

OCTOBER 4 2020 VOL. 4

ST. JOHN'S GREEK ORTHODOX

SUNDAY SCHOOL



The Creed

I believe

- a. In ONE God, the Father, the Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible - This establishes God as the creator of all things.
- b. And in One Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages - This establishes Jesus Christ as the Son of God, but coeternal with the Father, existing from before all time, also participating in the creation of the world.
 - i. Light of light, true God of true God, begotten, not created, of one essence with the Father through whom all things were made - Again, establishes that Jesus Christ is God and that there never was a time when He was not.
 - ii. Who for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became man - Though Jesus Christ existed forever in heaven, there was a time when He became incarnate, became man, through the Holy Spirit conceiving Christ in the womb of the Virgin Mary. Jesus is fully God and fully man. As God, He existed from before all time. As a man, He experienced the same things we experience - hunger, thirst, sadness, sickness, etc.
 - iii. Crucified for us under Pontius Pilate - This puts a historical date on when Jesus walked the earth. Pontius Pilate is a historical figure whose dates are fixed by history.
 - iv. He suffered - He experienced human suffering.
 - v. And was buried - Just like everyone else.
 - vi. And He rose on the third day according to the Scriptures - He fulfilled the Scriptures, being raised from the dead.

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vii. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

viii. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead - There will be a judgment for everyone who has ever lived or died.

ix. His kingdom will have no end.

c. And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, (also co-eternal with the Father and the Son), the creator of Life (the Holy Spirit creates human life and also invites us through baptism into the journey to everlasting life), who proceeds from the Father, who together with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified who spoke through the prophets.

d. The last statements of the Creed are about the church

i. In one (unified), holy (set apart and blessed by God), catholic (not Roman Catholic, but catholic meaning universal) and apostolic (dating from the time of the apostles) church.

ii. I confess one baptism for the remission of sins. I believe that baptism is the entrance to my Christian journey and sets me on the path to everlasting life.

iii. I look to the Resurrection of the dead and the life of the age to come. I have hope in the future, that those who die in Christ will be resurrected, as HE was, and attain to eternal life.

iv. Amen - May what I believe come to pass. Let it be so.