

Doctrinal Basis for the  
**Solent Gospel Partnership**

*"We are committed to contending for Biblical reformed Christianity,  
as expressed in the following Doctrinal Basis."*

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- (A) **God.** The existence of one, eternal immutable God, Creator and Lord of the universe, who in the unity of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, both governs all things according to his will and is accomplishing his purposes in the world and in the Church.
- (B) **The Bible.** The Bible, as originally given, is the inspired, inerrant and infallible word of God. The Bible alone speaks with final authority, so Christians must therefore submit to its supreme authority and sufficiency, both individually and corporately, in every matter of belief and conduct.
- (C) **The Human Race.** The inherent value of all human beings, made by God in his own likeness, and their sinfulness and guilt since the Fall. Every person is therefore under the just condemnation of God, subject to his wrath, and needs to be born again, forgiven and reconciled to God in order to know and please him.
- (D) **Christ.** The Lord Jesus Christ, God's incarnate Son, is fully God; he was born of a virgin; his humanity is real and sinless; he died on the cross, was raised bodily from death and is now reigning over heaven and earth.
- (E) **Salvation.** Salvation from the guilt, penalty and all other consequences of sin solely through the work of Jesus Christ—his perfect obedience, penal substitutionary death, bodily resurrection and exaltation as Lord. He alone is truly God and truly man, the only mediator between God and man. There is salvation through no other person, creed, process or power. Salvation is entirely a work of God's grace and cannot be earned or deserved. God alone is responsible for the entirety of a sinner's justification, from beginning to end, appropriated through faith alone.
- (F) **God's choice.** Before the foundation of the world God in his mercy and love chose a people for himself out of the human race. He did not choose them on the basis of their foreseen faith or works, but solely on the basis of his perfect desire to glorify himself in his Son by their redemption.
- (G) **The Holy Spirit.** The necessity and sufficiency of the work of the Holy Spirit for the individual's new birth and growth to maturity, and for the Church's constant renewal in truth, wisdom, faith, holiness, love, power and mission.
- (H) **The Church.** The only holy universal church is the Body of Christ, to which all true believers belong. The Church's calling is to worship and serve God in the world, to proclaim and defend his truth, to exhibit his character and to live in conformity with the teaching of God's Word. The unity of the body of Christ is expressed within and between local churches by mutual love, care, correction and encouragement in accordance with the Bible. Partnership between local churches is truly Christian fellowship insofar as they are faithful to Christ and his gospel.
- (I) **The Future.** The personal and visible return in glory of the Lord Jesus Christ to raise the dead and to judge them, granting eternal life to his people and eternal punishment to those who have not believed the gospel. God will fully establish his kingdom when he creates a new heaven and new earth from which evil and evildoers, suffering and death will be excluded, and in which he will be glorified forever.