

# Apostles Creed

Luther's Small  
Catechism

By Pastor Dan Domke

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What is a Creed?

Romans 10:10; "For with the heart  
one believes and is justified,  
and with the mouth  
one confesses and is saved."

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p. 102

Creed: A statement of what we believe  
and teach

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- The Apostles Creed -

It is the best known of the three ecumenical creeds:

The Three Universal Creeds

1. Apostles: written about 125 A. D.
2. Nicene: written about 325 A.D.
3. Athanasian: written about 381 A.D.

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**I Believe**

**87. What is meant by “I believe in God”?**

It means I trust God and His promises and accept as true all He teaches in the Holy Scriptures.

276 **Ps. 31:14** I trust in You, O Lord; I say, “You are my God.”

277 **Ps. 37:5** Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him.

Luther, Martin, Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation, (Saint Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House) 1998 c1986

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**88. Why do we say, “I believe,” and not, “We believe”?**

Everyone must believe for himself or herself; no one can be saved by another’s faith.

280 **Hab. 2:4** The righteous will live by his faith.

281 **Luke 7:50** Your faith has saved you; go in peace.

Luther, Martin, Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation, (Saint Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House) 1998 c1986

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p. 103 – Different kinds of faith.

Head Faith

1. Simply believing God exists
2. Knowing some facts
3. By itself it cannot save

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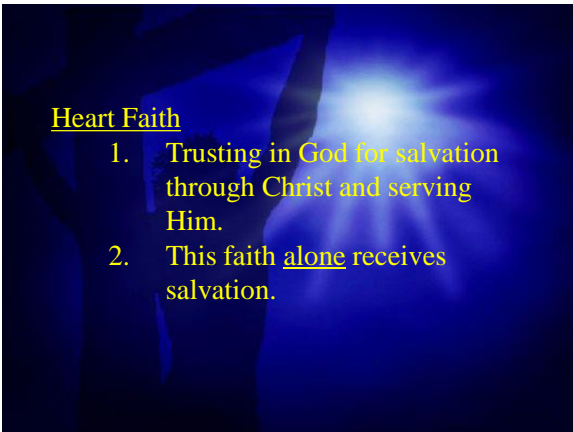
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Heart Faith

1. Trusting in God for salvation through Christ and serving Him.
2. This faith alone receives salvation.

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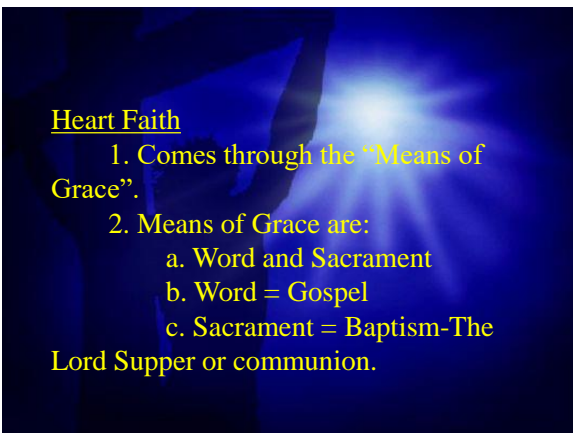
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Heart Faith

1. Comes through the "Means of Grace".
2. Means of Grace are:
  - a. Word and Sacrament
  - b. Word = Gospel
  - c. Sacrament = Baptism-The Lord Supper or communion.

