



NEW HOPE ACADEMY

Theological Identity of New Hope Academy

“In the essentials – unity, in the nonessentials-liberty, and in all things-charity.” (Rupertus Meldinius, 12th Century Monk)

We are committed to being a school, which celebrates, and honors the great truths restated and reclaimed during the Reformation in Western Europe (1500-1650). At the heart of the Reformation was a rediscovery of the true gospel of Jesus Christ and a commitment to wrestle with the implications of the gospel for all areas of life. Accordingly, the central theological beliefs of New Hope Academy are:

1. **Sovereignty of God**

God sovereignly controls all that occurs in His world and in His church. His plans and purposes always prevail; nothing can thwart them.

2. **God’s creation of the World and Man**

The triune God-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit-alone has existed from eternity past and in His wisdom created the universe from nothing. God spoke and it came into existence. Humanity did not evolve from lower life forms, but was created by God. Man, male and female, was created with dignity in that he is made in God’s image and created in humility in that his purpose is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

3. **Sola Scriptura** – (Scriptures Alone)

The Bible is the Word of God. The Scriptures are inspired by God, and are authoritative over all (2 Timothy 3:15-17). Each Christian is to be a student of God’s word. The Scriptures present a progressive revelation of the Gospel from Genesis to Revelation. We must let Scripture interpret Scripture. Passages that are not as clear should be interpreted by other scriptural references. We want to know the clear meaning of a Scriptural text in its context.

4. **Sola Christo** – (Christ Alone)

Jesus Christ is the Son of God and the only mediator between God and mankind (John 14:6, 1 Timothy 2:5). Jesus humbled Himself to become man while keeping His divine nature. The apostle Peter tells us “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” Jesus knowingly took God’s wrath on Himself for those who would trust in Him. Paul teaches, “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Cor. 5:21).

5. **Solo Gratia** – (Grace Alone)

God's grace alone saves us. It is not our tears, our obedience, our sincerity or anything else we could produce that gains us forgiveness and acceptance by God. GRACE is God's Riches at Christ's Expense. Salvation is not something we earn from God or in any way deserve. We deserve God's wrath! Grace conveys our desperate need for God in His plan for salvation, while tenderly taking us to the Cross.

6. **Sola Fide**- (Faith Alone)

God's grace is the basis of our salvation, but faith is the means by which we receive this grace. God does not give us grace that we might save ourselves. The very moment a person is made alive in Christ, he or she is declared righteous by God (Romans 3:21-25). Christ's righteousness is *imputed* to the believer by faith and not *imparted* to us by human effort or *infused* through religious ritual or pious acts.

7. **Solo Deo Gloria**- (To God Alone Be Glory)

As God's people we are to exist for his glory. Worship is to be God-centered and our lives are to be God-centered. Every sphere of life is to reflect his glory. God is sovereign over all areas of life.

8. **The Priesthood of the Believer**

Every Christian has access to the "throne of grace" (Hebrews 4:15-16). Believers have been constituted a "kingdom of priests" (Rev. 5:10; see 1 Peter 2:9) by the Lord Jesus. Each one of us has a priestly calling. "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise – the fruit of lips that confess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." (Hebrews 13:15-16)

9. **Empowering Holy Spirit**

Every true believer in Jesus Christ is indwelt and empowered by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit enables believers to live a godly life and to perform good works. (Romans 8:1-26, Galatians 5:16-25)

10. **Final Judgment and Resurrection**

At the Second Coming of Christ, the saved and the lost will be bodily resurrected and judged. The saved are resurrected to eternal life and the lost are resurrected to eternal condemnation. (1 Thessalonians 4:14-18)

11. **Body of Christ**

All believers are spiritually united in the Lord Jesus Christ. Every true believer is a member of the Body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:27-29)

12. **Vocation**

The Reformers reaffirmed the biblical concept of a "calling." The vocations of farmer, carpenter, tinker, lawyer, homemaker, realtor, technician, janitor, etc. are no less holy or less important than that of pastor and theologian. This life and this world are very important to God. As such, we are called to ***Cultural Renewal, Community Renewal, and Church Renewal.***