

## *The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
the maker 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, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell.  
The third day he arose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from there 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;  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **“I believe” – What does it mean to believe?**

#### **(1) Faith means assent**

##### **Romans 10:14-17**

[14] How then will they **call on him in whom they have not believed**? And how are they to **believe in him of whom they have never heard**? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? [15] And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” [16] But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” [17] So **faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.**

##### **2 Corinthians 4:13**

Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, “I believed, and so I spoke,” we also believe, and so we also speak,

#### **(2) Faith means trust**

##### **Hebrews 11:1**

Now **faith is the assurance** of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

##### **Ephesians 2:8**

For by grace you have been saved **through faith**. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God

### **Matthew 9:27-30**

<sup>27</sup> And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." <sup>28</sup>When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, "**Do you believe** that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." <sup>29</sup> Then he touched their eyes, saying, "**According to your faith be it done to you.**" <sup>30</sup>And their eyes were opened.

## **(3) Faith means obedience**

### **Romans 1:5-6**

[5] through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the **obedience of faith** for the sake of his name among all the nations, [6] including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

### **James 2:14-17**

[14] What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? [15] If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, [16] and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? [17] So also **faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.**

## **"In God, the Father Almighty" – who is this God the Father?**

### **(1) God the Father in the trinity**

#### **Matthew 28:18-20**

[18] And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. [19] Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the **name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit**, [20] teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

#### **Ephesians 1:3**

[3] Blessed be the **God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ**, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,

#### **John 1:14**

[14] And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of **the only Son from the Father**, full of grace and truth.

### **(2) God the Father of adopted believers**

#### **Ephesians 1:2**

[2] Grace to you and peace from **God our Father** and the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **Romans 8:14-17**

[14] For all who are led by the Spirit of God are **sons of God**. [15] For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received **the Spirit of adoption as sons**, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" [16] The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that **we are children of God**, [17] and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

## “The Maker of Heaven and Earth” – What is the significance?

### (1) Reminds us of who we are; should create humility

#### Isaiah 55:7-9

- [7] let the wicked **forsake his way**,  
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
let him **return to the LORD**, that he may have compassion on him,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
- [8] For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
- [9] For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

#### Job 38:4-7, 40:1-5

- [4] “**Where were you** when I laid the foundation of the earth?  
Tell me, if you have understanding.
- [5] **Who determined its measurements**—surely you know!  
Or **who stretched the line** upon it?
- [6] **On what were its bases sunk**,  
or **who laid its cornerstone**,
- [7] when the morning stars sang together  
and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

[40:1] And the LORD said to Job:

- [2] “Shall a faultfinder contend with the Almighty?  
He who argues with God, let him answer it.”
- [3] Then Job answered the LORD and said:
- [4] “**Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer you?**  
**I lay my hand on my mouth.**
- [5] I have spoken once, and I will not answer;  
twice, but I will proceed no further.”

### (2) Reminds us of who God is; should create trust and worship

#### Revelation 4:10-11

- [10] the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,
- [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.”**

#### Psalms 8:3-4, 9

- [3] When I look at **your heavens**, the **work of your fingers**,  
the moon and the stars, which **you have set in place**,
- [4] what is man that you are mindful of him,  
and the son of man that you care for him?
- [9] O LORD, our Lord,  
**how majestic is your name** in all the earth!