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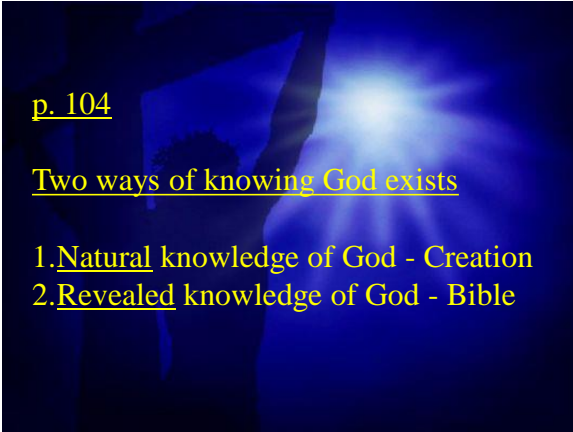
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p. 104

Two ways of knowing God exists

1. Natural knowledge of God - Creation
2. Revealed knowledge of God - Bible

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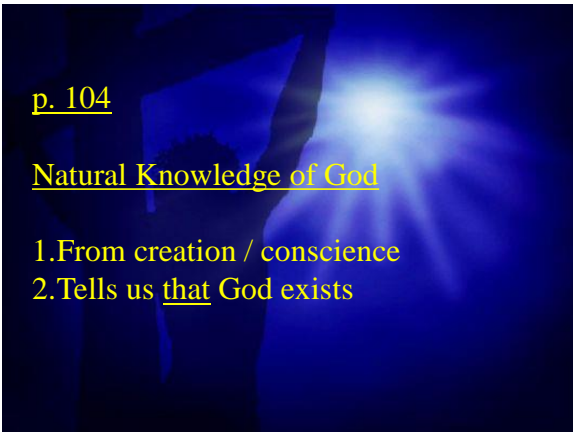
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p. 104

Natural Knowledge of God

1. From creation / conscience
2. Tells us that God exists

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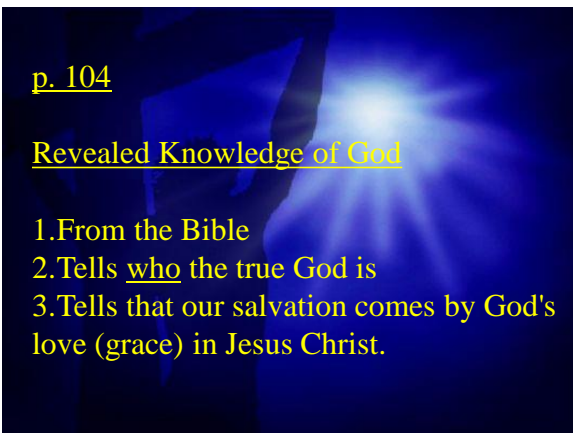
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p. 104

Revealed Knowledge of God

1. From the Bible
2. Tells who the true God is
3. Tells that our salvation comes by God's love (grace) in Jesus Christ.

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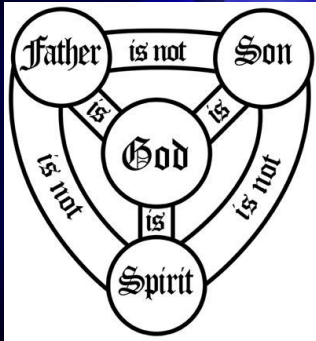
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Primary Work  
 CREATION  
 REDEMPTION  
 SANCTIFICATION

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**91. Why is it called the Apostles' Creed?**

It is called the Apostles' Creed, not because it was written by the apostles themselves, but because it states briefly the doctrine (teaching) which God gave through the apostles in the Bible. The Creed is trinitarian because the Scriptures reveal God as triune. Christians are baptized in the name of the triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Luther, Martin, Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation, (Saint Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House) 1998 c1986.

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**1st Article – Creation**

p. 109, question 97

- God created everything that exists out of nothing. (Ex Nihilo)
- God created everything by speaking it into existence. He spoke His Word.
- God created everything in six ordinary days.
- God made everything including Man.

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1st Article – Creation

p. 109, question 97

- God created the Heavens and the earth.
- God created invisible and visible things and beings.
- Adam and Eve are our first parents and they were real people.
- There is no such thing as Evolution.

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Second Article is Redemption

1. To pay the price to purchase or free something
2. Jesus paid the price of death on a cross to free us from the curse of sin, death, and the power of the devil.

