
Creed- the Son, Divine & Redeemer

Module 4
Dogma & Fathers

Week 3

Objectives

- ❖ To demonstrate the Biblical nature of the Creed
- ❖ To highlight some of the important theological concepts about the Son within the Creed

Outline

- ❖ Discuss the section on God the Son
- ❖ Contemplate references to the Creed statements

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of the Father before all ages;
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with/of the same essence as/ the Father; by Whom all things were
made;
Who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven
and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became
man.
And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, He suffered and was
buried;
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- ❖ The apostles used to repeat the expression “our Lord Jesus Christ”
- ❖ We say in the introduction to the Bible reading our Lord, God and Saviour, King of us all, Jesus Christ, to whom is glory forever

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- ❖ “Only begotten” He alone is the Son of God of His same nature, essence and Divinity
- ❖ No one has seen God at any time. **The only begotten Son**, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him. (Jn 1:18)
- ❖ For God so loved the world that He gave **His only begotten Son**, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.(Jn 3:16)

- ❖ **Distinguishes** Him from all humans who are called sons of God though not having God's nature.
- ❖ But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name (Jn 1:12)

- ❖ When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?”
- ❖ So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”
- ❖ Simon Peter answered and said, “**You are the Christ**, the Son of the living God.”
- ❖ Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. (Matt 16:13-18)

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- ❖ Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.”
- ❖ Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?”
- ❖ Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, **before Abraham was, I AM.**” (Jn 8:56-58)

- ❖ I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.” (Rev 22:16)
- ❖ **Root of David— in His Divinity; and his offspring— in His Humanity.**
- ❖ And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. (Jn 17:5)

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- ❖ “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.” (Jn 8:12)
- ❖ the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honour and everlasting power. Amen. (1 Tim 6:15-16)



- ❖ **I am** the light of the world. (Jn8:12)
- ❖ **You are** the light of the world. (Matt5:14)
- ❖ **What is the difference?**
- ❖ Christ, like the sun, is the source of light, whereas we, like the moon, can only reflect light.
- ❖ We pray saying “O true Light, Who **enlightens** every man in the World.



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- ❖ He has the attributes that only belong to God:
- ❖ Everlasting, Creator, Almighty, Omnipresent, Unlimited, searching the hearts and minds, Forgiver of sins



Creator



Creator

Life Giver



Creator

Life Giver

Omnipresent



Creator

Life Giver

Omnipresent

**Forgiver of
Sins**



Creator

Life Giver

Omnipresent

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**Searches the
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Creator

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Judge



Creator

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Judge

**Without
Sin**



Creator

Life Giver

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**Searches the
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Absolute Authority

**Without
Sin**

Judge



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Life Giver

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- ❖ Born of the Father, not made—existing from Eternity
- ❖ Unlike all other creation, which has a set beginning

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- ❖ This statement refutes the Arian heresy which misused Lord's saying, "My Father is greater than I" (Jn 14:28)
- ❖ The Father is **not greater** than the Son **in essence** because the Son is of the same nature / essence / divinity as the Father. He is equal to Him in everything.

- ❖ “My Father is greater than I”.
- ❖ Refers to the Son taking a form of a bondservant in His incarnation
- ❖ Who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be **equal** with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. (Phil 2:6-8)

- ❖ The *image* that the Son took of the bondservant is less than the Father, but His Divinity remained equal and unchanged

- ❖ Christ's quotes below show His equality to the Father:
 - ❖ He said, "I and my Father are one" (Jn. 10:30);
 - ❖ He who has seen Me has seen the Father (Jn. 14:9)
 - ❖ I am in the Father, and the Father in Me (Jn. 14:10)
 - ❖ That all should honour the Son just as they honour the Father. He who does not honour the Son does not honour the Father who sent Him (Jn. 5:23)

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❖ **The Son as the Creator:**

- ❖ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made (Jn. 1:3)
- ❖ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him (Col. 1:16)

