

THE APOSTLES' CREED: COMPLETE TEXT AND HISTORY

The Apostles' Creed is the oldest Christian statement of faith, originating in Rome around the 2nd century as a baptismal confession. It summarizes the apostolic teachings of the Twelve and serves as the foundational declaration of Christian orthodoxy.

1. The Text of the Apostles' Creed (English)

"I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen."

2. The Latin Original (Symbolum Apostolorum)

"Credo in Deum Patrem omnipotentem, Creatorem caeli et terrae.

Et in Iesum Christum, Filium eius unicum, Dominum nostrum, qui conceptus est de Spiritu Sancto, natus ex Maria Virgine,

passus sub Pontio Pilato, crucifixus, mortuus, et sepultus, descendit ad inferos, tertia die resurrexit a mortuis, ascendit ad caelos, sedet ad dexteram Dei Patris omnipotentis, inde venturus est iudicare vivos et mortuos.

Credo in Spiritum Sanctum, sanctam Ecclesiam catholicam, sanctorum communionem, remissionem peccatorum, carnis resurrectionem, vitam aeternam. Amen."

3. Difference Between the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds

- The Apostles' Creed is older, simpler, and originated as a Roman baptismal confession.
- The Nicene Creed ('I believe in One God...') was formulated later, at the First and Second Ecumenical Councils (325 and 381 AD), to comprehensively refute the Arian heresy and establish the Divinity of God the Son and the Holy Spirit.