



Statement of Faith

Introduction

We joyfully stand alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the ages in affirming the Apostles' Creed (2nd Century) and the Nicene Creed (A.D. 325 & 381). We also recognize the Second London Baptist Confession of Faith (1689), the New Hampshire Baptist Confession (1853), and the Baptist Faith and Message (2000) as faithful historical summaries of biblical doctrine, while affirming that the Holy Scriptures alone are our final and supreme authority in all matters of faith and practice.

Our Statement of Faith is a summary of the essential doctrines taught in the Holy Scriptures and confessed by Gospel for the Nations Church. It exists to glorify God by promoting sound doctrine, guarding the Church from error, strengthening the unity of the body of Christ, and clearly proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We believe that Christian fellowship is deepest where there is unity in the truth of God's Word. Therefore, this Statement serves as the doctrinal foundation for the preaching, teaching, membership, and ministry of Gospel for the Nations Church.

Together with the Church throughout the ages

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who together with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified; who spoke through the prophets.

We believe in one holy, universal, and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism of believers and look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

1. God

We believe there is one, and only one, living and true God. He is the eternal, infinite Creator and sovereign Ruler of heaven and earth. He is perfectly holy, just, merciful, loving, and wise, governing all things according to His eternal purpose and sovereign will. He alone is worthy of all worship, honor, trust, and obedience.

Within the unity of the Godhead there are three distinct Persons—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—equal in essence, glory, power, and majesty. These three Persons execute distinct yet harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, redemption, and the consummation of all things.



We believe that from eternity God has sovereignly decreed or permitted all that comes to pass, while upholding His holiness, justice, and righteousness. He is never the author or approver of sin, nor does His sovereignty remove the moral responsibility of mankind.

2. The Scriptures

We believe the Holy Bible, consisting of the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testaments, was written by men divinely inspired by the Holy Spirit and is the perfect treasure of heavenly instruction. God is its author, salvation is its purpose, and truth, without any mixture of error, is its content.

The Scriptures are fully inspired, infallible, inerrant, sufficient, and completely trustworthy. They reveal God's character, His plan of redemption through Jesus Christ, and the principles by which He will judge all mankind. Therefore, the Bible is, and shall remain until the end of the age, the supreme authority and final standard for all matters of faith, doctrine, worship, and Christian living.

All Scripture ultimately testifies to Jesus Christ, who is Himself the fulfillment and center of God's redemptive revelation.

3. Humanity

We believe God created humanity in His own image. Therefore every human being, regardless of ethnicity, nationality, age, sex, physical ability, or social standing, possesses inherent dignity and equal value before God.

God created humanity as male and female according to His perfect design. These distinctions are established by God, are good, and are intended for human flourishing and His glory.

We believe marriage is God's sacred covenant between one biological man and one biological woman for life. It reflects the covenant love between Christ and His Church and provides the biblical context for companionship, sexual intimacy, and the raising of children.

We also affirm singleness as a gracious gift from God through which believers may serve Christ with undivided devotion, remembering that earthly marriage ultimately points to the eternal union between Christ and His redeemed people. Every human life is sacred from conception to natural death because every person bears the image of God.

4. The Fall

We believe that humanity was originally created holy, righteous, and without sin.

Our first parents willingly rebelled against God through disobedience, bringing sin and death into the world. As a result, all humanity has inherited a sinful nature, is spiritually dead, separated from God, and wholly unable to restore itself to Him apart from His sovereign grace.

Every person is therefore a sinner by nature and by choice, lacking the righteousness required by God's holy law and standing under His just condemnation. Apart from Jesus Christ there is no hope of salvation.



Nevertheless, God, according to His eternal purpose of grace, has provided redemption through His Son, Jesus Christ, for all who repent and believe the Gospel.

5. God's Purpose of Grace

We believe that, from eternity, God graciously chose a people for Himself in Christ, not because of any foreseen merit or works in them, but solely according to the good pleasure of His sovereign will and the riches of His grace.

