

Matamata Christian School Association

Statement of Faith

This statement of faith is recorded in the constitution of the Matamata Christian School Association Inc.

Holy Scripture and Education

By faith we confess the books of the Old and New Testaments to be the divinely inspired, inerrant Word of God (2 Tim. 3: 16,17), the only absolute rule for all faith and conduct, and therefore also for the education of our children at home and at school.

Christian Parents and Education

As believing parents we have Christ's comforting assurance for our children that theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven and that He will bless them when we bring them to Him (Mark 10: 13-16). Expecting the fulfilment of His promise and obeying the command of His apostle, we endeavour to "bring our children up "in the discipline and instruction of the Lord" (Eph.6:4) :

Since the responsibility for this task has been placed on our shoulders as parents, we gladly accept responsibility for that part of the education which takes place outside our homes in the school. We consider the establishment of Christian Schools, which are to assist us in the work of Christian nurture and education, to be our duty and God-given privilege.

Christian Schools

As Christ is the Saviour and Lord of the whole human life (Matt. 28:18_ Eph. 1:20-22 Co. 1: 16, 17), we understand by a Christian School such an educational institution as one in which not only is Christ honoured by prayer and study of the Bible, but in which all subjects are taught by the light of God's revelation in Jesus Christ contained in the Old and New Testaments.

For such a Christian School, we, as parents, claim all freedom in the field of education as long as this education takes place in obedience to the requirements of God's Word and in adherence to legitimate governmental standards and provisions.

God and Creation

All things were created by God so that "what is seen was not made out of what was visible" (Hebrews 11:3). God created them in, through and for Christ, (Col. 1:15-17), by His word and Spirit, (Gen. 1; Psa, 33:6), to the glorification of His Holy Name (psa. 8; Psa, 19:1-4; Rom. 11:36). It is also by God's hand, power and care that all created things are preserved and controlled (Psa; 99; Matt. 6:24f; Acts 17:24f). In order to understand world, man and history, we must see them in their relationship to God as the Bible speaks of them.

The Bible and Sciences.

Creation as well as Scripture has been brought forth by the one God of Truth. Therefore, any seeming discrepancy between the Bible and Science can only be due to human error either in science or in the interpretation of Scripture. Science is truly scientific when both nature and Scripture are taken seriously.

Man.

Man was created in the image of God to enjoy true communion with his Creator (Gen. 1 :26f; Acts 17:26f), Man was instructed to exercise dominion over the world in strict and loving obedience to God, to interpret all reality in accordance with His design and law and to reflect in his person and works the excellence of his Maker (Gen. 1:28f; Psa. 8:4f; Rom. 1:20).

Sin.

By disobeying God's law and forsaking his office, man estranged himself from God and his neighbour and brought God's curse upon himself and upon all creation (Gen. 3:16-19; Rom. 8:19f). He also became blind to life's true meaning and purpose, misused his knowledge and abilities, adhered to man-centred philosophies, and made himself false gods of his own imagination and desires (Rom. 1: 18f).

Christ.

Jesus Christ, the second Person of the Holy Trinity, is God incarnate, the Word became flesh (John 1:1-14). Laying down His life for His sheep (John 10:10-15), He paid the penalty of sin for them, being a ransom for all who truly believe in Him (Matt. 20:28; Rom. 5:6f; 1 Tim. 2:5-6).

Risen from the dead in His physical body (Luke 24:36-43), and having ascended to the throne of Heaven, He is the King of the Universe (Matt. 28:28, 1 Pet. 3:22). By His Word and Spirit He rules in grace over all true believers. Redeeming their life in its entirety, renewing them after His image and restoring them to fellowship with God and their fellow men, He seeks to make them obedient to God's will in all spheres of life (Rom. 8: 1-17).

The Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit, the third Person of the Holy Trinity (2 COL 13: 13), the divine source of all created life (Gen. 1 :2; Psa. 104:30), is also the source of Faith in Christ, the true, spiritual knowledge and of a new sanctified life in grateful obedience to God's will (John 3:3f; 1 Cor. 2:9f; 12:3; Eph. 3:14t).