

# **CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

## **Preamble**

We, the members of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, in order to win men, women, and children to Christ, and to spread the gospel of the grace of God to the ends of the earth, and to build up believers in the faith and knowledge of Christ, for ourselves and for others who shall hereafter become members of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP do ordain and establish this Constitution and Bylaws for A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP to which we, as members thereof, agree and voluntarily submit ourselves.

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## **Constitution**

### **Article 1. Name**

This organization shall be known as

### **A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

by which name it is an un-incorporated church under the laws of the state of Louisiana.

### **Article 2. Articles of Faith**

## Section A

**We believe** the Bible to be inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.

### Inspired

**2Ti 3:16** All Scripture is given by **inspiration of God**, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

**2Pe 1:20** Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation.

**2Pe 1:21** For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but **holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.**

### Infallible

**Luk 21:33** Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

### Authority

**Joh 12:47** And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

**Joh 12:48** He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

## Section B

**We believe** that there is one God, eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

### One God

**Deu 6:4** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:

Deu 6:5 And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

**1Co 8:6** But to us *there is but* one God, the Father, of whom *are* all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom *are* all things, and we by him.

### Three Persons

**Mat 3:16** And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

**Mat 3:17** And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

**1Jn 5:7** For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

**1Jn 5:8** And there are three that bear witness in earth, the spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

## Section C

**We believe** in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in his virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father and His personal return in power and glory.

### His Deity

**Joh 20:26** And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: *then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace, be unto you.*

**Joh 20:27** Then saith he to Thomas, *Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.*

**Joh 20:28** And Thomas answered and said unto him, **My Lord and my God.**

#### **Virgin Birth**

**Mat 1:23** Behold, **a virgin** shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

#### **Sinless Life**

**Joh 8:46** Which of you **convinceth me of sin?** And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me?

**Joh 14:30** Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and **hath nothing in me.**

#### **Miracles**

**Act 10:38** How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and **healing all** that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

### **Section D**

**We believe** that for the salvation of lost and sinful man regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.

**Acts 3:19** Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

**Tit 3:5** Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

### **Section E**

**We believe** in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to a godly life.

**Rom 8:11** But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

**2Pe 1:3** According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

**2Pe 1:4** Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

### **Section F**

**We believe** in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

**Joh 5:28** Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,

**Joh 5:29** And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

## Section G

**We believe** in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Unity of Believers

**Eph 4:3** Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

**Eph 4:4** *There is* one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

**Eph 4:5** One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

**Eph 4:6** One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.

**Psa 133:1** A Song of degrees of David. Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* for brethren to dwell together in unity!

**Psa 133:2** *It is* like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, *even* Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;

## Section H

**We believe** The Scriptures are Inspired - Both the old and new testaments are verbally inspired of God

### Inspired Scriptures

**2Ti 3:16** All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

**2Ti 3:17** That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

## Section I

**We believe** the only way to God is through Jesus Christ.

### Jesus is the only way

**Joh 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

**1Ti 2:5** For *there is* one God, and **one mediator** between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

**Act 4:12** **Neither is there salvation in any other:** for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

## Section J

**We believe** in One True God - Infinite, eternal, unchangeable, and holy in nature, attributes, and purpose. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

### Infinite, Eternal

**Isa 57:15** For thus saith the high and lofty One that **inhabiteth eternity**, whose name *is* **Holy**; I dwell in the high and holy *place*, with him also *that is* of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

### Unchangeable

**Mal 3:6** For I *am* the LORD, **I change not;** therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

### Holy

**Lev 11:45** For I *am* the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I *am* holy.

**1Pe 1:16** Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

## Section K

**We believe in The Lord Jesus Christ** - God revealed in the flesh, both Son of God and Son of Man, in whom dwells all the fullness of the Godhead

### **Jesus is God in the Flesh**

**Joh 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the **Word was God**.

**Joh 1:14** And the **Word was made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

**Joh 20:30** And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

**Joh 20:31** But these are written, that ye might believe that **Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God**; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

