

“WE BELIEVE”

Sunday, October 13, 2024

[all printed Scripture is from the 1995 NASB]

Nicene Creed (325 AD + 381AD) The core orthodox beliefs of followers of Jesus Christ

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. ⁵ The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven;

John 3:16-21 ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. ¹⁸ He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹ This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But he who practices the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God.”

Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

Philippians 2:3-11 ³ Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴ do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. ⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. ⁸ Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ For this

reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

Ezekiel 37:27 My dwelling place also will be with them; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.

Matthew 1:18-25 ¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. ²⁰ But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for ^{the} Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." ²² Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ [**Isaiah 7:14**] "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US." ²⁴ And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took *Mary* as his wife, ²⁵ but kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

Psalms 22:1, 7, 8, 14-18, 27-31 My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Far from my deliverance are the words of my groaning. ⁷ All who see me sneer at me; They separate with the lip, they wag the head, *saying*, ⁸ "Commit *yourself* to the LORD; let Him deliver him; Let Him rescue him, because He delights in him." ¹⁴ I am poured out like water, And all my bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It is melted within me. ¹⁵ My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And my tongue cleaves to my jaws; And You lay me in the dust of death. ¹⁶ For dogs have surrounded me; A band of evildoers has encompassed me; They pierced my hands and my feet. ¹⁷ I can count all my bones. They look, they stare at me; ¹⁸ They divide my garments among them, And for my clothing they cast lots. ²⁷ All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, And all the families of the nations will worship before You. ²⁸ For the kingdom is the LORD'S And He rules over the nations. ²⁹ All the prosperous of the earth will eat and worship,

All those who go down to the dust will bow before Him, Even he who cannot keep his soul alive.

³⁰ Posterity will serve Him; It will be told of the Lord to the *coming* generation. ³¹ They will come and will declare His righteousness To a people who will be born, that He has performed *it*.

Isaiah 53 Who has believed our message? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ² For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, And like a root out of parched

ground; He has no *stately* form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. ³ He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. ⁴ Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted. ⁵ But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being *fell* upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed. ⁶ All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him. ⁷ He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, So He did not open His mouth. ⁸ By oppression and judgment He was taken away; And as for His generation, who considered That He was cut off out of the land of the living For the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke *was due*? ⁹ His grave was assigned with wicked men, Yet He was with a rich man in His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was there any deceit in His mouth. ¹⁰ But the LORD was pleased To crush Him, putting *Him* to grief; If He would render Himself *as* a guilt offering, He will see *His* offspring, He will prolong *His* days, And the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in His hand. ¹¹ As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see *it and* be satisfied; By His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, As He will bear their iniquities. ¹² Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the booty with the strong; Because He poured out Himself to death, And was numbered with the transgressors; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many, And interceded for the transgressors.

Matthew 27:11-14 ¹¹ Now Jesus stood before the governor, and the governor questioned Him, saying, "Are You the King of the Jews?" And Jesus said to him, "*It is as you say.*" ¹² And while He was being accused by the chief priests and elders, He did not answer. ¹³ Then Pilate said to Him, "Do You not hear how many things they testify against You?" ¹⁴ And He did not answer him with regard to even a *single* charge, so the governor was quite amazed.

Matthew 27:27-31 ²⁷ Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole *Roman* cohort around Him. ²⁸ They stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. ²⁹ And after twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand; and they knelt down before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰ They spat on Him, and took the reed and *began* to beat Him on the head. ³¹ After they had mocked Him, they took the *scarlet* robe off Him and put His *own* garments back on Him, and led Him away to crucify Him.

Matthew 27:35-37 ³⁵ And when they had crucified Him, they divided up His garments among themselves by casting lots. ³⁶ And sitting down, they *began* to keep watch over Him there. ³⁷ And above His head they put up the charge against Him which read, "THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS."

Matthew 27:38-44 ³⁸ At that time two robbers *were crucified with Him, one on the right and one on the left. ³⁹ And those passing by were hurling abuse at Him, wagging their heads ⁴⁰ and saying, "You who *are going to* destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross." ⁴¹ In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and

elders, were mocking *Him* and saying, ⁴² "He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe in Him. ⁴³ HE TRUSTS IN GOD; LET GOD RESCUE *Him* now, IF HE DELIGHTS IN HIM; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'" ⁴⁴ The robbers who had been crucified with Him were also insulting Him with the same words.

Matthew 27:46 About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "ELI, ELI, LAMA SABACHTHANI?" that is, "MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?" [**Psalm 22:1**]

Matthew 27:50 And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.

Matthew 27:57-60 ⁵⁷ When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸ This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to *him*. ⁵⁹ And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, ⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

Psalm 16:10 For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol; Nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay.

Jonah 1:17 And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the stomach of the fish three days and three nights.

Matthew 12:38-40 ³⁸ Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Him, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." ³⁹ But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet; ⁴⁰ for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

Hosea 6:1-2 "Come, let us return to the LORD. For He has torn *us*, but He will heal us; He has wounded *us*, but He will bandage us. ² "He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day, That we may live before Him.

Luke 24:1-12 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. ² And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling clothing; ⁵ and as *the women* were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, *the men* said to them, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, ⁷ saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again." ⁸ And they remembered His words, ⁹ and returned from the tomb and reported all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now they were Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the *mother* of James; also the other women with them were telling these things to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words appeared to them as nonsense, and they would not believe them. ¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings only; and he went away to his home, marveling at what had happened.

Luke 24:36-43 ³⁶ While they were telling these things, He Himself stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be to you." ³⁷ But they were startled and frightened and thought that they were seeing a

spirit. ³⁸ And He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. ⁴¹ While they still could not believe *it* because of their joy and amazement, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave Him a piece of a broiled fish; ⁴³ and He took it and ate *it* before them. **Luke 24:44-49** ⁴⁴ Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the father.