Through His eternal purpose, God effectually calls His elect, regenerates them by the Holy Spirit, justifies them through faith in Jesus Christ, sanctifies them by His Spirit, and will ultimately glorify them.

Election magnifies God's mercy, wisdom, holiness, freedom, and unchanging faithfulness. It is fully consistent with human responsibility and includes every means God has ordained to accomplish His saving purposes.

Far from discouraging evangelism or obedience, God's sovereign grace humbles sinners, excludes all boasting, inspires worship, strengthens assurance, encourages prayer, fuels missionary zeal, and gives believers confidence that God will preserve all whom He has called.

6. The Mediator

We believe that salvation is entirely by the grace of God through the person and work of Jesus Christ, apart from all human merit or works.

Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, the promised Messiah, and the only Mediator between God and humanity. By the appointment of the Father, He willingly took upon Himself a true human nature, yet without sin.

Through His perfect obedience, He fulfilled the righteous requirements of God's Law. Through His substitutionary death upon the cross, He fully satisfied the justice of God, bore the punishment due to sinners, and secured eternal redemption for His people.

He rose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, and now reigns at the Father's right hand as our great High Priest, Advocate, and King. He continually intercedes for His people and will one day return in glory to judge the living and the dead.

Jesus Christ alone is the all-sufficient Savior, perfectly qualified by His divine and human natures to reconcile sinners to God forever.

7. Regeneration

We believe that all sinners must be born again in order to enter the Kingdom of God.

Regeneration is the sovereign work of the Holy Spirit whereby those who are spiritually dead are made alive together with Christ. Through this gracious work, God gives a new heart, enlightens the mind to understand His truth, renews the whole person, and enables the sinner willingly to repent and believe in Jesus Christ.



Regeneration is entirely a work of God's grace and not the result of human effort. Its reality is demonstrated by repentance, faith, love for God, obedience to His Word, and a life increasingly marked by holiness.

8. Repentance and Faith

We believe that God commands all people everywhere to repent of their sins and believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Repentance and faith are inseparable gifts of God's grace, produced in the hearts of sinners by the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit. Through conviction of sin, sinners are brought to recognize their guilt, helplessness, and desperate need for God's mercy.

True repentance is a sincere turning from sin to God with confession, sorrow, and a wholehearted desire to obey Him. Saving faith receives and rests upon Jesus Christ alone as Prophet, Priest, and King, trusting entirely in His finished work for salvation.

Saving faith does not promise earthly health, prosperity, or freedom from suffering. Rather, believers confidently trust God's promises in every circumstance, knowing that He works all things for His glory and their eternal good.

9. Justification

We believe that justification is God's gracious and complete declaration whereby He pardons the sins of all who repent and believe in Jesus Christ, credits to them the perfect righteousness of Christ, and declares them righteous in His sight.

Justification is received through faith alone, in Christ alone, entirely apart from works. It is founded solely upon the substitutionary death, bodily resurrection, and perfect obedience of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Through justification believers are reconciled to God, adopted into His family, granted peace with Him, and made heirs of every spiritual blessing necessary for both this life and eternity.

Because justification rests entirely upon Christ's finished work, it provides lasting assurance to all who truly believe.

10. Sanctification

We believe that sanctification is the gracious work of God whereby believers are progressively conformed to the image of Jesus Christ.

It begins at regeneration and continues throughout the believer's earthly life through the indwelling presence and sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit. While sanctification is entirely dependent upon God's grace, believers are called to diligently pursue holiness through obedience to God's Word, prayer, fellowship with the church, self-examination, repentance, and faithful use of the ordinary means of grace.

Although believers continue to struggle against sin in this present life, God faithfully completes the work He has begun in them, producing increasing Christlikeness for His glory.



11. The Perseverance of the Saints

We believe that all whom God has truly regenerated and justified will persevere in faith until the end because they are kept by His power.