### **Jesus is the Fullness of the Godhead**

**Col 2:9** For in him dwelleth **all the fullness** of the Godhead bodily.

## Section L

**We believe in The Fall of Man** - Man, by transgression, fell from a state of righteousness into a state of sin and death

### **Original state of Man**

**Gen 1:26** And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

### **Fall of Man**

**Gen 3:6** And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

**Gen 3:7** And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

**Rom 5:19** For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

## Section M

**We believe in The Salvation of Man** - Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ

### **Shed Blood of Jesus**

**Joh 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

**Joh 3:17** For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

**Heb 9:22** And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

**1Jn 1:7** But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

**Heb 13:20** Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,

## Section N

**We believe** in The New Birth - One must be born again into the family of God.

### Born Again

**Joh 3:3** Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

**Joh 3:4** Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

**Joh 3:5** Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

**Joh 3:6** That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

**Joh 3:7** Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

## Section O

**We believe** that with the heart man believes unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto Salvation.

### Confession & Believe unto Salvation

**Rom 10:8** But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

**Rom 10:9** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

**Rom 10:10** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

## Section P

**We believe** in The Ordinances of the Church - A) Water Baptism: By immersion, fulfillment of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Holy Communion, Marriage between a Man and woman only.

### Baptism

**Mar 16:16** He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

**Mat 3:16** And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

**Mat 3:17** And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

### Holy Communion:

**1Co 11:24** And when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

**1Co 11:25** After the same manner also *he took* the cup, when he had supped, saying, **This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.**

**1Co 11:26** For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come.

### **Marriage**

**Gen 2:24** Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

**Mar 10:7** **For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife;**

**Eph 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

**Eph 5:26** That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

**Eph 5:27** That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

**Eph 5:28** So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

**Eph 5:29** For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:

**Eph 5:30** For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

**Eph 5:31** For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

### **Section Q**

**We believe** in Baptism in the Holy Spirit - Receive power from on high to be His witnesses

### **Power from on High**

**Mat 3:11** I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire:

**Luk 24:49** **And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.**

**Act 1:8** **But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

### **Section R**

**We believe** in Evidence of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit - Speaking in tongues.

### **Speaking to God and speaking to men**

**Act 2:4** And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

**Act 2:5** And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

**Act 2:6** Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

**Act 2:7** And they were all amazed and marveled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?

**Act 2:8** And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

**Act 2:9** Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,

**Act 2:10** Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,

**Act 2:11** Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

**1Co 13:1** Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become *as* sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

## Section S

**We believe in Sanctification - Separated from evil and dedication to God and that no fornicator, idolater, adulterer, effeminate, abuser of themselves with mankind (homosexuals), thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, or extortioners shall inherit the kingdom of God.**

### Sanctification

**1Co 1:30** But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

**1Th 4:3** For this is the will of God, *even* your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

**1Th 4:4** That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor;

**Heb 13:12** Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.

**2Th 2:13** But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

### Dedication to God

**Rom 12:1** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

**Rom 12:2** And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

**1Th 5:23** And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Lifestyles that will not inherit Gods Kingdom

**1Co 6:9 (AMP)** Do you not know that the unrighteous and the wrongdoers will not inherit or have any share in the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived (misled): neither the impure and immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor those who participate in homosexuality,

**1Co 6:10** Nor cheats (swindlers and thieves), nor greedy graspers, nor drunkards, nor foulmouthed revilers and slanderers, nor extortioners and robbers will inherit or have any share in the kingdom of God.

## Section T

**We believe** in The Church - The Body of Christ of which He is the head, including all those regenerated persons from Pentecost to the First Resurrection

### The Church

**Mat 16:18** And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

**Eph 3:21** Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

**Eph 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

**Eph 5:26** That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

**Eph 5:27** That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

## Section U

**We believe** in Assembling as a Church- on the first day of the week.

### First Day of the Week

**Mar 16:9** Now when *Jesus* was risen early the first *day* of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.

**Joh 20:19** Then the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, *Peace be unto you.*

**Act 20:7** And upon the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

### Assembling

**Heb 10:25** Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another*: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

## Section V

**We believe** in The Ministry - Fivefold: apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers, for the work of the ministry and support of the Ministry through tithes and offerings.