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Third Article is Sanctification

1. To make something holy.
2. The Holy Spirit makes us holy through the forgiveness we receive in Holy Baptism, the word (Gospel), and the Lord's Supper.

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## The Apostle's Creed is very old.

From the bible and the church fathers, (Men who led the church during the end of the first 100 years of the Christian Church through about 500 AD) we learn that candidates for Baptism were required to make confession of their faith and state briefly what they believed regarding God the Creator, Jesus the Savior, and the Holy Ghost the Sanctifier and some such form as we now use was undoubtedly in use. The Creed is an amplification of the Trinitarian formula of Baptism.

The word "Creed" is from the Latin word "Credo" meaning "I Believe."

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## The First Article - Creation

I Believe in God the Father Almighty maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

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## The First Article - Creation

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.

All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

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## The First Article - Creation

### A. "I"

1. "I" this means "that you personally believe the words that follow. That you reject all false teaching.rejected by the following words.

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## The First Article - Creation

2. I also means you can not believe for someone else nor can someone else believe for you.

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## The First Article - Creation

3. You must be convinced this statement is your confession of faith. Do not confess what you do not believe. You must be convinced by the bible that the statements contained in the Apostles Creed are truth.

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## The First Article - Creation

### Where is the Truth?

•Jesus said in John 17:17, "Sanctify them by the truth; your word is the truth." Here is where you find the truth. Only in the bible will you find the truth that will lead to eternal truths and eternal life.

- Your Fathers faith can not save you!
- Your Mothers faith can not save you!

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## The First Article - Creation

When it comes to your salvation, no one else's faith can do it for you. Only your faith can save you, there must be the "I", it is a personal matter.

You are saved by grace through Faith - Ephesians 2:7-8 Your faith not someone else's.

Christians say and believe it, that is the Christian Faith. What do mean when you say "I believe".

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## The First Article - Creation

### B. Believe

Means to trust, "to take God at His Word" or

Believe means to know (with your mind)  
ascent (with your Lips)  
trust (with your heart)

This is known as the Salute of Faith.

Touch your Brow  
Lips  
Heart

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## The First Article - Creation

I **assent** to this as true - Historic Faith

I **know** Christ is real - Conviction

I **trust** Christ for my salvation - Faith

### Hebrews 11:1

"Now **Faith** is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen".

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## 93. Who is God?

In His Word God has told us that He is  
A. spirit (a personal being without a body);  
291 **John 4:24** God is spirit.

Luther, Martin, Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation, (Saint Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House) 1998 c1986.

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B. eternal (without beginning and without end);  
292 **Ps. 90:1–2** Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.

293 **1 Tim. 1:17** To the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Luther, Martin, Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation, (Saint Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House) 1998 c1986.

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## The First Article - Creation

- **C. God the Father**
- God has said of himself in the bible:
  - God is **Spirit** John 4:24
  - God is **eternal**: Ps. 90:1-2 - I Timothy 1:7

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## God the Father

- God is **unchangeable** (immutable): Ps. 102:27, Mal. 3:6, James 1:17
- God is **almighty, all-powerful** (omnipotent): Gen. 17:1, Matt. 19:26
- God is **all-knowing** (omniscient) Ps. 139:1-4, John 21:17
- God is **present everywhere** (omnipresent) Jeremiah 23:24, Acts 17:27
- God is **Holy** - sinless and hating sin - Lev. 19:2, Ps. 5:4-5, Is. 6:3
- God is **Just** (fair and impartial) Deut. 32:4

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## God the Father

- God is **Faithful** Deut. 32:4, 2 Tim. 2:13
- God is **Good** Ps. 118:1, Ps. 145:9
- God is **Merciful** (full of pity) Jer. 3:12, Titus 3:5
- God is **Gracious** (showing undeserved kindness, forgiving) Ex. 34:6-7, -Jn 1:16
- God is **Love** John 3:16, I John 4:8
- These are some of God's attributes, characteristics, His nature:

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**God the Father**

- **The only truth God is the Triune God.**
- If anyone says he is a Christian then denies the Trinity: Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. They are not a Christian and are not be saved from hell.

