

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I BELIEVE ...



APOSTLE'S CREED

I BELIEVE in God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven
and earth.



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I BELIEVE in

- Jesus Christ,
- his only Son,
- our Lord.

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Who was

- conceived by the Holy Spirit,
- born of the virgin Mary,
- suffered under Pontius Pilate,
- was crucified, dead, and buried.

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- He descended into hell.
- The third day he rose again from the dead.

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- He ascended into heaven,
- and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty,
- from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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I BELIEVE in

- the Holy Spirit
- the Holy Christian Church
(the communion of saints)

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- the forgiveness of sins
- the resurrection of the body,
- and the life everlasting.

Amen.

About The Apostle's Creed

No human wisdom can understand the Creed; it must be taught by the Holy Spirit alone - Martin Luther

The word **creed** comes from the Latin word **credo**, which means **I believe**. The Apostles' Creed is a statement written in the early Christian church which declares what Christians believe about God.

Just as Christians all over the world feel united as the people of God when we read the same lessons on Sunday morning, we also feel that stating our belief about God, together, out loud, world-wide, every Sunday, makes us stronger in our faith and brings us closer together as the people of God's community.

The Apostles' Creed is divided into three parts, called articles.

The First Article states our belief in God the Father. The Second Article states our belief in God the Son. And the Third Article states our belief in God the Holy Spirit.

The First Article

What does this mean?

I believe that God has created me and all that exists.

He has given me and still preserves my body and soul with all their powers

He provides me with food and clothing, home and family, daily work, and all I need from day to day. God also protects me in time of danger and guards me from every evil.

All this he does out of fatherly and divine goodness and mercy, though I do not deserve it. Therefore I surely ought to thank and praise, serve and obey him.

This is most certainly true.

The Second Article

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ - true God, Son of the Father from eternity, and true man, born of the Virgin Mary - is my Lord.

At great cost he has saved and redeemed me, a lost and condemned person. He has freed me from sin, death, and the power of the devil - not with silver or gold, but with his holy and precious blood and his innocent suffering and death.

All this he has done that I may be his own, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.

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The Third Article

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own understanding or effort believe in Jesus Christ my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, and sanctified and kept me in true faith.

In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it united with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian church day after day he fully forgives my sins and the sins of all believers. On the last day he will raise me and all the dead and give me and all believers in Christ eternal life.

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