### The Five Fold Ministry

**Eph 4:11** And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

**Eph 4:12** For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

**Eph 4:13** Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:

## **Tithes**

**Mal 3:10** Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be room enough to receive it.*

**Mal 3:11** And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

**Heb 7:4** Now consider how great this man *was*, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils.

**Heb 7:5** And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham:

**Heb 7:6** But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises.

**Heb 7:7** And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better.

**Heb 7:8** And here men that die receive tithes; but there he *receiveth them*, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth.

**Heb 7:9** And as I may so say, Levi also, who receiveth tithes, paid tithes in Abraham.

**Heb 7:10** For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchizedek met him.

## **Section W**

**We believe** in Divine Healing - Healing from sickness is provided for in the atonement and is the privilege of all believers

### **Healing**

**Isa 53:4** Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

**Isa 53:5** But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

**Mat 8:17** That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare *our* sicknesses.

**1Pe 2:24** Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

**Jas 5:14** Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

**Jas 5:15** And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

**Jas 5:16** Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

## **Section X**

**We believe** in the Laying on of Hands - For various ministries such as: Ordination, Spiritual Gifts, Gift of the Holy Ghost, Healing, Dedication of Children.

### **Ordination**

**Act 13:1** Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

**Act 13:2** As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

**Act 13:3** And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid *their* hands on them, they sent *them* away.

### Spiritual Gifts

**1Ti 4:14** Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

**Rom 1:11** For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established;

### Gift of the Holy Ghost

**Act 8:17** Then laid they *their* hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

### Healing

**Jas 5:14** Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

**Jas 5:15** And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

### Dedication of Children

**Mar 10:13** And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and *his* disciples rebuked those that brought *them*.

**Mar 10:14** But when Jesus saw *it*, he was much displeased, and said unto them, **Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.**

**Mar 10:15** Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

**Mar 10:16** And he took them up in his arms, put *his* hands upon them, and blessed them.

### Section Y

**We believe** in the Nine Gifts of the Holy Spirit - They are sovereign and are operative in the church today

### Nine Gifts of the Spirit

**1Co 12:8** For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

**1Co 12:9** To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

**1Co 12:10** To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another *divers* kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

**1Co 12:11** But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

### Section Z

**We believe** in The Rapture - Catching away of the Body of Christ

### The Rapture

**1Th 4:16** For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

**1Th 4:17** Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

**1Co 15:51** Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

**1Co 15:52** In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

**1Co 15:53** For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

**Rev 11:15** And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign forever and ever.

## Section Z.1

**We believe** in The Millennial Reign of Christ - The Second Coming of Christ along with the raptured saints to rule and reign on earth for one thousand years

### Second Coming of Christ

**Zec 14:5** And ye shall flee *to* the valley of the mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach unto Azal: yea, ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah: and the LORD my God shall come, *and* all the saints with thee.

**Rev 19:11** And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him *was* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

**Rev 19:12** His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head *were* many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

**Rev 19:13** And he *was* clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

**Rev 19:14** And the armies *which were* in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

**Rev 19:15** And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

### One thousand year reign

**Rev 20:6** Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

## Section Z.2

**We believe** in The Final Judgment - The wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works

### Final Judgment of the Wicked

**Rev 20:11** And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

**Rev 20:12** And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

**Rev 20:13** And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

**Rev 20:14** And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

**Rev 20:15** And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

### Section Z.3

**We believe in the New Heavens and the New Earth - Righteousness dwelleth forever**

#### New Heaven & Earth

**2Pe 3:13** Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

**Isa 65:17** For, behold, I create new heavens and a new earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.

**Rev 21:1** And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

**Rev 21:2** And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

**Rev 21:3** And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.

**Rev 21:4** And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

### Article 3. Membership

**Section A.** Those at the age of accountability which age is defined as the age in which an individual can understand repentance and the New birth who desire to unite with A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, upon confession of faith, shall be examined by the ELDERS BOARD as to their Christian experience, the basis of their salvation and their doctrinal belief. All applicants shall be required to give VERBAL assent to the Constitution and Bylaws before their acceptance into membership. Article 2. articles of faith section of these by-laws are clearly posted on the web and it is the responsibility of each member to read and acknowledge the articles of faith. Each member by virtue of attending A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP show that they are in agreement with this constitution and by-laws.

