

## *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. What should we know about the ascension of Christ?**

#### **(1) His Eternal Reign**

##### **Ephesians 1:20-23**

[20] that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far **above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named**, not only in this age but also in the one to come. [22] And **he put all things under his feet** and gave **him as head over all things** to the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

##### **1 Peter 3:22**

[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) His Constant Intercession**

**Romans 8:34**

[34] Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed **is interceding for us**.

**Hebrews 7:25**

[25] Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always **lives to make intercession for them**.

**(3) His Treasured People****Hebrews 1:1-3**

[1:1] Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, [2] but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. [3] He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, **he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high**,

**Hebrews 10:12**

[12] But when Christ had offered for all time **a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God**,

**John 14:1-3**

[14:1] “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**.

**II. What should we know about the coming judgment?****(1) Christ will return****Acts 1:10-11**

[10] And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, [11] and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, **will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven**.”

**Revelation 1:7**

[7] Behold, **he is coming** with the clouds, and **every eye will see him**, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

## (2) We should eagerly await Christ's return

### **Colossians 3:3-5**

[3] For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. [4] **When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.** [5] Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

### **2 Thessalonians 1:7-10**

[7] and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels [8] in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. [9] They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, [10] when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed.

## (3) We do not know when Christ will return

### **Matthew 24:44**

[44] Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at **an hour you do not expect.**

### **Mark 13:32-33**

[32] "But concerning that day or that hour, **no one knows**, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. [33] Be on guard, keep awake. For **you do not know when the time will come.**

### **Luke 12:40**

[40] You also must be ready, for **the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.**"

### **Acts 1:6-8**

[6] So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" [7] He said to them, "It is **not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority.** [8] But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."