

The Apostles' Creed - God the Father Almighty

Isaiah 63:16 ❖ Galatians 4:1-7

"Christian truth could not possibly be put into a shorter and clearer statement than the Apostles' Creed."
(Martin Luther)

The First Creed

In Latin "credo" means "I _____." A creed, then, is a summary of _____.

The Apostles' Creed is the _____ and the most widely- _____ confession of faith in the world.

Though the Twelve Apostles didn't actually _____ the Apostles' Creed, it is derived from their _____ in the New Testament.

It was written around _____ A.D. by Roman Christians, who used it as a baptismal creed, though it actually goes back to _____ A.D. when all of the books of the New Testament had been completed.

Three phrases were added _____: forgiveness of _____, holy _____ church and He descended into _____.

The three-paragraph structure of the Apostles' Creed is _____, based on Jesus' command to _____.

"The Apostles' Creed," wrote John Calvin, "comprehends a complete account of our faith in a _____ and distinct _____, and everything that it contains is confirmed by decisive testimonies of _____."

In the days when few people were _____ and fewer still owned a _____, creeds were necessary.

Why are creeds still necessary?

- 1) To summarize the _____ teachings of the Bible
- 2) To _____ us what we believe
- 3) As a _____ to the unbelieving world

What God Do Christians Believe In?

Augustine wrote: "What is God? I put my question to the _____, and it replied, 'I am not He.' I questioned the _____ and the great deep, and the teeming creatures, and they replied, 'We are not God; seek _____.' To the _____ I put my question, to sun, moon and _____, but they denied me: 'We are not the God you seek.'"

1) Christians believe God is a _____.

In 2008 one particular _____ being promoted in our former denomination pushed HHPC over the edge: pastors were encouraged to baptize in the name of the _____, the _____ and the _____.

"But You _____ our Father, though Abraham does not know us or Israel acknowledge us; You, O LORD, _____ our Father, our Redeemer from of _____ is Your name" (Isaiah 63:16).

"Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "_____, _____" (Galatians 4:6).

The two primary functions of a father: _____ and _____.

2) Christians believe God is _____.

God is _____ in His power - by simply _____, God creates, redeems and heals.

God reveals His might not just in _____ power, but in the power to overcome _____.

Takeaway

"Either you must change your _____ or your _____ will change you." ("I Believe," G. A. Student Kennedy, 23)

When we recite the Apostles' Creed, let's not be guilty of putting our _____ nor our _____ in neutral and repeating these words unthinkingly.

It really does matter what we _____ about God. It matters quite a _____.

