

# ***The Apostles' Creed***



# *The Apostles' Creed*

- *Intro to the Creed Itself*
- *God the Father*
- *God the Son*
  - *Christ's Birth*
  - *Christ's Crucifixion and Death*
  - *Christ's Death and Resurrection*
  - *Christ in Heaven*
  - *Christ as Judge*
- *God the Holy Spirit*
- *The Church*
- *The Forgiveness of Sins*
- *Eternal Life (part 2)*



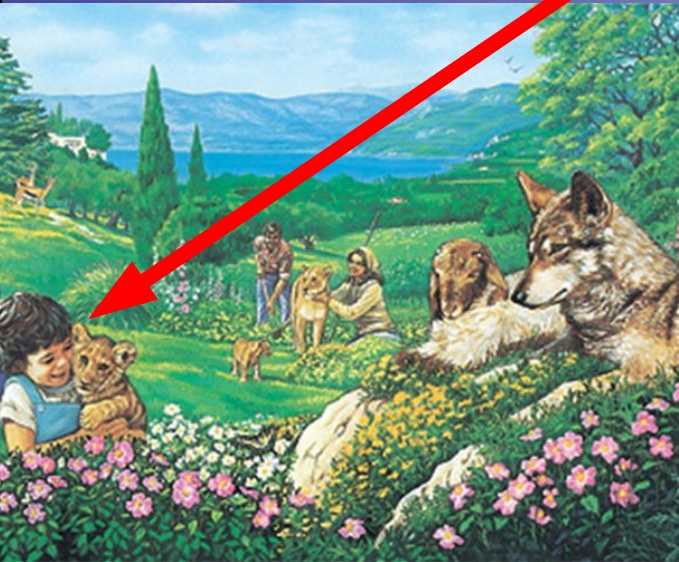
# *Eternal Life*

- “We believe in the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting...”
  - First things first—we will be resurrected physically (one last familiar snippet about that)
    - Read Isaiah 11:6-9
      - A couple of quick things to note:
        - 1) The “wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together”  
(it's *not* “the lion will lie down with the lamb”)  
(why do we so often remember that incorrectly, and does it even matter?)



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      - A couple of quick things to note:
        - 1) The “wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together”
        - 2) Who is the prophecy referring to when vs. 6 says, “and a little child will lead them”?  
(it’s just some hypothetical kid—our lives on a perfected Earth will all be *that safe*—which is basically just the same argument expressed in vs. 8)  
(why do we so often want to *read into* that verse, and does it even matter?)



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        - 1) The “wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together”
        - 2) Who is the prophecy referring to when vs. 6 says, “and a little child will lead them”?
        - 3) **What exactly is Isaiah getting at with all of this, and how should it affect us today?**



# ***Eternal Life***

- “We believe in the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting...”
  - First things first—we will be resurrected physically
  - And we will be resurrected into eternal life



# *Eternal Life*



Funky little teaching moment...

- Okay, that's a bit of a misnomer, since the majority of verses about “eternal life” in the Bible tells us that —as Christians—we are *already* experiencing eternal life *right now*
  - Read John 5:24
    - So *when* does “eternal life” actually *start* for us?
      - How does that jive with what Jesus had already told Nicodemus in John 3:36?



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  - Read John 5:24
  - Read John 10:27-28
    - How is this the *point-counterpoint* to what Jesus told Nicodemus in John 3:36?
    - How is this mingled assurance and warning simply echoing what He'd said in John 3:16-18?





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  - Read John 5:24
  - Read John 10:27-28
  - Read Colossians 3:1-3
    - If we've *already received* “eternal life,” then what does that suggest to Paul?
      - And how does that parallel what he said in Ephesians 2:4-5?



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  - Read John 5:24
  - Read John 10:27-28
  - Read Colossians 3:1-3
  - Read 1 Timothy 6:12
    - Why is the command to “take hold of the eternal life to which you were called” grammatically parallel the command to “fight the good fight of the faith” here?
      - What exactly is the “eternal life” that we have already?

