

Is The Apostle's Creed For Us?

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living 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,
and life everlasting.

Amen.

Is the Apostles Creed what we believe? The creed statements are in red.

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

This statement should be changed. Consider the following verse.

James 2:19

Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

It is not enough to believe *in* God. Believers must *believe* God.

Romans 4:3

For what saith the scripture? **Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.**

Galatians 3:6

Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

James 2:23

And the scripture was fulfilled which saith,
Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

creator of heaven and earth.

This statement is misplaced. We know that there are 3 persons in the Godhead: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.

1 John 5:7

For there are three that bear record in heaven,
the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

All 3 persons of the Godhead dwell inside the Lord Jesus Christ.

Colossians 2:9

For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

It is God the Son, the Word, the Lord Jesus Christ who made all things.

John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him;** and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Jesus Christ is the image—the face—of God, who is invisible. He is the firstborn of every creature. This means He is and always was before everything, in importance and rank. He had no beginning, He is the leader of all creation.

Colossians 1:13-15

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: **Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:**

Paul confirms that He created everything, and everything consists—and exists—by Him.

Colossians 1:16-17

For **by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible**, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: **all things were created by him, and for him**: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

“All fullness,” everything, even the fullness of the Godhead, dwells in Jesus Christ.

Colossians 1:18-19

And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. **For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell;**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

This statement is true. It is important that you believe *in* Jesus. In Jesus is our redemption, our righteousness, and our justification.

Romans 3:24-26

Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; **To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.**

Everything is in Jesus.

Galatians 2:16

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, **even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ**, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

Both statements are true.

Luke 1:31, 34-35

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. ³⁴Then said Mary unto the angel, **How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?** And the angel answered and said unto her, **The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee:** therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

This statement is true.

Matthew 27:1-2

When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death: And when they had bound him, they led him away, and delivered him to **Pontius Pilate the governor.**

was crucified, died, and was buried;

This statement is crucial but is not complete without His resurrection.

Jesus was crucified.

Matthew 27:22-23

Pilate saith unto them, **What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let him be crucified. And the governor said, Why, what evil hath he done?** But they cried out the more, saying, Let him be crucified.

He died and was buried.

Matthew 27:57-60

When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple: **He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus.** Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. **And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, And laid it in his own new tomb,** which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.

He descended to hell.

This statement is true. Jesus' soul went to the place where the souls of the faithful Jews wait for their resurrection to the Kingdom of Heaven on the earth. It is sometimes referred to as "Abraham's bosom."

Luke 16:22-25

And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; **And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.** And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but **now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.**

As we learn from Jesus, through the story in Luke, people in Abraham's bosom can see the souls in hell can see and hear what is going on in Abraham's bosom. It appears to be part of their torment.

Peter records Jesus' presence in hell. The spirits in the following passage were the angels that took on human flesh and mated with women in the days of Noah. Those angels were and still are already in hell waiting for judgement.

1 Peter 3:18-20

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: **By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing,** wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

We know that these spirits were angels from the books of Jude and 2 Peter.

Jude 1:6

And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

2 Peter 2:4

For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

Jesus was not preaching to the angels in hell to save them. Angels cannot die—or have someone die in their place—to pay the penalty for their sin. When they sin, they cannot be redeemed.

Luke 20:36

Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection

Souls in hell do not escape God.

Psalm 139:7-8

Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or **whither shall I flee from thy presence?** If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.

From what we know about hell/Abraham's bosom, when Jesus was preaching to the spirits in

hell, He would also have been preaching and teaching the faithful souls of the people who had already died and were waiting for the Kingdom. Every believer would have been able to see and hear the promised Redeemer. Remember, everyone, beginning with Adam and Eve, knew that God would save His people from their sins.

Jesus also called Abraham's bosom "paradise." Remember one of the thieves on the cross beside Jesus? He became a believer and Jesus told him that he would be with Jesus that day in paradise, after they had both died.

Presumably the thief on the other side of Jesus ended up in hell when he died, and would have been able to see Jesus and the reformed thief in paradise.

Luke 23:42-43

And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, **To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.**

The third day he rose again from the dead.