- ❖ So then, who made the world? the Father or the Son?
- ❖ Answer: the Father made everything through the Son.
- ❖ God made everything by His Wisdom, and by His Word
- ❖ The Son is the Power uttering Wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24)

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- ❖ If Christ only redeemed mankind, it would have been sufficient,
- ❖ But Christ's goal was that people might know Him.
- ❖ He is the perfect teacher, the Shepherd of the lost sheep, the role Model for the people, and the Heart full of love

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- ❖ The Virgin could not have begotten a child by herself
- ❖ Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?” And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. (Lk. 1:34-35)



- ❖ He didn't only take the human flesh, **but He also took the complete human nature: body and spirit.**



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- ❖ For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus (1 Tim. 2:5)
- ❖ Judgment was against man, so, the one who was to die should be a man.
- ❖ If He had not been a complete Man, He would not have been like us in everything, and would not have redeemed us.



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- ❖ He was crucified for on our behalf
- ❖ We deserved this because we sinned; for “the wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23)
- ❖ Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned (Rom. 5:12)



- ❖ Then Christ – who did no sin- came to die on behalf of the sinners who were under the sentence of death.
- ❖ Then he (Pilate) said to them the third time,
- ❖ “Why, what evil has He done? I have found no reason for death in Him (Lk. 23:22)
- ❖ Pilate said, “I am innocent of the blood of this **just** Person.” (Matt. 27:24)



- ❖ All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all (Is. 53:6)
- ❖ In His crucifixion, He was not a sinner, but He carried our sins.
- ❖ He carried the sins of others; the sins of the whole world, the sins of the past, the present, and the future.



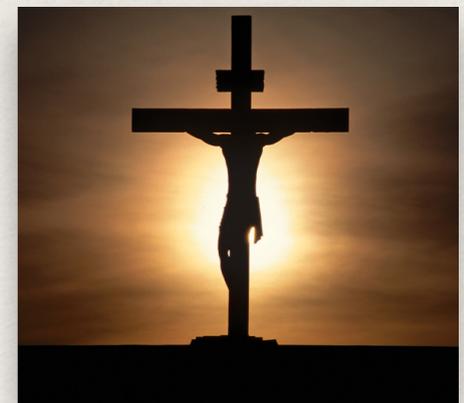
- ❖ St. John the apostle said, “My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.” (1 John 1:1-2)
- ❖ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, **“Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”** (John 1:29)



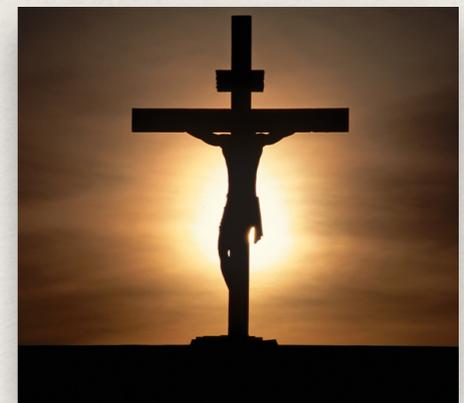
- ❖ The Lord Christ was a sin offering, a trespass offering when He carried the sins of the world,
- ❖ For the bodies of those animals, whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest for sin, are burned outside the camp. (Heb. 13:11)
- ❖ “therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people with His own blood, suffered outside the gate”.



- ❖ He was crucified outside the gate because we -being sinners- were considered outside the camp.
- ❖ He went outside the gate on our behalf that He might bring us into the camp. ‘
- ❖ He was crucified for us, He died for us, that we may have life through His death.



- ❖ It is a historic event — under Pontius Pilate— it took place and the Roman ruler in whose reign it happened.



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- ❖ Important to point out that the Lord Christ has suffered
- ❖ the divinity of the Lord Christ did not prevent the human nature from suffering!
- ❖ If this had been true, the crucifixion would have been mere formality, **and Christ would have not paid the penalty of sin.**



- ❖ Isaiah 53:2-10
- ❖ There is no **beauty** that we should desire Him. He is despised and rejected by men, **A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.** And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.
- ❖ **Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows;** Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.



