

GOD THE FATHER, GOD THE CREATOR

THE

MAJORS

a study on the apostles creed

The Apostles Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to hell.
On the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
he will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Catholic Church,
the communion of the saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of February 23, 2020
Various Scriptures

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This weekend we learned that God the Father is both personal and powerful. Which of these two characteristics is most difficult for you to grasp? Explain.
- 2 Likewise, we learned that God is "Almighty". What does it mean for God to be Almighty? Why is this significant to us, as Christians?
- 3 Understanding that God created everything, how can we be good stewards of God's creation?

DIGGING DEEPER

A **1 Corinthians 8:6, ESV** – *6 yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.*

1 Corinthians 15:24-28, ESV – *24 Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. 25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death. 27 For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. 28 When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.*

- 4 The passages in 1 Corinthians tell us that there is one God, who is the Father, and is the source of all things. How was this counter-cultural in the city of Corinth? How is this counter-cultural today?

5 What task does the Father give the Son? Why does Paul make such a clear distinction between the Father and the Son in their roles?

6 What can we learn from Jesus' response to the task given Him by the Father?

B *Isaiah 40:28-31, ESV – 28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. 29 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. 30 Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; 31 but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.*

Romans 1:25, ESV – 25 because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

7 Looking at the passages above, what is significant about God as the Creator?

8 What is the "lie" that people have exchanged with the truth of God the Creator?

9 What does it look like for you to "wait for the Lord" (Is 40:31)? In what circumstances is it difficult for you to wait for the Lord? Why?

TAKING IT HOME

"I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth." Spend some time reflecting and meditating on those words. How can you live your life in such a way that others see this truth through you? Share with your group or accountability partner and pray for one another as you seek to live a life of faith.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Nicene Creed

*We believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.*

*And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
begotten from the Father before all ages,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made;*

*of the same essence as the Father.
Through him all things were made.*

*For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and was made human.*

*He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried.*

*The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.
He ascended to heaven*

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

*He will come again with glory
to judge the living and the dead.
His kingdom will never end.*

*And we believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life.*

*He proceeds from the Father and the Son,
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.*

He spoke through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

*We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,
and to life in the world to come. Amen.*