



THE CAMPUS CHURCH  
LOVE AND SERVE GOD AND PEOPLE

## Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*

### The Apostle's Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

### Review

1. A creed is concise orthodox statement of spiritual conviction. The word creed simply means – “I believe”.
2. The first written document of this creed was in the early 300's but it is thought this was recited by Christians as early as the mid 100's.
3. This creed contains only 115 words, yet at the same time frames a deep understanding of the godhead.
4. It is a trinitarian creed. The creed is based around a Biblical understanding of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
5. This creed is like the headlines of a newspaper. It gives us the main points of our faith but does not go into the details.
6. This creed is like a compass, that points us in the right direction.
7. As the moon reflects the sun's light, so this creed reflects the authority of scripture. There is no power in these words at all. But these words do represent profound Biblical truth that does have power.
8. Every Christian needs to be a theologian. Because what you think of God is the most important thing about you. And, if you are thinking accurately about God you are relieved of 10,000 temporal problems.
9. This creed is a statement of allegiance but also rebellion. With sincere belief we are expressing our allegiance to the truth of the Bible, but at the same time are rebelling against the **story our culture is telling us and living by**. By believing and declaring this creed we are declaring that **we reject the modern narrative of the meaning of life and we are embracing the Biblical narrative**.
10. 2 Timothy 1:8-14 reminds us of the importance of moving from belief to conviction.
11. Romans 10:9-11 reminds us of the symmetry between belief and confession.
12. The two words “I believe” are among the most explosive words any human can utter

### Arguments for the existence of God

#### 1. The ontological argument.

This argument declares that generally all people have a concept of God. Theologians basically argue that if you and I have the ability to conceive of something greater than that which we can conceive, then there must be a reality behind this human conception. Otherwise, where did this idea come from? Universally most cultures have a sense that there is a divine being.

#### 2. The cosmological argument.

This is the “principle of cause and effect. What we see happening must have a reason for happening. Look at the world? Did it all just happen, or was there a reason behind it? Take your cell phone for example. Did that just spontaneously appear? Or did something equal to or greater create that. The same is true with our world. Did it just occur on its own, or was there something equal to or greater that created it?

#### 3. The teleological argument.

The argument is one of design indicates there is a designer. Look again at your cell phone. This is something incredibly complex. Did that design and intricacy just happen by accident, or did apple or Samsung create it intentionally. Likewise, when you look at our world and universe, whoever created it must be equally intricate and creative or more so. A design this complex must have behind it a designer.

#### 4. The moral conscience argument.

Universally there is a sense of right and wrong. Where did we get such moral ideas? Most cultures agree that theft, lying and murder are wrong. Our morality is reflective of a greater morality.

## Theological Reflection

**I believe in God – a God who is father, a God who is almighty, and a God who is the creator.**

### Isaiah 40:10-31 (NIV)

See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm.

See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. <sup>11</sup> He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

<sup>12</sup> Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance?

<sup>13</sup> Who can fathom the Spirit of the LORD, or instruct the LORD as his counselor? <sup>14</sup> Whom did the LORD consult to enlighten him, and who taught him the right way? Who was it that taught him knowledge, or showed him the path of understanding? <sup>15</sup> Surely the nations are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; he weighs the islands as though they were fine dust. <sup>16</sup> Lebanon is not sufficient for altar fires, nor its animals enough for burnt offerings.

<sup>17</sup> Before him all the nations are as nothing; they are regarded by him as worthless and less than nothing. <sup>18</sup> With whom, then, will you compare God? To what image will you liken him? <sup>19</sup> As for an idol, a metalworker casts it, and a goldsmith overlays it with gold and fashions silver chains for it. <sup>20</sup> A person too poor to present such an offering selects wood that will not rot; they look for a skilled worker to set up an idol that will not topple. <sup>21</sup> Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? <sup>22</sup> He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. <sup>23</sup> He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. <sup>24</sup> No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff. <sup>25</sup> “To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One. <sup>26</sup> Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. <sup>27</sup> Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God?” <sup>28</sup> Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. <sup>29</sup> He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. <sup>30</sup> Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; <sup>31</sup> but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

### **I believe in God... the creator of heaven and earth.**

Colossians 1:16-17

#### *Implications of God as creator*

- God is not just some vague \_\_\_\_\_ force.
- Every human you meet has incredible \_\_\_\_\_, because we as humans are a \_\_\_\_\_ creation of God, created in His \_\_\_\_\_.
- When we consider the heavens and the earth we should be moved to \_\_\_\_\_.

### **I believe in God... who is almighty.**

This creed is declaring God’s \_\_\_\_\_. God has complete power, supremacy and authority.

#### *Implications of God almighty*

- There is nothing happening in this world that you and he can’t \_\_\_\_\_.
- The almighty God \_\_\_\_\_ us and gives us the strength we need to carry on.
- Things might not make \_\_\_\_\_ to you but they always make \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

### **I believe in God... the father**

<sup>15</sup> The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” Romans 8:15

#### *Implications of God as father*

- The Bible invites us to call the creator of the universe, the all-powerful, all-wise God... \_\_\_\_\_! This God whom we worship is our heavenly dad. This is how God has \_\_\_\_\_ himself to us and this is the kind of relationship he wants to have with each of us – as our heavenly \_\_\_\_\_.