

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
HIDING PLACE MINISTRY, INC.**

ARTICLE I

The name of this corporation shall be, "Hiding Place Ministry, Inc." It shall be incorporated as a not for profit religious organization under the laws of the State of Florida.

ARTICLE II

It's registered office in the state of Florida is located at: 1101 Londonwood Street, in the city of Brandon, County of Hillsborough, 33510. The registered agent in charge thereof is Rev. Cecil W. Thorn of Hiding Place Ministry, Inc. located at 1101 Londonwood Street, Brandon, Florida 33510.

ARTICLE III

The nature of the business and the objects and purposes proposed to be transacted, promoted and carried on, are to do any or all the things herein mentioned, as fully and to the same extent as natural persons might or could do, and in any part of the world: as a cooperative fellowship, based upon mutual agreement, voluntarily entered into by it's membership, as follows:

1. To encourage and promote the evangelization of the world.
2. To encourage and promote the worship of God.
3. To encourage and promote the edification of believers.
4. To provide a basis of fellowship among Christians of like faith.
5. To supervise all the activities of Hiding Place Ministry, Inc.
6. To establish and maintain such sub-division departments and institutions as may be necessary for the propagation of the Gospel.
7. To establish churches and encourage their development.
8. To examine candidates for the ministry and to ordain as ministers those who shall meet the requirements of this fellowship.
9. To approve all scriptural teachings and conduct, and to disapprove all unscriptural teachings and conduct. The Board of Directors shall be expected to keep vigilant watch against any violation of the principles of spiritual unity and cooperative fellowship to which the Hiding Place Ministry is dedicated.
10. To elect it's own officers and committees, arrange for its own meetings and to govern itself.
11. Incidental to, or in connection therewith, shall have the right to own, hold in trust, use, sell, convey, mortgage, lease, or otherwise dispose of such property, real or chattel, as may be needed for the propagation of it's work.
12. To own and operate any hospital, convalescence center, adult congregate living facility and rehabilitation centers.
13. To establish and maintain schools and/or day care centers for the purpose of educating minors, and/or adults in primary education, secondary education, trade education, University, Seminary and such education as is deemed necessary.
14. To establish, own and operate orphanages, adoption agencies, homes for unwed pregnant females and/or runaway youths.

15. To establish, own and maintain electronic media facilities.
16. To establish, own and maintain campgrounds for families and/or youth.
17. To establish, own and maintain youth centers.

ARTICLE IV - TENETS OF FAITH
STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS

Section 1 - The Scriptures Inspired

The scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, authoritative rule of faith and conduct (II Timothy 3:15-17; I Thessalonians 2:13; II Peter 1:21).

Section 2 - The One True God

The one true God has revealed Himself as the eternally self-existent "I AM," the Creator of heaven and earth and the Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son and Holy Ghost (Deuteronomy 6: 4; Isaiah 43: 10, 11; Matthew 28: 19; Luke 3:22) .

THE ADORABLE GODHEAD

1. Terms Defined

The terms "Trinity" and "persons," as related to the Godhead, while not found in the scriptures, are words in harmony with Scripture, whereby we may convey to others our immediate understanding of the doctrine of Christ respecting the Being of God, as distinguished from "gods many and lords many." We therefore may speak with propriety of the Lord our God, who is One Lord, as a trinity or as one Being of three persons and still be absolutely Scriptural (examples, Matthew 28:19; II Corinthians 13-14; John 14:16, 17).

2. Distinction and Relationship in the Godhead

Christ taught a distinction of Persons in the Godhead which He expressed in specific terms of relationship, as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, but that this distinction and relationship, as to it's mode is inscrutable and incomprehensible, because unexplained. Luke 1:35; I Corinthians 1:24; Matthew 11:25-27; 28:19; II Corinthians 13:14; I John 1:3, 4).

3. Unity of the One Being of Father, Son and Holy Ghost

Accordingly, therefore, there is that in the Son which constitutes Him the Son and not the Father; and there is that in the Holy Ghost which constitutes Him the Holy Ghost and not either the Father or the Son. Wherefore the Father is the Begetter, the Son is the Begotten; and the Holy Ghost is the one proceeding from the Father and the Son. Therefore, because these three persons in the Godhead are in a state of unity, there is but one Lord God Almighty and His name one. (John 1:18; 15:26; 17:11, 21; Zechariah 14:9).