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**God the Father**

- The First Person of the Trinity is called the **Father** because - He is our father. (Always capitalize God's name or title)
- 1. The Father of our Lord Jesus Christ - Jn. 20:17
- 2. The Father of all men, in the sense of our Creator -

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**God the Father**

- a. God is our Father our creator, He made you and formed you -Deut. 32:6
- b. All have one Father - Malachi 2:10

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**God the Father**

- c. God Father of us all - Romans 4:16
- d. God made the earth - Acts 17:24
- e. Made all men from one man - Acts 17:26
- f. God's offspring Acts 17: 29

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**God the Father**

- 3. The Father of His children we are all sons in Christ Jesus
- a. Power to become children of God, Jn. 1:12
- b. Gal. 3:26

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**God the Father**

- May we speak of a Fatherhood of man? Or does the bible teach the
- Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of Christ's disciples?
- "There can be no brotherhood without a Fatherhood, that you hold in common."
- Can you be a brother or sister, without a common parent.?

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## Almighty Maker

- **D. Almighty, Maker**
- He is called "Almighty" and "Maker" because by His Word He made all things out of Nothing.
- **Almighty** – Omnipotent

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## Almighty Maker

- **Maker** - creator
- 1. God created/made the universe and sustains the universe. Hebrews 1:2-3
- 2. Through Christ the world was made - John 1:3

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## Almighty Maker

- 3. From God the Father all things come 1 Cor. 8:6
- 4. God is creator of all things - Eph. 3:9
- 5. By and through Christ the world was created Col. 1:16
  - a. God the Father as Creator
    - Gen 1:1
    - Nehemiah 9:6
    - Job 26:7
    - Ps. 24:2, 33:6, 95:5
    - Acts 14:15
    - Acts 17:24
    - Heb. 11:3

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## God the Son as - Maker

- b. God the Son as Creator
  - John 1:3
  - I Cor 8:6
  - Eph 3:9
  - Col. 1:16
  - Heb. 1:1-2

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## God the Holy Ghost as - Maker

- c. God the Holy Spirit as Creator
  - Gen. 1:2
  - Job 26:13,
  - Job 33:4
  - Ps. 104:30

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## Heaven and Earth

- By heaven and earth we mean all creation - the universe, our solar system, our plant, all creatures visible and invisible on this planet.
- **Heaven** - created sky, atmosphere, universe.
- **Earth** - created planet.

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Man and animals are made differently.

- ❑ Animals have – bios – physical life
- ❑ Man has bios plus nephish-Soul

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**94. Who is the only true God?**  
The only true God is the triune God:  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three  
distinct persons in one divine being  
(the Holy Trinity).

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## Orders of Creation

- There are three orders of creatures:

- 1. Those beings that are all body and have no soul - Animals
- 2. Those beings that are soul and have no body - Created Spiritual Beings -Angels

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## Orders of Creation

- 3. Those beings that are Body and Soul - Man - Di-cotomy

- Genesis 1:27 - God created Man in his own image (image of God Spirit)
  - » Man was created - **Male and Female**

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## Orders of Creation - Spirit/Soul

- F. Angels

- **The Good Angels**

- 1. Angels are personal spirits - Hebrews 1:14
- 2. They are invisible - but can take on human form -
  - » Genesis 18:2, then 22, then Gen. 19:1
  - » Hebrews 13:2

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## Angels

- 3. They are without sex, but have gender. (Masculine)
  - Matt. 22:30, sinless,
  - Matt. 18:10, see God's face, no one can see God who is not perfect,
  - Exodus 33:20, deathless (Eternal)

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p. 110

### What are angels

Spiritual beings created by God

### Two kinds of angels

1. Good
2. Bad

Another name for "evil angel" is: "demon"

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p. 111

### Duties of the "Good Angels" are:

1. Praise God
2. Serve God: Carry out His commands
3. Serve Christians: "Guardian Angels"

### Four types of Good Angels

1. Archangels
2. Angels
3. Seraphim
4. Cherubim

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Two Archangels named in the Bible

1. Michael
2. Lucifer

One Angel

1. Gabriel

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**Evil Angels**

All angels were holy-until : War and rebellion in heaven – see Is 14:12 and Rev. 12: 1-9

Satan or Lucifer fell and in his fall he took one third of all the created angels with him. Now called ‘demons’.

