

“ I BELIEVE ”

a teaching on the

Apostles' Creed

- **Today is Part 6 of The Apostles' Creed.**
- **Turn to John 14 & 1 Peter 3.**

I. WHAT IS THE APOSTLES' CREED?

- **The word, “Creed” means “I Believe.”**
- **The Old Roman Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Apostles’ Creed.**
- **The Apostles’ Creed kept the early church on track and free from doctrinal error and formed them in Christ. The Creed was their “truth filter.” It was also known as “the rule of faith.”**

The Apostles' Creed dates to the year 390 AD. It is a revision of the Old Roman Creed written in 140 AD.

The Apostles' Creed is the non-negotiable doctrines and tenets of our Christian faith! They need to be taught and affirmed! Its purpose is to draw you closer to Christ!

Symmetry - Correct proportions.
Shapes us into Christ's image.

Clarity - Doctrines & teachings of the
Word of God.

Community - We need others.

Counsel - Gives us a Biblical
worldview. Gives us our lens to view
the world through.

*The moon (Apostles' Creed) get it's
light from the sun (Word of God).

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was
buried. He descended into hell.
The third day He arose again
from the dead. He ascended into
heaven and sits at the right
hand of God the Father
Almighty,

**whence He shall come to judge
the living and the dead. I
believe in the Holy Spirit, the
holy catholic [universal] church,
the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and life
everlasting. Amen.**

II. WHY TEACH THE APOSTLES' CREED?

1 Timothy 4:1 ESV

“Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons.”

Expressly - Very strongly, categorically, unmistakably, emphatically.

Later times - Very end of the age. In nautical terms, the words later describe the very last port one stopped at on a voyage.

Some will depart from - A very slow, methodical transitioning away from what one stood by and believed.

Faith - The clear, sound teaching of Scripture.

There is a severe lack of Biblical knowledge today. There are a lot of masterful, entertaining communicators in pulpits today, but they are not really educated in Biblical doctrine.

Hosea 4:6 ESV

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...”

Most Christians get their theology of Heaven and Hell from Far Side Cartoons instead of Scripture.

What interprets the Bible? Hint...it's not a cartoon.

Bible interprets Bible. Scripture interprets Scripture.

III. I BELIEVE JESUS DESCENDED INTO HELL.

***Hell was not created for God's children. It was created for the devil and the fallen angels. A person goes to hell by not choosing JESUS.**

Matthew 12:40 ESV

“For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”

- **Hosea 6:1-3 is another prophecy of the Messiah's resurrection after 3 days.**
- **According to Jewish tradition, a person's soul/spirit remained with his/her dead body for three days. After three days, the soul/spirit departed. JESUS waited 4 days to raise Lazarus in John 11:38-44.**

- **Old Testament - Sheol. (Genesis 37:35; Psalm 16:10; Ecclesiastes 9:10; Isaiah 14:9)**
 - **New Testament - Hades. (Matthew 11:23; Acts 2:27,31; Revelation 1:18)**
- *The grave, the pit, the place of the dead.**
- **Hell and Lake of Fire.**

Revelation 20:14-15 ESV

14 Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."

- **Abraham's Bosom/Side - Luke 16:19-31**
- **Heaven/Paradise/Father's House - 1 Kings 8:30; Psalm 11:4; Genesis 2:8; Luke 23:34; 2 Corinthians 12:3-4; Revelation 2:7; John 14:2)**

John 14:1-6 ESV

14 "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come

again and will take you to Myself,
that where I am you may be also.
4 And you know the way to
where I am going.” 5 Thomas
said to Him, “Lord, we do not
know where you are going. How
can we know the way?”

6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

Luke 23:43 ESV

And He said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in paradise."

***After the fall, paradise was lost, and the entrance was guarded by cherubim (Genesis 3:24).**

1 Peter 3:18-22 ESV

18 “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, 19 in which He went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison,

20 because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. 21 Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt

from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to Him.”

2 Peter 2:4-5 ESV

4 “For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment; 5 if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah,

a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly.”

Jude 6

“And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, He has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day.”

Biblical Angel Hierarchy:

- 1. Seraphim** – Highest order, closest to God, worshipers of God's holiness (**Isaiah 6**).
- 2. Cherubim** – Guardians of God's glory and sacred spaces, often involved in worship (**Genesis 3, Exodus 25, Ezekiel 10**).

3. Thrones – Angels associated with God's judgment and divine authority (**Colossians 1:16, Ezekiel 1**).

4. Dominions, Principalities, Powers – Different categories of angels associated with divine governance (**Colossians 1:16, Ephesians 1:21**).

5. Archangels – Michael is the primary archangel, often associated with spiritual warfare and protection (**Jude 1:9, Daniel 10:13**).

6. Watchers – Involved in overseeing God's judgment and earthly affairs (**Daniel 4:13, 17, 23**).

7. Angels (Messengers) – The most commonly referenced type of angel, delivering messages and performing God's will (**Genesis 18, Luke 1:26-38**).

Colossians 2:15 ESV

“He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in Him.”

Hebrews 2:16 ESV

“For surely it is not angels that He helps, but He helps the offspring of Abraham.”

Ephesians 4:8-10 ESV

8 Therefore it says, “When He ascended on high He led a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men.” 9 In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower regions, the earth?

10 He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.”

Matthew 27:50-54 ESV

50 “And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up His spirit. 51 And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. 52 The tombs also were opened.

And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, 53 and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. 54 When the centurion and those who were with Him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place,

**they were filled with awe and
said, “Truly this was the Son
of God!”**

The resurrection of Jesus is the first step in God's plan to defeat death and inaugurate the new creation. The raising of these saints affirms that Jesus' resurrection is the foundation for all future resurrections. 1 Corinthians 15:20-23 speaks of Jesus as the "first fruits of those who have fallen asleep." His resurrection is the beginning of a larger harvest of resurrected believers.

John 5:28-29 ESV

28 “Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear His voice 29 and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.” *JESUS*

Revelation 1:17-18 ESV

17 “When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as though dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.”

- **JESUS didn't go to Hell to suffer more for our sins. He went to get the keys!!!**
- **Religion is about what we do. Christianity is about what's been done. JESUS said, "It is finished."**
- **It really is finished! Our problem is believing that it is! We don't have a devil problem! We have a belief problem!**

1 Corinthians 15:57 ESV

“But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

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