart day for coming together to honor God and to rest from our daily activities. We believe YHVH sanctified it after creation and has given it to his people throughout history as a moed, or appointed, set-apart time, to meet with Him. It is to be a day to rest from our work and labors, to meet with other believers, to worship YHVH, and to study the Scriptures. It is a day that prepares us to live for Him in all that we do the rest of the week.

**Scripture references**—Gen. 2:2-3; Ex. 20:9-11; 31:14-17; 35:1-3; Lev. 23:2-3; Deut. 5:12-15; Ps. 92:1-13; Is. 56:1-8; 58:11-13; 66:15-24; Jer. 17:21-27; Matt. 12:1-13; Mk. 1:21-29; Lk. 13:10-17; Jn. 7:22-23; Acts 13:14; 15:19-21; 16:13; 17:2; 18:4

## **CALENDAR**

We are an Aviv (Abib in some translations) barley, sighted moon fellowship. This means that we follow the calendar based upon sighting the moon each month/chodesh in the land of Israel and the beginning of the year based upon the barley harvest exclusively.

The new moon is considered the first sliver of the moon that is visible to the naked eye by those who live in the land of Israel. If the moon is not visible on the 29<sup>th</sup> day, then the 30<sup>th</sup> day will be considered the end of the month with the day following the 30<sup>th</sup> day being the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the next month.

The year begins once there is enough barley in the fields that by the 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> sighted “new” moon that the fields can begin to be harvested at the Feast of Unleavened Bread/Hag HaMatzot starting 14 days (evenings) after the sighting of the moon. The month of Aviv is the first month of the year and occurs during the ripening of the barley harvest in the land of Israel. All these “sightings” must be done in the land of Israel which is YHVH’s set-apart place forever. It is where the calculations for the calendar begins and the only place in Scripture where we are to look for the aviv and the sighted “new” moon.

**Scripture references**—Gen. 1:14; Ex. 9:31-32, 12:1-2, 18-20, 13:3-10, 23:15, 34:18; Lev. 2:14, 23:5-6, 10,14, 24, 27, 34; Deut. 16:1-9; Josh. 5:10-12; Ruth 2:14; 1 Sam. 17:17, 25:18; 2 Sam. 17:28; Ps. 104:19; Mk. 4:26-29