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**Evil Angels**

See Jude 6– Angels that left their first estate or home.

God did not create the devil, he made himself. How? By rebellion.

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## Evil Angels

They are now enemies of God and man. See Peter, Satan roaming around as a roaring lion seeking people to destroy. Turn to I Peter 5:8

They are also called, “powers of darkness”. Fallen angels are many in number, cunning, powerful, evil. They are not to be played with...Most of all they are real.

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## Evil Angels

We can not beat them with our strength or power, but they have already been over come through Jesus blood shed on the cross.

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## Human Beings

### 101. Who are human beings?

Human beings are the *most important visible creatures*. God created Adam and Eve in His own image, with authority over all the earth.

341 **Gen. 2:7** The Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

342 **Gen. 1:26–28** God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, in Our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

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## Human Beings

Human beings are native to this planet, God put us here.

There are some people who are teaching in the global warming/climate change movement that man kind is but a virus on planet earth and that he does not belong here.

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## Human Beings

The Christian way of seeing this issue is simple. One God exists. Two, God made everything. Three, God made man to live on the planet, with the animals, birds and reptiles and the fish etc. Man is native to this earth. This is the truth!

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## Human Beings

### 102. Why do we say, "God has made me"?

God created the first man and woman, and God has created each one of us.

344 **Gen. 1:28** God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

345 **Ps. 139:13** You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb.

346 **Jer. 1:5** Before I formed you in the womb I knew you.

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## Human Beings

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## Human Beings

### 103. How did God first create life?

God created all living things, both plant and animal, by His Word alone, from nothing. He created humanity specially, from dust, then gave us His own breath as life.

347 **Gen. 2:7** The Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.

348 **Ps. 139:14** I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

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p. 115

### Image of God

1. People knew God perfectly
2. People were perfectly happy
3. People were perfectly holy

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## The Image of God



1. Lost when Adam and Eve fell into sin.
2. Restored only in heaven

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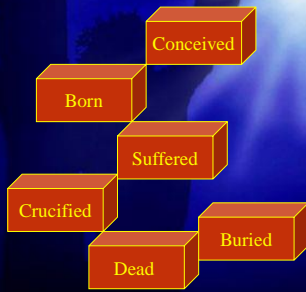
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## Second Article States of Humiliation



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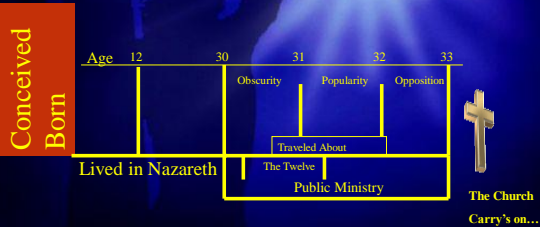
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## Second Article

### Summary of Christ's Life



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## Second Article States of Exaltation



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## Second Article How many days was Jesus in the grave? **Three**



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## Step One

Descended – See I Peter 3:18-19

18 For Christ died for sins once for all,  
the righteous for the unrighteous, to  
bring you to God. He was put to death in  
the body but made alive by the Spirit, 19  
through whom also he went and  
preached to the spirits in prison [1]