4. Identity and Co-operation in the Godhead

The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost are never identical as to Person; nor confused as to relation; nor divided in respect to the Godhead; nor opposed as to cooperation. The Son is in the Father and the Father is with the Son, as to Fellowship. The Father is not from the Son, but the Son is from the Father, as to

- authority. The Holy Ghost is from the Father and the Son proceeding, as to nature, relationship, cooperation and authority. Hence, neither Person in the Godhead either exists or works separately or independently of the others. (John 5:17-30, 32, 37; John 8:17, 18).
5. **The Title, Lord Jesus Christ**
The appellation, "Lord Jesus Christ" is a proper name. It is never applied, in the New Testament, either to the Father or the Holy Ghost. It therefore belongs exclusively to the Son of God. (Romans 1:1-3,7; II John 3.)
 6. **The Lord Jesus Christ, God with Us**
The Lord Jesus Christ, as to His divine and eternal nature, is the proper and only Begotten of the Father, but as to His human nature, He is the proper Son of Man. He is therefore, acknowledged to be both God and man; who because He is God and man, is "Immanuel," God with us. (Matthew 1:23; I John 4:2, 10; Revelation 1:13, 17).
 7. **The Title, Son of God**
Since the name "Immanuel" embraces both God and man in the one Person, our Lord Jesus Christ, it follows that the title, Son of God, describes His proper deity, and the title, Son of Man, His proper humanity. Therefore, the title, Son of God, belongs to the order of eternity, and the title, Son of man, to the order of time. (Matthew 1:21-23; II John 2:22, 23; 4:1-5; Hebrews 12:2).
 8. **Transgression of the Doctrine of Christ**
Wherefore, it is a transgression of the Doctrine of Christ to say that Jesus Christ derived the title, Son of God, solely, from the fact of the incarnation, or because of His relation to the economy of redemption. Therefore, to deny that the Father is a real and eternal Father, and that the Son is a real and eternal Son, is a denial of the distinction and relationship in the Being of God; a denial of the Father and the Son; and a displacement of the truth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. (II John 9; John 1:1,2, 14, 18, 29, 49; I John 2:22; 4:1-5; Hebrews 12:2.)
 9. **Exaltation of Jesus Christ as Lord**
The Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ, having by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; angels and principalities and powers having been made subject unto Him. And having been made both Lord and Christ, He sent the Holy Ghost that we, in the name of Jesus, might bow our knees and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father until the end when the Son shall become subject to the Father that God may be all in all. (Hebrews 1: 3; I Peter 3: 33; Acts 2: 32-36; Romans 14: 11; I Corinthians 15:24-28.)
 10. **Equal Honor to the Father and to the Son**
Wherefore, since the Father has delivered all judgment unto the Son, it is not only the express duty of all in heaven and on earth to bow the knee, but is an unspeakable joy in the Holy Ghost to ascribe unto the Son all the attributes of Deity, and to give Him all the honor and the glory contained in all the names and

titles of the Godhead (except those which express relationship, see paragraphs 2, 3 and 4) and thus honor the Son even as we honor the Father. (John 5:22, 23; I Peter 1:8; Revelation 5:6-14; Philippians 2:8,9; Revelation 4:8-11).

Section 3 - The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God. The Scriptures declare:

1. His virgin birth (Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:31,35).
2. His sinless life (Hebrews 7:26; I Peter 2:22).
3. His miracles (Acts 2:22; 10:38).
4. His substitutionary work on the cross (I Corinthians 15:3; II Corinthians 5:21).
5. His bodily resurrection from the dead (Matthew 28: 6; Luke 24:39; I Corinthians 15:4).
6. His exaltation to the right hand of God .(Acts 1:9, 11;2:33; Philippians 2:29-11; Hebrews 1:3).

