

## #22 Creed Part 3

August 4, 2019

### **What are the truths of the faith we profess in the Creed?**

In 1992, Pope St John Paul II presented to the world the book called the Catechism of the Catholic Church. This magnificent reference text was intended to be a very important contribution to the work of renewing the life of the Church by deepening our understanding of our faith. It is divided into four parts with the first part focused entirely on the Apostles' Creed. The Creed is considered to be one of the four pillars of our faith.

The Creed is broken into 12 articles. These articles summarize the nature of God as the Father Creator, Jesus Christ the Son and Redeemer and the Holy Spirit the Sanctifier.

The basis of our faith is belief in a Trinitarian God – one God yet three distinct persons. In a nutshell, the Creed tells us about each of the three Persons of the Trinity. The first article is about God the Father. The next seven articles are about Jesus the Son. The remaining five articles teach us about the Holy Spirit and His sanctifying work.

Since the time the Creed was first professed, the Church has continued to delve into its richness and expound its teaching. When we recite the Creed, we should be enticed to learn more about the tiny sound bites we say. The Creed, as explained in the Catechism and other Church documents, contains answers to questions such as: Why is God an Almighty Father and not Mother? Isn't there enough scientific evidence to prove natural evolution rather than a Creator God? Isn't Jesus just a character and not a real man? Why would a merciful God judge me before I can get into Heaven? How can there be everlasting life when it seems like this world is rapidly deteriorating?

We should never settle for assumptions about what we *think* the Church teaches. If we stand to profess the Creed, we are saying we believe in all that it contains. It is like reading the fine print on a contract; we should understand it before we put our name to it.

The Creed serves as a bridge between liturgy of the Word and the Eucharist. In the Creed, we see the WORDS we say becoming ACTIONS in the Eucharist. We bow at the words "Conceived by the Holy Spirit and became Man" because the Word is about to become flesh in our very presence at the moment of Consecration. What we profess to believe is leading into how we worship.

Source: CCC Apostolic Constitution "Fidei depositum"