

## **Declaration of First Century Bible Church on Health, Healing and Vaccines**

First Century Bible Church believes in the absolute sovereignty of God in all things, and His delegation of authority to human beings over the control of their own minds and bodies (Colossians 1:16–17; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

We believe that God created our minds and bodies with the power to heal themselves in the natural course of life but because of Adam’s curse, there are sometimes situations in which external intervention may be appropriate (Genesis 3:17-19; Luke 10:34).

In the area of mental health, we believe that God heals the mind with truth, although measurable physiological factors may need to be addressed in the healing process for some people on a case by case basis (Isaiah 1:18; Romans 12:2).

In the area of physical health, we believe that the primary Biblical remedy is first prayer by the sufferer and others, secondly, the laying on of hands by church elders, and thirdly, the availment by the sufferer, at his or her discretion, of whatever effective medicines, therapies and/or procedures may be in use in the world (James 5:14-16; Jeremiah 8:22; Matthew 9:12).

In all situations in which the individual retains the clear cognitive capacity to choose for themselves, the choice to use or accept any forms of external intervention to address any mental or physical health problem remains a sacred personal right, notwithstanding the opinion of other people including medical professionals. Where capacity is lacking in any individual, the prior indication of their opinion on the matter, if any, including but not limited to directives on end of life issues, shall be followed (Deuteronomy 30:19).

Further to the question of Covid 19 vaccines and other emerging medical technologies, we hold that the use of any product containing or derived from the remains of unborn babies murdered by abortion is absolutely forbidden and that knowingly accepting such a product into one’s body is to become an accessory to murder, subject to the full force of Biblical law (Proverbs 28:17; 1 Samuel 3:13).

Any medical product designed to alter one’s genetic code or to create a “biometric” or comparable mark or other identifier by which one can be tracked like an animal by government or its agents is also absolutely forbidden as a surrender to idolatry. If such mark is not technically the Mark of the Beast warned against in Scripture, it is so close in form and substance as to be at least psychological preparation for it, if not a binding spiritual substitute (Revelation 19:20; 1 Corinthians 8:4-7).

In summary, we recognize only God as our ultimate authority in all things, and that He has delegated to each of us absolute authority over our own lives and choices in matters of health, healing and vaccines, with serious, potentially eternal consequences attaching to our choices that strongly outweigh any dictate of government to the contrary.

This Declaration shall serve as effective notice of demand for religious accommodation upon presentation to any government or public health authority by members of First Century Bible Church.