Section 4 - The Fall of Man

Man was created good and upright; for God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." However, man by voluntary transgression fell and thereby incurred not only physical death but also spiritual death, which is separation from God (Genesis 1:26, 27; 2:17; 3:6; Romans 5:12-19).

Section 5 - The Salvation of Man-

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

1. Conditions of Salvation

Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God according to the hope of eternal life (Luke 24:47; John 3:3; Romans 10:13-15; Ephesians 2:8; Titus 2:11; 3:5-7).

2. The Evidence of Salvation

The inward evidence of salvation is the direct witness of the Spirit (Romans 8:16).The outward evidence to all men is a life of righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24; Titus 2:12).

Section 6 - The Ordinances of the Church

1. Baptism in Water

The ordinance of baptism defined in the scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Savior and Lord are to be baptized. Thus they declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life. (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 10:47,48; Romans 6:4).

2. Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper, consisting of the elements - bread and the fruit of the vine - is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ (II

Peter 1:4) a memorial of His suffering and death (I Corinthians 11:26); and a prophecy of His second coming (I Corinthians 11:26) and is enjoined on all believers "till He comes!"

Section 7 - The Baptism in The Holy Ghost

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all the early Christian Church. With it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the endowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4, 8; Acts 2:4; I Corinthians 12:1-8)! This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9). With the Baptism in the Holy Ghost comes such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8) a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Hebrews 12:28), and a more active love for Christ, for His word and for the Lost (Mark 16:20).

Section 8 - Sanctification

Sanctification is an act of separation from that which is evil, and of dedication unto God (Romans 12:12; I Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:13). The scriptures teach a life of "holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." (Hebrews 12: 14). By the power of the Holy Ghost we are able to obey the command, "Be ye holy, for I am holy." (I Peter 1:15, 16). Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing our individual identification with Christ in His death and resurrection, and by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of that union, and by offering every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 6:1-11,13; Galatians 2:20; I Peter 1:5; Philippians 2:12-13).

Section 9 - The Church and Its Mission

The Church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of her great commission. Each believer, born of the Spirit, is an integral part of the General Assembly and Church of the Firstborn, which are written in heaven (Ephesians 1:22, 23; 2:22; Hebrews 12:23). Since God's purpose concerning man is to seek and to save that which is lost, to be worshipped by man, and to build a body of believers in the image of His Son, the priority reason-for-being of the Servants of Christ as part of the Church is:

1. To be an agency of God for evangelizing the world (Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15, 16).
2. To be a corporate body in which man may worship God (I Corinthians 12:13).
3. To be enabled to respond to the full working of the Holy Spirit in expression of fruit and gifts and ministries as in New Testament times for the edifying of the body of Christ (Galatians 5:22-26; I Corinthians 14:12; Ephesians 4:11, 12; I Corinthians 12:28; Colossians 1:29).

Section 10 - The Ministry

A divinely called and scripturally ordained ministry had been provided by our Lord for the threefold purpose of leading the Church in:

- (1) Evangelization of the world (Mark 16:15-20)
- (2) Worship of God (John 4:23,24), (3) Building a body of saints being perfected in the image of His Son (Ephesians 4:11-16).

Section 11 - Divine Healing

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement and is the privilege of all believers (Isaiah 53:4, 5; Matthew 8:16, 17; James 5:14-16).

Section 12 - The Blessed Hope

The resurrection of those who have fallen asleep in Christ and their translation together with those who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord is the imminent and blessed hope of the church (I Thessalonians 4:16, 17; Romans 8:23; Titus 2:13; I Corinthians 15:51, 52).

Section 13 - The Millennial Reign of Christ

The second coming of Christ includes the rapture of the saints, which is our blessed hope, followed by the visible return of Christ with His saints to reign on the earth for one thousand-' years (Zechariah 14:5; Matthew 24:27,30; Revelation 1:7; 19:11-14; 20: 1-6) . This millennial reign will bring the salvation of national Israel (Ezekiel 37:21, 22; Zephaniah 3:19-20; Romans 11:26,27) and the establishment of universal peace (Isaiah 11:6-9; Psalm 72:3-8; Micah 4:3, 4).

