

The Apostles' Creed - 180-390 A.D.

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

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” Genesis 1:1 (KJV)

and in Jesus Christ his only Son,

“And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: ¹⁷And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” Matthew 3:16-17 (KJV)

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” John 3:16 (KJV)

our Lord;

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved” Romans 10:9 (KJV)

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

“Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? ³⁵And 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” Luke 1:34-35 (KJV)

born of the Virgin Mary;

“Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost” Matthew 1:18 (KJV)

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

“And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified” Mark 15:15 (KJV)

was crucified, dead, and buried;

“And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified” Mark 15:15 (KJV)

“And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.” Mark 15:25 (KJV)

“But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: ³⁴But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.” John 19:33-34 (KJV)

“This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. ⁵³And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid.” Luke 23:52 (KJV)

he descended into hell: the third day he rose again from the dead;

We confess with the Hiedelberg Catechism Q&A 44 “Why is it added: “He descended into hell”? That in my greatest temptations I may be assured that Christ our Lord, by His inexpressible anguish, pains and terrors, which He suffered in His Soul on the cross and before, has redeemed me from the anguish and torment of hell.”

“And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”¹ Matthew 27:46 (NKJV)

“And Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.” Luke 23:43 (NKJV)

“And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, “Father, ‘into Your hands I commit My spirit.’” Having said this, He breathed His last.” Luke 23:46

“Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. ²And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. ³And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: ⁵And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the

dead? ⁶He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, ⁷Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again” Luke 24:1-7 (KJV)

he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

“And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.” Luke 24:51 (KJV)

“Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, ¹¹ who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.” Acts 1:9-11 (NKJV)

“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.” Colossians 3:1 (KJV)

“I charge *thee* therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;” 2 Timothy 4:1 (KJV)

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic [universal] church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

“But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.” John 14:26 (KJV)

*[-Catholic: A transliteration of the Greek katholikos, “throughout the whole” or universal Indicating availability of salvation for all peoples. Not to be confused with **Roman Catholic**, referring strictly to the Roman Catholic denomination.]*

“For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord’s death till he come.” 1 Corinthians 11:26 (KJV)

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9 (KJV)

“Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years” Revelation 20:6 (KJV)

“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away” Revelation 21:4 (KJV)

NOTE- This creed was not written by the Apostles, nor by any one man, but rather was gradually formed as additional articles were added to the three basic articles on the Trinity. One phrase, “He descended into hell,” was not added until the sixth or seventh century A.D. Most of the articles of this Creed were put together by the third or fourth century.