**Section B.** This associate membership has no voting rights. It is solely a means of maintaining the fellowship bond between A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP and the believer.

**Section C.** Anyone preaching or teaching or serving regularly in any ministry of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP is required to be a member in good standing.

**Section D .**Membership in A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP may terminate in the following ways:

**1.**By Prolonged Absence. The Elders Board may drop from the membership roll those who have been absent for a prolonged period of time and whose address cannot be located.

**2.** By Request. Request for termination of membership may be made verbally or in writing and presented to any Board Elder. However, any Elder member or Deacon member who wishes to terminate membership must do so in writing and present it to the Senior Pastor.

**3** By Exclusion. It is right, proper, and in harmony with the Scriptures to exclude from this fellowship any member who holds false and heretical doctrines (Gal.1:8-9), or who lives inconsistently with a Christian profession or in violation of the law and/or public morals, or walks disorderly (2Th.3:6-11; 1Co.5:11), or any member who would disturb the unity and peace of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (Tit.3:10-11);

#### **Article 4. Government**

**Section A.** The government of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP is vested in its Elders Board. Which are listed below

**Founding Senior Pastor: Joseph & Patricia Pedreira**

**Associate Pastors: James & Suzanne Bono**

**Youth Pastors: Dominick & Sabrina Perniciaro**

**Section B.** All governing powers of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP shall be delegated to the Elders Board with the Senior Pastor having final authority and veto power to any idea or function or project that is not in the best interest of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP as determined by the Senior Pastor. The Elders board will consist of the incumbents of the following offices chosen and appointed as hereinafter set forth, namely: Senior Pastor and the Elders Board.

**Section C.** Conduct expected of Elders and Bishops of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

#### **Sixteen Qualifications for Bishops and Elders**

1. Blameless. Greek, *anengkletos* (GSN-<G410>), blameless ([Tit. 1:6-7](#); [1Cor. 1:8](#); [1Tim. 3:10](#)); unproveable ([Col. 1:22](#)).
2. Husband of one wife; i. e., not a polygamist. One could be a bishop without a wife, as Paul ([2Cor. 9:5](#)).
3. Having faithful children ([Tit. 1:6](#); cp. ruling one's own house, [1Tim. 3:4-5,12](#)).