- ❖ But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.
- ❖ All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way;
- ❖ And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.



- ❖ He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.
- ❖ He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken.

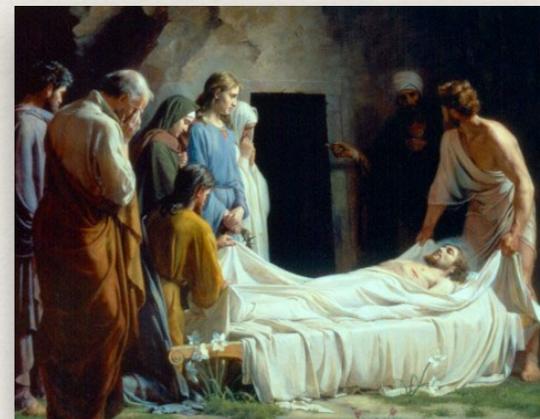


- ❖ And they made His grave with the wicked— But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth.
- ❖ Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.



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- ❖ “They took the body of Jesus and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury.” (John 19:40)
- ❖ However, in spite of all this, the Lord Christ arose and the empty tomb became a proof of His resurrection.



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- ❖ The resurrection of the Lord Christ is unique:
- ❖ 1. The Lord Christ arose by Himself, not by anyone's help.
- ❖ 2. He alone arose in a glorious body.
- ❖ This glorious body can come out of the tomb that was sealed shut with a large stone. He could also enter the upper room while the doors were closed



- ❖ 4. Resurrection of Christ is proof of His power and victory; a proclamation that He will raise us with Him.
- ❖ He is the only One who overcame death by His resurrection and trod death by His power. He gave us the promise of our resurrection
- ❖ “For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead”, “Christ, the first fruits, afterward those who are Christ ’s at His coming” (1 Cor. 15: 21, 23).



- ❖ But He arose because “in Him was life” (Jn. 1: 4), and
- ❖ because He is “the Prince of life” (Acts 3: 15), and He is the resurrection and the life (Jn. 11: 25) as He said to Martha the sister of Lazarus before raising him.



- ❖ He announced His resurrection to His disciples before His crucifixion:
- ❖ He told them that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, **and be raised the third day** (Mt. 16: 21), (Mk. 8: 31) and (Lk. 9: 22).



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- ❖ Of course He ascended in the physical body.
- ❖ The Godhead does not ascend or descend
- ❖ He fills all and is present everywhere
- ❖ He ascended in the body as we say in the Liturgy of St. Gregory “and at Your ascension into the heaven in the body...”

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- ❖ In the Biblical Terminology the right hand refers to power, righteousness, or honour.
- ❖ In the sense of power the Psalmist said, “The right hand of the Lord does valiantly. The right hand of the Lord is exalted;
- ❖ the right hand of the Lord does valiantly. I shall not die, but live” (Ps. 118: 15-17);
- ❖ “Save with Your right hand, and hear me” (Ps. 60: 5; 108: 6).

- ❖ Hence “the right hand of God” means His power, righteousness, honor or glory, and “sat” means settled
- ❖ Sitting at the right hand of His Father means **the end of emptying Himself**

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And **He shall come again in His glory to judge the living and the dead;**
whose
Kingdom shall have no end.**

- ❖ His second coming will be for judgment
- ❖ His coming for judgment will be in the end of ages

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only-Begotten Son of God,
begotten
of the Father before all ages;
Light of Light, True God of True God, begotten not created;
consubstantial with/of one essence
with/of the same essence as/ the Father; by Whom all things were
made;
Who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven
and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became
man.
And He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, He suffered and was
buried;
The third day He rose from the dead, according to the Scriptures;
And ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He shall come again in His glory to judge the living and the dead;
whose
Kingdom shall have no end.**

- ❖ Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him.
- ❖ His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed. Dan 7:14

- ❖ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, **and of His kingdom there will be no end.**” Lk 1:31-33