Section 14 - The Final Judgment

There will be a final judgment at which the wicked dead will be raised and judged according to their works. Whosoever is not found written in the Book of Life, together with the devil and his angels, the beast and the false prophet will be consigned to everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and everlasting punishment in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death (Matthew 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Revelation 19:20; 2:11-15; 21:8).

Section 15 - The New Heavens and the New Earth

We, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness (II Peter 3:13; Revelation 21:22).

ARTICLE V MEMBERSHIP

The membership of Hiding Place Ministry shall consist of the following:

Section 1 – Voting Members, as per by-laws

Section 2 - Associate Members, as per by-laws

ARTICLE VI

MEETINGS

Section 1 - Annual Meetings

The Board of Directors shall meet annually. The exact time and place of such meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2 - Monthly Meetings

Section 3 - Special Sessions

Special Sessions may be called upon by agreement of the Board of Directors and may be granted to any ordained minister of Hiding Place Ministry as the occasion demands.

ARTICLE VII BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers.

ARTICLE VIII

The corporation shall not have any capital stock and the conditions of membership shall be stated in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE IX

The name and mailing address of the incorporator is as follows:

Rev. Cecil W. Thorn
1101 Londonwood Street
Brandon, Florida 33510

ARTICLE X

The powers of the incorporator are to terminate upon filing of the certificate of incorporation, and the name and mailing address of the person who is to serve as director until his successor is elected is as follows:

Rev. Cecil W. Thorn
1101 Londonwood Street
Brandon, Florida 33510

The names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as initiating directors are:

Rev. Cecil W. Thorn
1101 Londonwood Street
Brandon, Florida 33510

Rev. Palmar G. Embry Jr.
506 West 129th Ave.
Tampa, Florida 33612

Kathleen S. Thorn
1101 Londonwood Street
Brandon, Florida 33510

Jewell A. Embry
506 West 129th Ave.
Tampa, Florida 33612

ARTICLE XI

The activities and affairs of the corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors. The number of directors which shall constitute the whole board shall be such as from time to time be fixed by, or in the manner provided in, the By-Laws, but in no case shall the number be less than three. The directors must be members of the corporation as so required by the By-Laws. Candidates for any vacant seat on the Board of Directors shall be nominated by the members as so stated in the By-Laws and then elected by the Board of Directors at a special meeting of the Board of Directors to be held on such date as the By-Laws may provide, and shall hold office until they resign or are disqualified under the provisions of the By-Laws. The By-Laws shall specify the number of directors necessary to constitute a quorum. The Board of Directors may, by resolution or resolutions, passed by a majority of the whole board, designate one or more committees which, to the extent provided in said resolution or resolutions or in the By-Laws of the corporation, shall have and may exercise all the powers of the Board of Directors in the management of the activities and affairs of the corporation and may have power to authorize the seal of the corporation to be affixed to all papers which may require it; and such committee or committees shall have such name or names as may be stated in the By-Laws of the corporation or as may be determined from time to time by resolution adopted by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may appoint such officers to these committees as the By-Laws so provide and be classified as to term of office, who shall, subject to the provision of the Statute, have titles and exercise such duties as the By-Laws may provide. This corporation may in its By-Laws confer powers upon its Board of Directors in addition to the foregoing, and in addition to the powers and authorities expressly conferred upon them by Statute, provided that the Board of Directors shall not exercise any power of authority conferred herein or by Statute upon the members.

ARTICLE XII

Meetings of members may be held outside of the State of Florida if the By-Laws so provide. The books of the corporation may be kept (subject to any provision contained in the statutes) outside the State of Florida at such place or places as may be from time to time designated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XIII

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III hereof. No part of the activities of the corporation shall include the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions, to which are deductible under section 170 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United states Internal Revenue Law).

ARTICLE XIV

Upon the dissolution of the corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the corporation exclusively for the purposes of the corporation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501 (C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future united states Law) as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE XV

The Board of Directors reserves the right to amend, alter, change or repeal any provision contained in this Certificate of Incorporation, in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by the statute, and all rights conferred upon members herein are granted subject to this reservation.