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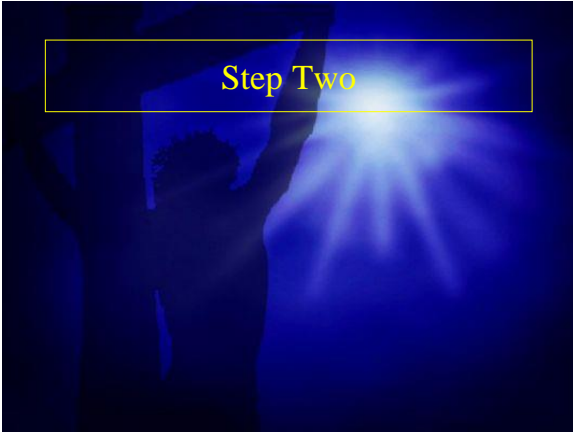
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Third Article

1. Spiritually Blind

2. Spiritually Dead

3. Spiritually Enemies Of God

Word And Sacraments

Baptism And Communion

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Third Article

1. Spiritually Blind

2. Spiritually Dead

3. Spiritually Enemies Of God

Baptism And Communion

Gospel

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Third Article

1. Spiritually Blind

2. Spiritually Dead

3. Spiritually Enemies Of God

Power of God

Gospel & The Cross

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Third Article

- 1. Spiritually Blind
- 2. Spiritually Dead
- 3. Spiritually Enemies Of God

Gospel Leads to Saving Faith

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Third Article

- 1. Spiritually Blind
- 2. Spiritually Dead
- 3. Spiritually Enemies Of God




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Third Article

B. The Holy Spirit has:

- 1. Called me to Christ by the gospel.  
See Romans 1:16 & 10:17
- 2. Enlightened me with His gifts. He helps me understand spiritual things by opening the eyes of my heart and mind.

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### Third Article

#### 3. Sanctified Me.

- a) Give me power to resist sin.
- b) Give me power to lead a Christian Life.
- c) Give me the power to do good works.

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### Third Article

4. And He keeps me in the truth faith, through Word and Sacrament.

See Ephesians 2:8,9

**If lost, - by your own fault.**

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### Third Article

#### The Holy Spirit's Work Explained

- 1) Calls ---Plants seed which is the Word [gospel]
- 2) Enlightens – causes growth towards the light.
- 3) Sanctifies– Flowers and Fruits (good works)

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Third Article  
The Holy Spirit's Work Explained

4) Keeps me – Waters and nurtures the plant so that faith remains ever, green and strong.

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Third Article  
His work in your case...

1) Called – Through visible word – Baptism.  
2) Enlightened – Through study of God's Word.  
3) Sanctified – whatever you do, out of love towards God, not in what you can get, but doing good works by faith in Jesus Christ.

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Third Article  
His work in your case...

Kept– Thank Him for His kindness, by being regularly in worship, in his house, at Bible study, and the table of the Lord for spiritual strength.

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church

The invisible Church -- Is the whole company of believers.

Those who Jesus saved by His death on the cross.

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church



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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church  
The Visible Church

1. Is the Local Congregation.
2. Is composed of believers and hypocrites. [Those that make believe they are Christians.]
3. Is made up of many, many visible churches. Some are true some are false.

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church  
The Visible Church

- 4. The true Church is the church that has the Bible as its Sole Guide.
- 5. The true church is the church that squares itself with the Doctrines of the Bible.
- 6. The true church is that church which practices all the doctrines of the Word.

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church  
The Visible Church

- 4. The true Church is the church that has the pure gospel and the sacraments.

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church

**SC, Question 174. Where is this holy Christian church to be found?**  
The holy Christian church is to be found where “the Gospel is preached in its purity and the holy sacraments are administered according to the Gospel” (Augsburg Confession VII 1). The Gospel and the sacraments are called the “marks of the church.”

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church  
How do you become a member?

- 1) You become a member of the invisible church:
- 2) Believing in Christ. See John 8:31-32

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church  
How do you become a member?

John 8:31-32

31 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church  
How do you become a member?

Can you be saved?

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church  
How do you become a member?

3. Join the true visible church by believing in Christ.
4. By being baptized.
5. Through confirmation or profession of faith.

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church  
How does a member of the church  
conduct him or herself?