True believers continue to trust in Christ, love His Church, and seek to obey His Word. While genuine Christians may, through temptation or negligence, fall into sin for a time, they will never finally fall away from Christ.

Through the loving discipline of their heavenly Father, the conviction of the Holy Spirit, and the ministry of God's Word, they are brought again to repentance and restored to fellowship with Him.

The perseverance of the saints rests not upon human strength but upon God's unfailing covenant faithfulness and the preserving work of Jesus Christ.

12. The Church

We believe that all who have been united to Christ by faith are members of His universal Church, which is His Body and Bride, composed of redeemed people from every tribe, language, people, and nation.

We believe that Christ has ordained His people to gather in local churches. A local church is a congregation of baptized believers who are united together by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel.

Jesus Christ alone is the Head of His Church. Under His authority, each local church is governed by His Word.

We believe that Christ has given to His churches two biblical offices: elders (also called pastors or overseers) who are called to shepherd, teach, oversee, and lead the congregation, and deacons who are called to serve the church in practical ministries.

The congregation, under the authority of Scripture, is responsible for receiving and restoring members, preserving sound doctrine, exercising biblical discipline, and affirming its leaders.

The Church is devoted to the worship of God, the faithful preaching of the Scriptures, prayer, the administration of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, mutual encouragement, the exercise of spiritual gifts, discipleship, evangelism, and the making of disciples of all nations.

Every believer has been graciously gifted by the Holy Spirit for ministry and is called to serve faithfully for the building up of the Body of Christ, the advancement of the Gospel, and the glory of God.

13. Baptism and the Lord's Supper

We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of joyful obedience that publicly declares faith in the crucified, buried, and risen Lord Jesus Christ, symbolizing the believer's union with Him in His death, burial, and resurrection to newness of life.



Baptism is an ordinance given by Christ to His Church and is the public confession of saving faith. It is ordinarily prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and participation in the Lord's Supper.

We likewise believe that the Lord's Supper is an ordinance instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ, in which the gathered church, after careful self-examination, remembers His once-for-all sacrificial death, proclaims His saving work, strengthens its fellowship with Christ and with one another, and joyfully anticipates His glorious return.

The bread and the cup do not become the body and blood of Christ but are sacred symbols that point believers to His finished work on the cross and nourish faith through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

14. The Lord's Day

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, commemorating the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and pointing forward to the eternal rest prepared for the people of God.

The Lord's Day is to be joyfully devoted to public and private worship, prayer, the ministry of God's Word, Christian fellowship, acts of mercy, and spiritual refreshment. Believers are encouraged to order their activities in a manner that honors Christ and reflects the freedom and responsibilities of the New Covenant under His Lordship.

15. Liberty of Conscience

We believe that God alone is Lord of the conscience and has given it freedom from the commandments and traditions of men whenever they contradict or go beyond His Word.

Christians are therefore called to obey God above all earthly authorities while honoring, praying for, and submitting to civil government in all matters consistent with Scripture. Civil authorities are ordained by God for the good ordering of society, but they possess no authority over the conscience where God alone is Lord.

16. The Return of Christ and the World to Come

We believe that Jesus Christ will personally, visibly, gloriously, and bodily return at the time appointed by the Father to consummate His Kingdom, judge the living and the dead, and make all things new.

We believe in the future resurrection of all humanity. Those who belong to Christ shall be raised unto everlasting life and shall dwell forever in the presence of God in the New Heavens and the New Earth. Those who have rejected Christ shall be raised unto judgment and everlasting punishment, separated from the gracious presence of God forever.

We believe that God will faithfully accomplish all His covenant purposes according to His sovereign plan. We affirm that salvation is found only through faith in Jesus Christ and that, in accordance with Romans 11, God will yet bring about a future salvation of many from ethnic Israel before the return of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We joyfully await the blessed hope of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who will bring His work of redemption to its glorious completion and reign forever with His redeemed people in the everlasting Kingdom of God.