4. Not self-willed ([Tit. 1:7](#)). Greek, *authades* (GSN-<G829>), stubborn; headstrong; unfeeling; selfwilled. Here and [2Pet. 2:10](#).
5. Not soon angry ([Tit. 1:7](#)). Greek, *orgilos* (GSN-<G3711>), prone to anger; hot-headed; passionate. Only here.
6. Not given to wine ([Tit. 1:7](#)). Greek, *paroinos* (GSN-<G3943>), a winebibber. Here; [1Tim. 3:3](#).
7. No striker ([Tit. 1:7](#)). Greek, *plektes* (GSN-<G4131>), not quarrelsome; one not ready to strike back at those who displease him; no persecutor of those who differ with him. Here and [1Tim. 3:3](#).
8. Not given to filthy lucre ([Tit. 1:7](#)). Greek, *aischrokerdes* (GSN-<G146>), not desirous of base gain; not using wrong methods to raise money to increase his own income ([Tit. 1:7](#); [1Tim. 3:3,8](#)).
9. A lover of hospitality ([Tit. 1:8](#)). Greek, *philoxenos* (GSN-<G5382>), lover of strangers ([Tit. 1:8](#); [1Tim. 3:2](#); [1Pet. 4:9](#); cp. [Rom. 12:13](#)).
10. A lover of good men ([Tit. 1:8](#)). Greek, *philagathos* (GSN-<G5358>), lover of goodness. Only here.
11. Sober ([Tit. 1:8](#)). Greek, *sophron* (GSN-<G4998>), of sound mind; prudent; moderate; self-controlled. Translated sober ([Tit. 1:8](#); [1Tim. 3:2](#)); temperate ([Tit. 2:2](#)); discreet ([Tit. 2:5](#)).
12. Just ([Tit. 1:8](#)). Greek, *dikaios* (GSN-<G1342>). Translated just 33 times; righteous 36 times; right 5 times; and meet 2 Times.
13. Holy ([Tit. 1:8](#)). Greek, *hosios* (GSN-<G3741>). Translated holy ([Tit. 1:8](#); [1Tim. 2:8](#); [Heb. 7:26](#); [Rev. 15:4](#)); mercies ([Acts 13:34](#)); and Holy One ([Acts 2:27](#); [13:35](#)). The bishop must be like God's Holy One.
14. Temperate ([Tit. 1:8](#)). Greek, *engkrates* (GSN-<G1468>), having control of oneself; self-disciplined. Only here.
15. Holding fast to sound doctrine ([Tit. 1:9](#)). Greek, *antechomai* (GSN-<G472>) (note, [1Th. 5:14](#)).
16. Able to exhort believers, and convince the gainsayers ([Tit. 1:9](#)). Compare the qualifications for bishops and deacons in 1Tim. (notes, [1Tim. 3:2,8](#)).

## **Section D. Conduct expected of Deacons of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

### **Ten Qualifications for Deacons**

1. Grave ([1Tim. 3:8](#)). Greek: *semnos* (GSN-<G4586>). Translated "grave" ([1Tim. 3:4](#); [Tit. 2:2](#)) and "honest" ([Php. 4:8](#))
2. Not doubletongued ([1Tim. 3:8](#)). Greek: *dilogos* (GSN-<G1351>), liars; saying different things to different persons on the same subject. Only here

3. Not give to much wine ([1Tim. 3:8](#)) even unfermented (in the cluster; [Isa. 65:8](#))
4. Not greedy of filthy lucre ([1Tim. 3:8](#)). see point 10, note, [1Tim. 3:2](#) (cp. [1Pet. 5:2](#))
5. Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience ([1Tim. 3:9](#)). They must maintain a good conscience and be able to demonstrate the mysterious power of faith ([Mk. 9:23; 11:22-24; 16:17-18](#); note, [1Th. 1:3](#))
6. Let them be proved ([1Tim. 3:10](#)). The same as not a new convert, in [1Tim. 3:6](#). Let them be tested and proved worthy of the office, and able to keep themselves from being lifted up in pride and falling in the same manner Satan did. See note, [1Tim. 3:6](#)
7. Blameless. Greek: *anengkletos* (GSN-<G410>) ([1Tim. 3:10](#)). Translated "blameless" ([1Tim. 3:10; 1Cor. 1:18; Tit. 1:6-7](#)) and "unreprovable" ([Col. 1:22](#)). They must be free from evil and reproach
8. Their wives must meet certain qualifications ([1Tim. 3:11](#)). See note below)
9. Each, the husband of one wife ([1Tim. 3:12](#)). No polygamist
10. Each, the ruler of his own house ([1Tim. 3:12](#)), as required of bishops ([1Tim. 3:4-5](#))

**Section E.** The office of treasurer must held by an Elder in good standing with A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP and cannot be held simultaneously with the office of Senior Pastor. It is required that the office of treasurers assistant be also held by an Elder in Good standing with A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP.

**Section F. Non-Governmental Positions of Pastoral Staff and Ministering Deacons & Deaconess:** The Pastoral Staff, Deacons, Director of Ushers, Assistant Director of Ushers, Director of Sunday School, Assistant Director of Sunday School, and of such other offices serve in a non-governmental position of service to the body of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP.

