



“I Believe in God the Father Almighty”

14 Reasons Creeds Are Important: (1) _____ Christians have a creed.

“Christians are not divided between those who have creeds and confessions and those who do not; rather, they are divided between those who have public creeds and confessions that are written down and exist as public documents, subject to public scrutiny, evaluation, and critique, and those who have private creeds and confessions that are often improvised, unwritten, and thus not open to public scrutiny, not susceptible to evaluation, and, crucially, not therefore subject to testing by Scripture to see whether they are true.” (Carl Trueman, *Crisis of Confidence*)

I Believe

- The first word of the Apostles’ Creed is the Latin word *credo*, which means “_____.”
 - The Greek words in the New Testament are *pistis* and *pistueo*, which mean “_____” (noun) and “_____” (verb).
- _____ believes in someone or something – even _____!
 - “Atheists believe in at least six miracles: 1) Something from nothing, 2) Order from chaos, 3) Life from non-life, 4) Personal from the non-personal, 5) Reason from non-reason, 6) Morality from matter.” (Jon Tyson)

In God

- Christians do not believe in a vague, nebulous, undefined deity.
 - We believe in the _____ God of the Bible (Genesis 1:1, Psalm 19:1-11, Romans 1:19-20).
 - We believe in God, the _____ of heaven and earth (Hebrews 11:1-3).
 - We believe in the _____ God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:16-17, 28:18-20, 2 Corinthians 13:14).
- “In the Bible the great divide is between those who believe in the Christian God and those who serve idols – ‘gods,’ that is, whose images, whether _____ or _____, do not square with the self-disclosure of the Creator.” (JI Packer, *Affirming the Apostles’ Creed*)
- “Man’s nature, so to speak, is a perpetual factory of _____.” (John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*)
 - Genesis 35:2, Exodus 20:3-6, Exodus 32, 1 Kings 12:28, Psalm 115:4-8, Jeremiah 10:1-10, Ezekiel 14:3, Habakkuk 2:18, Jonah 2:8-9, Acts 17:16, Romans 1:21-23, Galatians 5:20, Colossians 3:5, 1 John 5:21

The Father

- The first person of the Trinity has revealed himself as _____ (Deuteronomy 32:6, Psalm 68:5, Hosea 11:1-4, Matthew 6:9, John 10:30, Ephesians 1:3).
 - _____ Fatherhood (John 17)
 - _____ Fatherhood (Acts 17:25-29)
 - _____ Fatherhood (1 John 3:1)
- We must allow our understanding of fatherhood to be shaped by what the Bible says about God, rather than allowing our view of God to be shaped by our _____ of fatherhood.

Almighty

- In the Old Testament, the Patriarchs often referred to God as *El Shaddai*, or God _____ (Genesis 17:1, 25:11, Job 40:1-2, Revelation 4:8, 15:3, 19:6, 21:22).
- Believing in God the Father Almighty includes attributes such as omnipotence, omniscience, omnipresence, self-existence, immutability, and _____ (Psalm 115:3, 135:6).
 - God cannot act out of _____, nor can he do _____ things.
 - God rules over all _____ and over all _____.
- “Men treat God’s sovereignty as a theme for controversy, but in Scripture it is a matter for _____. We need to realize that you cannot rightly understand God’s ways at any point until you see them in the light of his sovereignty.” (JI Packer, *Affirming the Apostles’ Creed*)