

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
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was crucified, dead, and buried;*
the third day he rose from the dead;
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Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and
the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,

We Believe (The Apostles' Creed)

4TH ANNUAL NINTH EPISCOPAL DISTRICT
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TRAINING SESSION

Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling, Presenter

February 8, 2020

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The Origin of the Apostles' Creed

The early church had no codified defined creeds as we have today. The Christian teachings were handed down through the preaching of the Saints. The early church taught what is basically in the Apostles' Creed, yet, they never had a written form of their teaching and called it "The Apostles' Creed." It was not till heresies and divisions in the church that any creeds were established.

The very first established creed that was accepted throughout the church as a whole was the Nicene Creed. The Nicene Creed was established by the Ecumenical church in 325 A.D.. The Apostles' creed was established shortly after.

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I BELIEVE

- Faith is believing that certain things are true
- “*I believe in God*” means something like “I believe that there is a God” or “I am of the opinion that God exists”
- Faith assents to the existence of God
- Faith affirms a belief in the existence of God
- Faith means trust
- Faith means commitment

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God the Father Almighty

- The God and Father or our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Pe 1:3)
- God who revealed Himself in Scripture and supremely in Jesus Christ
- Living and personal God whom we worship and adore
- God is like a human father
 - Knows our weakness and problems
 - Cares for us
 - Source of our existence

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God the Father Almighty_{cont}

- All power and authority in this world derive from God
- Rulers, governments and Christian leaders all derive authority from God (Ro 13:1-2)
- Nothing is impossible with God (Lu 1:37)
- God stands by His promises (Ps 19:7-10)

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Maker of Heaven and Earth

- Everything we see in the world was created/made by God (Rev 4:11)
 - *“Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created”*

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Jesus Christ, His Only Son

- *Christ* is the Greek version of the Hebrew word *Messiah*
- The core of the Christian faith is a *person*, not a set of abstract ideas or beliefs
- The Son of the living God (Matt 16:16)
- “Son of God” as the “incarnation”
 - God became man in Jesus Christ (Jo 1:14)

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Conceived by the Holy Spirit Born of the Virgin Mary

- *First*, the virgin birth points to the mystery of the personal union of God and humanity in Jesus Christ
- *Second*, conceived by the Holy Spirit means that God Himself made a new beginning in the history of His creation
- *Third*, that Jesus was born of Mary means that He is truly human (the eternal Word did assume our nature)
- *Fourth*, redemption is by “grace alone”

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He Suffered Under Pontius Pilate, Was Crucified, Dead, and Buried

- The governor (or procurator) of Judea (Lu 3:1-3)
- Mention of Pilate brings about the public nature of Jesus' trial
- Pilate represents the rejection of Jesus by his world
 - Rejection of the Creator by his creation
 - Rejection of those who had known him from his youth (Lu 4:16-30)



He Suffered Under Pontius Pilate, Was Crucified, Dead, and Buried

Isaiah 53:3-6, 12

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors

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The Third Day He Arose from the Dead

- First Resurrection (Easter) Sunday
- It tells us about God
 - God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob
- It tells us about Jesus
 - “Declared with power to be the Son of God by His resurrection”
 - Central and decisive Christian doctrine of the divinity of Jesus Christ is grounded in His resurrection
 - Christ is the “firstfruit” of the resurrection

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He Ascended Into Heaven

- Forty days after the resurrection
- Jesus was exalted to the right hand of God (Ac 2:33)
- Jesus is restored to the close presence, power, and majesty of His Father (Ac 1:1-11)
- God has exalted him to the highest place and given him the name that is above every name (Ph 2:9)
- The ascended Christ now live in ALL believers through the Holy Spirit (Ga 2:20)

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And Sitteth on the Right Hand of God the Father Almighty

- Jesus sits at the right hand of God (Col 3:1)
- Special favor and status (Ps 16:8; 110:1)
- Jesus is enthroned beside the Father, crowned with glory and honor (Heb 2:7-9)
- Jesus has the Father's ear (He intercedes for us) Ro 8:34
- He will come again to judge the living and the dead

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I Believe in the Holy Spirit

- The Spirit brings life
- Just as God brought Adam to life by breathing into him, so God is able to bring individuals and his church to life
- The valley of dry bones (Eze 37:1-14)
- The Spirit brings power
- The Holy Spirit convicts of sin
- The Holy Spirit is our Comforter

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The Church Universal

- To believe in Jesus Christ is to believe in and belong to a dynamic community
- *Ekklesia* (Greek word for church) Denotes not a building, but a group of people “those who are called out”
- The church consists of those who have been called out of the world into a community of faith (1 Pe 2:9)
- The church is one
- The church is Holy

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The Communion of Saints

- Communion is the old English word for “fellowship”
- Fellowship (*koinonia*) has the basic meaning of “sharing”
- Saints just means “someone who is holy”
- Someone who is consecrated to God “being set apart”

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The Forgiveness of Sins

- This is what Jesus achieved on the cross
- The significance of Christ's death and resurrection
- Remission of a penalty or debt
- Jesus wiped out our guilty by His death on the cross
- Forgiveness is what is necessary for a personal relationship to be restored or reconciled (Lu 15:11-32)

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The Resurrection of the Body and Life Everlasting. Amen!