This statement is crucial. This was prophesied by Jesus Himself. When we believe that Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection paid for all of our sins—past, present, and future—we are saved. Nothing is more important!

John 2:19-22

Jesus answered and said unto them, **Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.** Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? **But he spake of the temple of his body.** When therefore **he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.**

Acts 2:31

He seeing this before spake of **the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell,** neither his flesh did see corruption.

He ascended to heaven

This statement is true.

Ephesians 4:9-10

(Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is **the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)**

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

This statement is true.

Mark 16:19

So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

This statement is deceptive. The two groups of people who will exist when Jesus comes back are not the “living” and the “dead,” but “believers and unbelievers.” Jesus will come from heaven, not to earth, but to gather believers from the earth, both living and dead—His Body (the

Church, the Body of Christ—and meet us in the clouds. He will take us to heaven to forever be with Him. The unbelievers will be left on earth.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

For **the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout**, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and **the dead in Christ shall rise first**: Then **we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air**: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

Jesus will come to earth at least 7 years after He gathers the Church, the Body of Christ. He will set up His Kingdom of Heaven on the Earth for all of the faithful Jews.

Jesus will judge all unbelievers at the end of His 1,000 year Kingdom of Heaven on the Earth at the Great White Throne Judgement. He will already be on earth as King. All unbelievers will be sent to an eternity in the Lake of Fire.

Revelation 20:11-15

And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. **And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened,** which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and **death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.** And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. **And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

This is true, but it is so much more personal than “believing in” the Holy Spirit. When we become believers in Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection, The Holy Ghost a.k.a. Holy Spirit, immediately indwells our hearts and places us

into the Church, the Body of Christ. We become God's dwelling place, His temple.

Romans 8:9

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be **that the Spirit of God dwell in you**. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

The Holy Ghost is literally a part of every believer.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

What? **know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?** For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

We are also part of Christ.

Ephesians 5:30

For **we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones**.

1 Corinthians 3:23

And ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

The Holy Ghost teaches every believer about the gifts God has freely given to us. He helps us receive and understand those gifts. In our natural state, we were unable to know about God.

1 Corinthians 2:12-14

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. **Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth;** comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But **the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.**

the holy catholic church,

There is a lot of confusion about this statement. The word catholic (not capitalized) means “universal.” While many mistake it for the Catholic (capital C) church, either interpretation

is incorrect. The only church for believers to believe in, is the Church, the Body of Christ.

Ephesians 1:20-23

Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

the communion of saints,

This statement is not simply referring to the communion of bread and wine, although that is part of what the Church, the Body of Christ does together as believers. The communion of saints gives the broader message that Christ is the redeemer of the faithful, the saints, throughout the ages. We are all part of God's plan, made before the foundation of the world, spanning all of human history.

Ephesians 3:17-21

That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. **Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.**

Ephesians 1:3-6

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: **According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, **To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.**

the forgiveness of sins,

Everyone's sins were forgiven by Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection: All sins, for every person.

Romans 5:18

Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one **the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.**

Jesus died for everyone, but only those who believe that He did, and accept the free gift of salvation, will be saved.

1 Timothy 4:10

For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because **we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.**

Jesus forgave every sin for every person. You cannot commit a sin, now or in the future that has not been forgiven. Don't waste your time keeping track and asking forgiveness for sins!

When you become aware of your sins, the best course of action is to thank God and the Lord Jesus Christ that you don't have to suffer the penalties for your sins. Look at the following verse, "hath forgiven you" is past tense. It's already done.

Ephesians 4:32

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

1 Corinthians 15:50-53

Now this I say, brethren, **that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.** Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and **we shall be changed. For this corruptible**

must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

The Pauline Creed

I believe God, the Father Almighty
And I believe in the creator of heaven and earth,
Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into paradise;
On the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven
And is seated at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty,
From there, He shall descend from heaven, and
we who believe that Jesus died and rose again to
forgive all of our sins, the living and the dead,
shall be caught up with Him in the clouds, to
meet the Lord in the air.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, indwelling my heart,
Who has placed me and sealed me—with all
believers—into the Church, the Body of Christ,
And that Jesus shall change our vile bodies, that
they may be fashioned like unto his glorious
body, and so shall we ever be with the Lord.