By giving towards the support of the work  
Which is to ‘Win the Lost and strengthen  
the faithful’ .

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church  
How does a member of the church  
conduct him or herself?

- Supporting missions.
- I Cor 9:14 and Matt 28:19
- By using your spiritual gifts
  - ❖ Time
  - ❖ Talents
  - ❖ Money
  - ❖ Gifts

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church  
Avoiding False Churches!

See Matt 7:15; I John 4:1 & Romans  
16:17

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Third Article  
The Holy Christian Church

Anabaptist  
Presbyterian  
Reformed  
Russian and Greek Orthodox  
Orthodox  
Catholic  
Christian Church  
Christ

Reformation 1517

Anglican  
Methodist  
Lutheran  
Episcopal

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Third Article

Our debt of love for Christ's Church

1. Witness to others
2. Pray for it
3. Serve in it
4. Give our financial support (tithe)

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PAGAN			
SECTS	CULTS	RELIGIONS	LODGES
7th Day Adventist	Jehovah's Witness	Buddhism	Masons
	Christian Science	Hinduism	Shriners
	Unity	Islam (Muslim)	Elks (BPOE)
	Moonies	Shintoism	Moose
	Mormons (LDS)	Confucianism	Odd Fellows (IOOF)
	Way	Spiritism	Rebecca
	Int'l Worldwide Church of God	Transcendental Meditation	Eastern Star
		New Age	Rainbow
		Satanism	Job's Daughters
			Demoley

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Third Article

165  
“Justification”: God declares me:

1. Innocent
2. Just
3. Without the guilt of sin
4. All for Jesus' sake

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Third Article

God forgives my sins, not because of any merit or worthiness in me, but because of His grace for Christ's sake.

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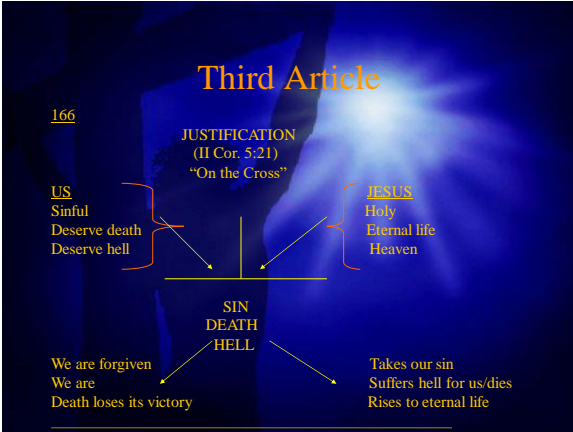
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### Third Article

167  
**KNOW:**  
"The Chief Doctrine of the Christian Faith":

1. Justification by grace...
2. For Christ's sake...
3. Through faith

What is the main difference between Christianity and all other religions?

1. Christian Faith teaches:- Salvation by grace
2. All other religions teach:- Salvation by works

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### Third Article

169  
After Death

1. Heaven, or...
2. Hell

(No Reincarnation)

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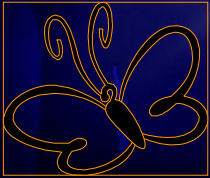
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Third Article

171  
Symbols of the Resurrection



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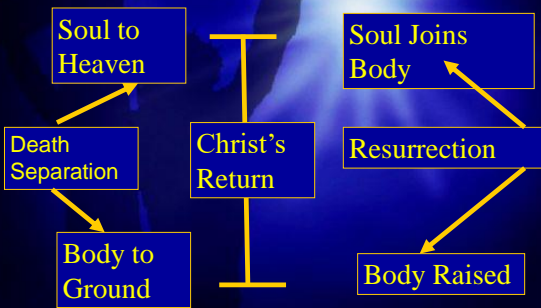
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Third Article



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Third Article

173  
The Bible Says It!  
I Believe It!  
That Settles It!

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Third Article

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Third Article

169

After Death

1. Heaven, or...
2. Hell

(No Reincarnation)

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