



## NGC STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe there is one true God who has eternally and simultaneously existed as three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This triune God is the sovereign creator of all things.<sup>1</sup>

We believe that God, through human authors, has inspired the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments as the inerrant, infallible, and authoritative revelation of his saving work in the world.<sup>2</sup>

We believe God created mankind in his image, and that male and female are equal in dignity as image-bearers and recipients of the grace of God. Men and women are created to complement one another in the covenant relationship of marriage; the normative and biblically designed pattern for sexual relations. Any sexual activity outside of God's design for heterosexual marriage is sin.<sup>3</sup>

Sin | We believe mankind, choosing to rebel against their Creator by disobeying Him, fell from the perfect state in which God had created them. Since this fall, all human beings are sinners by nature and choice and are therefore deserving of God's righteous judgment for sin, which is physical and spiritual death.<sup>4</sup>

We believe that salvation was birthed in the plan of God from all eternity, as God willed to graciously save a great multitude of guilty sinners from every tribe and language and people and nation, and to this end foreknew them and chose them.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Gen. 1:1; Ps. 90:2; Deut. 6:4; Matt. 3:16-17; John 1:1-18; Acts 5:3-4; Eph. 1:11

<sup>2</sup> Ps. 19:7-11; Isa. 30:8; Neh. 8:5-8; 2 Tim. 3:15-17; 2 Pet. 1:19-21; Tit. 1:2; Heb. 6:18; John 8:51; John 17:17

<sup>3</sup> Gen. 1:26-27; 1 Pet. 3:7; Eph. 5:22-32; Matt. 5:27-30; 1 Cor. 6:12-19; 1 Tim. 1:8-11; Gen. 39:9; Ps. 51:1-4

<sup>4</sup> Gen. 3:1-24; Gen. 6:5; Jer. 17:9; Rom. 1:18; Rom. 5:12; Rom. 3:10-19; Rom. 3:23; Rom. 6:23; Eph. 2:3

<sup>5</sup> Gen. 3:15; Gen. 12:3; Eph. 1:3-12; Rev. 13:8; Rom. 8:29-30; Acts 13:48; Rev. 7:9-10

We believe that the gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ, centered on his perfect life, substitutionary death, and bodily resurrection.<sup>6</sup>

We believe that God the Son, the eternal Word, humbly took on flesh and lived as a man, Jesus Christ of Nazareth. He was and is fully God and fully man. He was born of the virgin Mary, sinless in life, crucified under Pontius Pilate, and resurrected from the dead by the power of God.<sup>7</sup>

We believe Jesus, because of his divine and human natures and the sufficiency of his redemptive work, is the only mediator between God and man. All who believe in him are justified before God, saved from the penalty and power of sin, and will one day be rescued from the presence of sin entirely.<sup>8</sup>

We believe after Jesus rose from the dead he ascended into heaven and is seated in power at the right hand of the Father. The Father and the Son sent the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, birthing the Church. The Holy Spirit indwells all believers and equips, empowers, and sanctifies them.<sup>9</sup>

We believe that those who have been saved by the grace of God, through union with Christ by faith, and through regeneration by the Holy Spirit, enter the kingdom of God, receive the blessings of the new covenant, and have the hope of eternal life.<sup>10</sup>

We believe the universal church is manifested in local churches, of which Christ is the only Head. Thus, each “local church” is the Church, the household of God, the assembly of the living God, and the pillar and foundation of the truth. Local

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<sup>6</sup> 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Cor. 15:1-5; Rom. 5:6; Rom. 4:25; Mark 10:45; 1 Pet. 3:18; Acts 3:15; Phil. 2:8; 1 Pet. 1:3

<sup>7</sup> John 1:1-18; Phil. 2:5-7; Col. 1:19; John 8:58; Luke 1:26-38; Luke 2:1-7; John 19:16; Eph. 1:19-20; 1 Cor. 6:14

<sup>8</sup> 1 Tim. 2:5-6; Heb. 2:14-15; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Rom.3:24-25; Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 4:5; Rom. 6:1-11; John 3:16-17; Rev. 21:1-5

<sup>9</sup> Acts 1:9; Acts 2:32-34; Eph. 1:20-23; Mark 16:19; 1 Pet. 3:22; Rom. 8:9-11; Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 3:16; 1 Cor. 6:19; 2 Tim. 1:14; 1 Cor. 12:1-7

<sup>10</sup> Jer. 31:31-34; Eph. 1:3-14; Eph. 2:8-9; John 3:2-5; 1 Pet. 1:3-5; Heb. 8:6; Heb. 9:15; Heb. 10:19-23; John 3:16; John 11:25-26

churches are to function according to the “house rules” God has revealed in the New Testament. This includes qualified men leading the church as pastor/elder/overseers and qualified men and women serving the church as deacons.<sup>11</sup>

We believe in two ordinances given by Jesus to be regularly observed by his church: baptism and the Lord’s Supper. Baptism is for those who have placed their faith in Jesus Christ and is done by full immersion in water.<sup>12</sup> The Lord’s Supper is open to all sinners who have placed their faith in Jesus, are pursuing holiness and ongoing repentance, and are striving for unity of the Spirit within the church body.<sup>13</sup>

We believe in the personal, glorious, and bodily return of our Lord Jesus Christ with his holy angels, when he will gather his people to himself, exercise his role as final Judge of the world, and consummate his eternal kingdom. He will grant eternal life to all who have believed in him. Those who have not received him will be separated from his loving presence and experience his presence as the righteous Judge of all the earth, being eternally condemned in hell.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Eph. 1:22-23; Eph. 2:19-22; 1 Tim. 2:8-3:1-15; Tit. 1:5-9; Rom. 16:1-2

<sup>12</sup> Although we believe that full immersion is the biblical mode of baptism, we understand there are some instances where exceptions may be made by the elders because of physical and/or mental limitations of those desiring to be baptized.

<sup>13</sup> Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 2:38; Acts 16:30-33; Rom. 6:3-6; 1 Pet. 3:21; Luke 22:14-23; 1 Cor. 10:16-17, 11:17-34

<sup>14</sup> Matt. 16:27; Matt. 13:36-43; 1 Thess. 4:16-18; 2 Thess. 1:5-10; Jude 1:7; John 3:16-18; Rev. 3:5; Rev. 20:11-15; Revelation 14:9-11, Genesis 18:25