

Redemption Hill Church Newcomers Class

Week 2 – Doctrine & Ordinances of the Church

Doctrinal Distinctives at Redemption Hill

Does doctrine really matter? Yes!

- It matters to God because it reveals his glory
 - o He gave us a *picture* in creation (Ps 19)
 - o He gave us a *Person* in the Incarnation (Heb 1)
 - o He gave us a *proclamation* in the word (2 Tim 3, 2 Peter 1)
- It matters for the believer
 - o Right Doctrine is part of our sanctification (John 17:17; Eph 4:14)
 - o Right doctrine is essential to fruitful ministry (Eph 4:15-16)
 - o Right doctrine protects from error and the Enemy (Eph 6)
- It matters for the church
 - o A resource for instruction (Titus 2:1; 2 Tim 3:16-17)
 - o A foundation for unity (1 Cor 1:10)
 - o A tool for evaluation of teaching and teachers (Acts 17:11; Col 2:8)

Our statement of faith is divided into two sections:

- *Essentials We Believe* – truths that are necessary for biblical orthodoxy. Departing from these truths takes you outside the historic Christian faith.
 - o Doctrine of scripture (inspired and inerrant)
 - o Doctrine of the Trinity (Father, Son, and Spirit. Three persons with one nature/essence)
 - o Doctrine of Salvation (by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone)
 - o Doctrine of the Future (personal physical return of Christ, eternal heaven and hell)
- *Distinctives We Uphold* – what we teach on matters that are important but not primary essentials of the faith.

o Doctrine of Creation	o Sanctification
o Gender, Marriage, Sexuality	o Spiritual Gifts
o Election	o Angels
o The Church	o Last Things

Going deeper and learning more

- Read our statement in full and check supporting scriptures at rhlawrence.org/doctrine
- See our sermon series from 2017 titled “Doctrine”
- Access our Adult Sunday School series on Theology (2021-2022)