- Christians will eventually be where Jesus is
- Do not let your heart be troubled; trust in God; trust also in me (Jo 14:1-3)
- “I am the resurrection and the life” (Jo 11:25-26)

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The Apostles' Creed in the Bible

The Apostles' Creed	Scripture Proofs
I believe in God the Father almighty, The creator of heaven and earth.	<u>Isa 63:16</u> , <u>Mat 6:9</u> , <u>Mat 23:9</u> , <u>Luk 11:2</u> <u>Psa 89:11-13</u> , <u>Gen 2:4</u> , <u>Exo 31:17</u> , <u>Act 4:24</u> , <u>14:15</u> , <u>Eph 3:9</u>
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.	<u>Ps 2:7</u> , <u>Joh 1:1-4</u> , <u>14</u> , <u>3:16</u> , <u>16:28</u> , <u>Act 13:33</u> , <u>Heb 5:5</u> , <u>1John 4:9</u>
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary.	<u>Isa 7:14</u> , <u>Mat 1:20-23</u> , <u>Luk 1:30-35</u> , <u>Joh 1:14</u> , <u>Gal 4:4</u> , <u>1Jo 4:2</u>
Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.	<u>Isa 53:4-5</u> , <u>Joh 19:18</u> , <u>Acts 4:10</u> , <u>27</u> , <u>1Ti 6:13</u> ,
He descended to hell.	<u>Ps 16:10</u> , <u>Act 2:24</u> , <u>27</u> , <u>13:33-37</u> , <u>Eph 4:8-10</u> , <u>1Pe 3:19</u>
On the third day he rose again.	<u>Mat 27:40</u> , <u>67</u> , <u>Mark 8:31</u> , <u>10:36</u> , <u>Joh 20:19-20</u> , <u>25-29</u> , <u>Act 2:32</u> , <u>3:15</u> , <u>4:33</u> , <u>1Co 15:12-22</u> , <u>Gal 1:1</u>
He ascended into heaven	<u>Luk 24:51</u> , <u>Act 1:9-11</u> , <u>Eph 4:8-10</u> , <u>Heb 4:14</u> , <u>9:24</u>

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And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.	<u>Ps 110:1</u> , <u>Mark 16:19</u> , <u>Act 2:33</u> , <u>5:31</u> , <u>7:55-56</u> , <u>Heb 12:2</u> , <u>Heb 8:1</u> , <u>1Pe 3:21-22</u>
Whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.	<u>Joh 5:22-23</u> , <u>Act 10:42</u> , <u>Rom 14:10</u> , <u>2Co 5:10</u> , <u>2Ti 4:1</u> , <u>1Pe 4:4-5</u>
I believe in the Holy Spirit,	<u>Eze 39:29</u> , <u>Joh 14:26</u> , <u>Act 2:17</u> , <u>13:2</u> , <u>1Co 2:10-11</u> , <u>12:13</u> , <u>Heb 3:7-9</u>
The holy catholic Church,	<u>Act 9:31</u> , <u>1Co 1:1-2</u> , <u>2Co 1:1</u> , <u>1Ti 3:15</u> , <u>Heb 12:22-25</u> , <u>1Pe 1:1</u>
The communion of saints,	<u>Act 2:42</u> , <u>Rom 12:4-13</u> , <u>15:26-27</u> , <u>1Co 1:9</u> , <u>2Co 8:3-4</u> , <u>Phi 2:1-4</u> , <u>1Jo 1:3</u>
The forgiveness of sins,	<u>Neh 9:17</u> , <u>Mark 11:26</u> , <u>Mat 6:12-15</u> ; <u>Luk 6:37-38</u> <u>Col 1:13-14</u> , <u>2:13-14</u> , <u>Eph 1:7</u>
The resurrection of the body,	<u>Ecc 12:7</u> , <u>Mat 22:31-32</u> , <u>Mark 12:18-27</u> ; <u>Luk 20:27-37</u> , <u>Rom 8:23</u> , <u>1Co 15:38-56</u> , <u>2Co 4:14</u> ,
And the life everlasting. Amen	<u>Dan 12:2</u> , <u>Mat 25:31-33</u> , <u>Luk 16:22-23</u> , <u>Joh 5:28-29</u> , <u>Rom 6:22-23</u>

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