**Section G. Appropriation of Church Funds:** Appropriations that are outside of the normal operating functions of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP that exceed 3,000 dollars must be voted on by the Elders Board.

**Section H. Appointment of Ministering Elders, Pastoral Staff Deacons and Deaconess.** The appointment of ministering positions of Elders, Pastoral Staff, Deacons and Deaconess must be by a unanimous vote of the Elders Board. Ministry candidates must adhere to this constitution and by-laws in their entirety.

#### **Section I. Use of Bride Adorned Church Facilities for Marriages etc...**

These facilities may only be used for weddings that adhere to the Biblical definition of marriage and are solely reserved for use by tithe paying members in good standing with the church. These facilities may not be used by any individual, group, or organization that advocate, endorse, or promote homosexuality as an alternative or acceptable lifestyle. This policy also applies to birthday parties, get togethers, meetings, reunions, anniversaries, weddings or baby showers, etc.”

Under no circumstances is the Senior Pastor obligated to officiate, participate, or endorse any ceremony that violates his conscience or the belief and teaching of this church body or the bylaws of this body in accordance with the Bible. Also any Licensed Pastor or any licensed minister who is a member of Bride Adorned Church or ordained by Bride Adorned Church shall under no circumstances officiate, participate, or endorse any ceremony that violates his conscience or the belief and teaching of this church body or the bylaws of this body in accordance with the Bible. To violate this will constitute the offending member to be disbarred from Bride Adorned Church fellowship and their licensing and ordination revoked.

## **Article 5. Business Meetings**

**Section A Board Meetings** Our governing church leadership is made up of the above six Elders that comprise our Elders board. Joseph and Patricia Pedreira are the presiding Elders over the board. Our governing body meets quarterly to discuss and vote on all aspects of church functions.

## **Article 6. Licensing and Ordination of Ministers:**

**Section A.** Commissioning, acknowledging God's call for a special ministry assignment, may be granted to individuals or groups as directed by the Elders.

**Section B.** A license to perform marriages and other ministerial functions may be granted to candidates called to full-time Christian service. The call and qualifications of the candidate will be reviewed by the Senior Pastor and/or the Elders and, if his application is approved by the Elders, it will be recommended for licensing. Licensing is often a preliminary step to ordination at a later time.

**Section C.** Ordination to proclaim the gospel of the grace of God and administer the ordinances may be granted to candidates called to the ministry of preaching. Candidates must submit their application in writing to the Elders substantiating their ordination request, complete certain ordination study requirements as set forth by the Elders, and have at least one year of acceptable public preaching experience. The call, qualifications, and completed study requirements of the candidate will be reviewed by the Senior Pastor, Pastoral Staff, and Elders and, if unanimously approved, will proceed to ordination.

**Section D.** Commissioning, Licensing or Ordination by A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP can be rescinded in cases where the recipient fails to live consistently with, or minister upholding the standards, presented in Scripture and affirmed in A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIPS Constitution and Bylaws. Any recommendation for the rescinding of Commissioning, Licensing or Ordination must be made in writing to the Elders and signed by at least three people (1Ti.5:19). Once the recommendation is submitted to the Elders, the process will follow the procedures outlined in Bylaws Article 2, Paragraphs 6 and 7, regarding church discipline.

## **Article 7. Change of or Amendments to the Constitution**

A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP may make any changes to the Constitution or amendments thereto which may be deemed necessary and proper. Such changes or proposed amendments shall be voted on by the Elders board and will require a unanimous vote for their ratification. After ratification the changes will be posted on the church website for all members to view.

## **Bylaws**

### **Article 1. Conduct of Members**

**Section A.** We shall require of each other in our daily life and conduct to give loyal obedience to all the moral and spiritual teachings laid down in the Word of God so plainly as to need no definition.

**Section B.** We urge upon each other the observance of all public and private means of edification, such as regular attendance upon the services of God's house, including the Lord's Supper and believer's Baptism; the daily, systematic reading of the Bible, private and family prayer; personal and public testimony, and the winning of others to Christ.