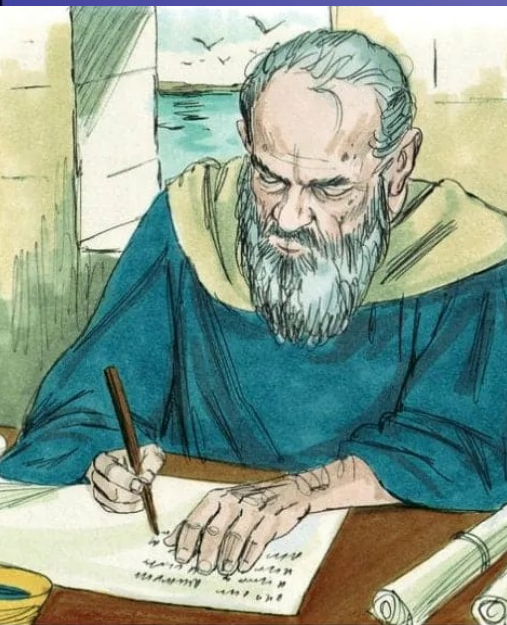


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  - Read John 10:27-28
  - Read Colossians 3:1-3
  - Read 1 Timothy 6:12
  - Read 1 John 5:12-13
    - How important was it to John—even in his exile—for people to know that they *already* possess eternal life?
    - And how does he functionally seem to *define* that life?
      - How does that echo what he had written back in John 1:3-4?
      - How does John tie all of that together with the concept that Paul was getting at with Timothy by what he writes in 1 John 2:24-25?



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  - Read Colossians 3:1-3
  - Read 1 Timothy 6:12
  - Read 1 John 5:12-13
  - **Read John 17:3**
    - How does *Jesus* functionally define “eternal life” here?
      - How does that echo everything that everyone has been saying?
      - Is that actually “eternal life”—why or why not?



# *Eternal Life*

- “We believe in the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting...”
  - First things first—we will be resurrected physically
  - And we will be resurrected into eternal life
    - But if “eternal life” is living in relationship with Christ, then—just as there will be a perfection/completion in the “new Heaven and new Earth” that is to come, there will be a perfection/completion in our redeemed and sinless relationship with Christ in eternity
    - So we can still speak of an “eternal life” *yet to come*
    - Read 1 Corinthians 13:12
      - What’s Paul’s point here?
        - How is this still the same functional definition of “eternal life”—and yet, dialed up to 11?
      - How does this echo the whole acorn/oak analogy that we were discussing last week?



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      - Read 1 Corinthians 13:12
      - **Read 1 Peter 1:3-5**
        - How is this inheritance—this “living hope” that is still yet to come—still affecting us right now?
          - How would you explain the importance of this absolute hope to someone?



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      - Read 1 Corinthians 13:12
      - Read 1 Peter 1:3-5
      - **Read Titus 3:5-7**
        - How should this inheritance make us feel today?
          - Proud?
          - Self-assured?
          - Confident?
          - The *healthy* versions of all of those?
            - How are the *healthy* versions fundamentally different from the *unhealthy* versions?



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      - Read Titus 3:5-7
      - **Read Revelation 21:2-4**



- How does this tie everything together?
  - Heaven is physically here on Earth
  - Our perfected/completed life is—at its core—life in relationship with God
  - And that perfect life is a new, *eternal* existence from that point forward
- How should that make us live from *this* point forward, since we are living out our “eternal life” here already?





# The Apostles' Creed

- Conclusions...
  - So what has struck you the *most* in going through the Apostles' Creed in this class?
    - How can we apply any of this to how we live today?

## "Apostles' Creed" (*First Covenant*)

- We believe in God the Father Almighty, the maker of heaven and earth;
- And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord;
  - Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary;
  - Who suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried;
  - Who descended into the grave
  - And the third day rose again from the dead.
  - Who ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
  - from where He shall come to judge both the living and the dead.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit.
- We believe in the holy and complete Church,
  - which is the communion of the saints,
- We believe in the forgiveness of sins.
- We believe in the resurrection of the body,
  - and the life everlasting. Amen

