**The Apostles’ Creed**

**Essay Questions**

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# Essay Questions

1. How did the Apostles’ Creed develop?

1. Why did the church believe it was important to create and use a creed?

1. Describe the Trinity in terms of persons and nature, and explain the different work attributed to each by the Apostles’ Creed.

1. Why is it important to participate in the church and to preserve its central doctrines?

1. What elements of salvation does the Apostles’ Creed mention, and why are these important?

1. In what ways is the Apostles’ Creed foundational to Christian theology?

1. In what ways has the Apostles’ Creed has been universally affirmed, and why is this important?

1. How can the Apostles’ Creed have a unifying influence among believers, and why is this particularly valuable today?

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Two

**God the Father**



# Essay Questions

1. Why do Christians say that the God of the Bible is the one and only true God?

1. What is meant by the term “simplicity,” and how does this term describe God’s essence?

1. In what ways do the Scriptures apply the word “Father” to God?

1. Explain what is meant by the terms “ontological Trinity” and “economic Trinity.” How are they similar? How are they different?

1. Discuss the fatherhood of God as it relates to his roles as Creator, King, and family head over his people.

1. Define and describe God’s unlimited and matchless power.

1. Discuss the Father’s role as Maker in the work of creation.

1. How is the universe God’s good creation that reflects his good character?

1. Explain God’s authority over creation as absolute, exclusive, and exhaustive.

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**Jesus Christ**



# Essay Questions

1. What do the Scriptures mean by the term “Son of God” when it is applied to Jesus?

1. How does the title “Lord” point to the divinity of Jesus?

1. In what ways do Jesus’ experiences prove that he was truly human?

1. What does the Old Testament title “Christ” mean? How does Jesus fulfill this office?

1. How does the fulfillment of the office of Christ point to his humanity?

1. Discuss Jesus’ human nature and its relationship to his divine nature.

1. Why was the incarnation necessary? What did Jesus accomplish by it?

1. Why did Jesus subject himself to arrest, suffering, and crucifixion?

1. Explain the phrase in the Apostles’ Creed “he descended into hell.”

1. Discuss the four parts of the exaltation of Jesus.

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# Essay Questions

1. How does the Apostles’ Creed affirm the Holy Spirit’s divinity?

1. What is the biblical basis for the Creed’s teaching about the Holy Spirit’s divinity?

1. What personal attributes does the Bible ascribe to the Holy Spirit? How do these attributes demonstrate his personhood?

1. How is the Holy Spirit distinct from the Father and Son as a separate person within the Trinity?

1. What is the Holy Spirit’s relationship to the other two persons of the Trinity? Why is the Holy Spirit called the “third person” of the Trinity?

1. Discuss the Holy Spirit’s creative power and explain how it is seen in the natural world, in spiritual gifts, and in the personal renewal of human spirits and hearts.

1. What is sanctification and how does the Holy Spirit work to sanctify God’s people?

1. Discuss the various ways the Holy Spirit administers divine grace.

1. What are the three aspects of revelation, and how does the Spirit work through each to reveal his will?

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# Essay Questions

1. Discuss how the church in the New Testament finds its roots in the Old Testament.

1. How did Jesus build his church in a way that relied on, but also advanced, the Old Testament church?

1. What are some of the implications of the relationship between the Old Testament and the New Testament church?

1. Define and discuss the word “holy” as it is used in the Bible.

1. What does the Bible mean when it uses the word “holy” to describe the people of God?

1. Define and describe the word “catholic” as it was understood in the Apostles’ Creed.

1. What is the visible catholic church, and how do we decide which churches should be embraced as part of the catholic or universal church of Christ?

1. Discuss the invisible catholic church and how it differs from the visible catholic church.

1. In what ways is the visible church a communion of saints?

1. Discuss how all believers in the invisible church share communion with Christ and with other believers.

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**ALVATION**



# Essay Questions

1. What is the problem of sin? Where did it originate and what are the consequences associated with sin?

1. Discuss how divine grace involves all three persons of the Trinity.

1. What role does individual responsibility play in the forgiveness of sins?

1. How did man’s fall into sin corrupt not only our souls but also our physical bodies?

1. Discuss how the gospel, or “good news,” ensures our resurrection.

1. Describe the three stages of bodily redemption and how, according to the Scriptures, we will experience each.

1. Discuss when everlasting life begins.

1. Explain how everlasting life for believers is not simply a matter of having our existence and consciousness continue forever.

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1. What is the new heaven and new earth and where will believers spend eternity?