**Section C.** Because we believe that proportionate giving is clearly taught in the Word of God (Mal.3:8-11; 1Co,16:2; 2Co.8:11-12), we urge our members to covenant and pledge themselves to a systematic contribution for the support and maintenance of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP , of such a portion of their income as required by God of them according to the principle laid down in Malachi 3:10 & 11 Corinthians 16:2.

### **Article 2. Church Discipline**

**Section A.** Because of the sensitive nature of church discipline, it shall be administered according to the following principles:

**1.** It shall be corrective in its nature. The intention shall be that the erring member be brought to full restoration within A Bride Adorned Church.

**2.** Corrective discipline implies imperfection and a tendency to sin and to cause offense. Every effort should first be made, therefore, to clear up difficulties and remove offenses before church action is taken.

**3.** The Elders may recommend different kinds of discipline in accordance with the offense. Some cases, which may not be adjudged as deserving of excommunication, may entail suspension from ministry within A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP or abstinence from the Lord's

Supper. At the end of the suspension, the Elders board shall determine whether the member shall be restored to good standing because of evidence of repentance and right living, or whether further corrective measures shall be imposed.

**4. Discipline may be recommended for the following offenses:**

a. A member who is absent from the services of A BRIDE

ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP for a period of twelve months without giving a satisfactory reason for such absence.

b. A member who, after coming into the membership, is found to be out of harmony with the practices of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, or whose conduct or doctrine is called into question.

**5. Any member of A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP, having heard of an offense, should go privately to the person in question to seek a resolution of the matter (according to Mat.5:23-24,18:15-17). If the matter is unresolved, either because the accused denies wrongdoing or refuses to repent, the second step is to ask one or two of the Elders/Senior Pastor/Pastoral Staff to join in the reconciliation process. If, in the opinion of the Elders/Senior Pastor/Pastoral Staff, the matter merits further consideration, the Elders may then be informed of the facts.**

**6. The Elders may elect to deal with that matter confidentially. If such measures fail, the Elders Board may be told of the matter. The accused should be notified in writing of the charges and the procedure of discipline. The accused does have the right to defend himself/herself at an agreed meeting of the Elders Board at some definite date and time, not less than one week following the forwarding of said notice to appear.**

**7. After a full and impartial hearing of all the witnesses accessible, and all the facts ascertainable, if, by majority vote, the Elders Board finds the charges have been sustained and the guilt of the accused member established, the Elders shall recommend a form of discipline deemed appropriate to the offense. The said form of discipline shall be ratified by majority vote of the Elders Board. The offending members discipline must include a reasonable and attainable restoration plan that if followed will restore the offending member to all rights, offices and privileges once enjoyed being in member in good standing.**

**8. If the offense is deserving of public mention, before said discipline is applied, A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP shall be informed of the matter and encouraged to urge the erring member to repent. No member's name shall be taken from the membership roll until at least four weeks after A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP membership has been so informed. If there is no repentance, the form of discipline ratified by the Elders Board will be applied and A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP membership will be notified. The failure or refusal on the part of the accused to appear for trial or to answer the charges shall not prevent the Elders Board from hearing the evidence and rendering a finding on the proofs presented. The person(s) concerned shall be**

proceeded against in conformity with the conditions that the membership as agreed on within this constitution and By-laws.:

**9:** If the offending member is an elder all the above mentioned rules apply except that it must be by at least three witness that the accusation was verified.

**Deu 19:15** One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established.

**1Ti 5:19** Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses.

**Section B.** A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP also has the right to restore disciplined members who give satisfactory evidence of repentance (2Co.2:6-8). The purpose of the discipline having been accomplished, the Elders Board shall advise The A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP membership of the restoration of the penitent member.

### **Article 3. Change of or Amendments to Bylaws**

A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP may make any changes in the Bylaws or any amendments thereto which may be deemed necessary and proper. Such changes or proposed amendments shall be made in accordance with a unanimous vote of the Elders Board and such changes must be posted for public viewing on A BRIDE ADORNED CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIPS website.