Proverbs 30:4 Who has ascended into heaven and descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has wrapped the waters in His garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name or His son's name? Surely you know!

Acts 1:9-11 ⁹ And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. ¹¹ They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."

Luke 22:69-70 ⁶⁹ But from now on THE SON OF MAN WILL BE SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE power OF GOD." ⁷⁰ And they all said, "Are You the Son of God, then?" And He said to them, "Yes, I am."

Ephesians 1:19-21 ¹⁹ and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. *These are* in accordance with the working of the strength of His might ²⁰ which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

Luke 21:25-28 ²⁵ "There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth dismay among nations, in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶ men fainting from fear and the expectation of the things which are coming upon the world; for the powers of ^{the} heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see THE SON OF MAN COMING IN A CLOUD with power and great glory. ²⁸ But when these things begin to take place, straighten up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Acts 10:39-43 ³⁹ We are witnesses of all the things He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They also put Him to death by hanging Him on a cross. ⁴⁰ God raised Him up on the third day and granted that He become visible, ⁴¹ not to all the people, but to witnesses who were chosen beforehand

by God, *that is*, to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. ⁴² And He ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins.”

and his kingdom will have no end.

Luke 1:32-33 ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; ³³ and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.”

Revelation 11:15 Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become *the kingdom* of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.”

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

John 14:16-17 ¹⁶ I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

John 14:25-26 ²⁵ “These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

John 16:5-15 ⁵ “But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. ⁷ But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. ⁸ And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; ¹¹ and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.

¹² “I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. ¹³ But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose *it* to you. ¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose *it* to you.

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

2 Peter 1:20-21 ²⁰ But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one’s own interpretation, ²¹ for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.
Amen

We also believe:

- All have sinned (fall short of God's requirements and expectations) (Romans 3:23)
- All are under the same punishment for sin (Romans 6:23)
- Sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2)
- All people are valuable to God, He loves us, He wants the best for us (John 3:16; Romans 8:26-39)
- Jesus came to save us from our punishment (1 John 2:2)
- While we were still sinners, enemies of God, Christ died for us (Romans 5:6-11)
- All have a chance to repent and have a right relationship with God (Luke 5:32; Acts 17:30; 2 Peter 3:9)
- Only by grace through faith can anyone be saved (Ephesians 2:8-9)
- Jesus is the Way, He has made it possible for us to have true Peace (John 14:6; 14:27)
- Jesus is the Truth, He shows us who we really are and who He is (John 14:6; 16:12-15)
- Jesus is the Life, He wants to have a strong relationship with us forever (John 14:6; 11:25-26; 14:1-4)
- The Holy Spirit draws people to God (John 6:44)
- God can and wants to meet all our needs (Matthew 6:25-33)
- We can trust God with our lives, our families, our friends, and our futures (Psalm 37:3-7; Romans 8:26-39)
- Prayer is a way to communicate with and draw close to God (1 John 5:13-15; Psalm 145:18; Hebrews 4:16, 10:22)
- God wants us to love Him (Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Matthew 22:37-40)
- God wants us to love each other (Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 22:37-40)
- God can heal us and make us whole (Matthew 10:1)
- God desires that all people know Him and have a personal relationship with Him (Matthew 28:18-20)
- Husbands must love their wives, and wives their husbands (Ephesians 5:22-25)
- We need to Love one another (John 13:34)
- We need to Pray for one another (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
- We need to Confess our sins to one another (James 5:16)
- We need to Forgive one another (Mark 11:25; Matthew 18:21-22)
- We need to Show kindness (Ephesians 4:32)
- We need to Serve one another (1 Peter 4:10-11; John 13:12-17; Mark 10:45)
- We need to Imitate Jesus Christ (Ephesians 5:1; Philippians 2:5; Matthew 11:29-30)
- We need to Cast our cares on our Lord (1 Peter 5:7)

-We need to Think on whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, praiseworthy (Philippians 4:8)
-We need to Trust in the Lord with the whole heart, not be anxious, not trust in our own understanding (Proverbs 3:5-6, Philippians 4:6)
-We need to Rejoice in the Lord always (Philippians 4:4)
-We need to Listen to the Holy Spirit (Mark 13:11; John 14:15-17)
-We need to Be content in every situation (John 14:27; Philippians 4:11-12; Hebrews 13:5; 1 Timothy 6:6-8)
-We need to Pray at all times (Ephesians 6:18)
-We need to Bare one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)
-We need to Encourage one another and build one another up (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
-Christ's body on earth is the Church, which needs to gather together (1 Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 4:11-13; Hebrews 10:25)

-Today, if you hear His voice inviting you to be His child, you should say "Yes." (Hebrews 3:15; 2 Corinthians 6:2)
-In order to become a child of God, a person must be born again (John 3:3; John 1:12; 2 Corinthians 5:17)

If you would like to would like to say "Yes" to God and join God's family, you can pray this prayer:

God, I know I am a sinner in need of your saving grace. I repent of my sin. I believe that you died for me on the cross so that my sin could be forgiven. I trust in you, Jesus, and in your death and resurrection for my salvation. I invite you into my heart and ask you to take control of my life through the Holy Spirit. I want to be in your family forever.

-All the angels of heaven rejoice when a sinner repents (Luke 15:10)
-The Bible is the word of God and has all the truth, knowledge, and wisdom people need for faith and practice (2 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 4:12; Isaiah 55:11)
-Children of God need to be in His word, the Bible, so that the living Word of God, Jesus Christ, can live in and through us, and we will become all that God intends for us to be (Colossians 3:16; Romans 8:29)