



One Lord, Jesus Christ

Various Verses

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Creeds did not create beliefs; they confirmed them by recognizing what the Church had believed over time.

Creeds were created to address false beliefs.

The Nicene Creed was written in response to a popular pastor named Arius who was teaching that Jesus was a created being who was not fully God.

Nicene Creed:

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

Romans 1:7 ... Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. (NIV) (Rom. 1:7; 1 Cor. 1:3; 2 Cor. 1:2-3; Gal. 1:3; Eph. 1:2-3; Phil. 1:2; Phm. 1:3; 1 Pet. 1:3)

1 Corinthians 8:6 ...for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live. (NIV)

Romans 10:9 If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.... 13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (NIV) (Joel 2:32)

God the Father and God the Son are equally LORD.

He is Savior (Jesus), King (Christ), and God (Son of God).
(Matt. 1:21; 16:16; 26:63; Lk. 22:70; John 20:31)

***the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,*** (John 1:14, 18; 3:16, 3:18)

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.... 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.... 18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him. (NKJV)

Physical realm in time: Begotten things have a beginning.
Spiritual realm outside of time: The begotten Son had no beginning, but as Son of God and Christ, he is begotten.

Psalms 2:7 I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you." (ESV) (Heb. 1:5)

The Son is Son eternally as the Father is Father eternally.

God from God, (John 1:14, 18; 8:42; 13:3; 16:30)

Light from Light, (John 1:9; Heb. 1:3; 1 John 5:20)

true God from true God, (John 14:6; 1 John 5:20)
begotten, not made,

Made things come into being by art.
Begotten things come into being by nature.

of one essence with the Father.

Every divine attribute of the Son is the same as the Father. (Col. 2:9; Heb. 1:3)

Trinity: God is one being in three persons.

Trinity pushes the limits of our logic and language, but this makes sense because there is no one like God.

1 Samuel 2:2 "There is no one holy like the LORD..." (NIV)

Through him all things were made. (John 1:3)

Colossians 1:15 The Son is the image of the invisible God.... 16 For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.... 19 For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, 20 and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. (NIV)

What we believe about Jesus matters for salvation.

He is Savior – Seek him!

He is Christ King – Follow him!

He is God – Worship him!

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one essence with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and
glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Adapted from the *Book of Common Prayer*, 1979.

Doctrine of the Trinity

Sometimes it took years to carefully formulate the language to express the Church's beliefs in a way that was biblically, theologically, and philosophically sound.

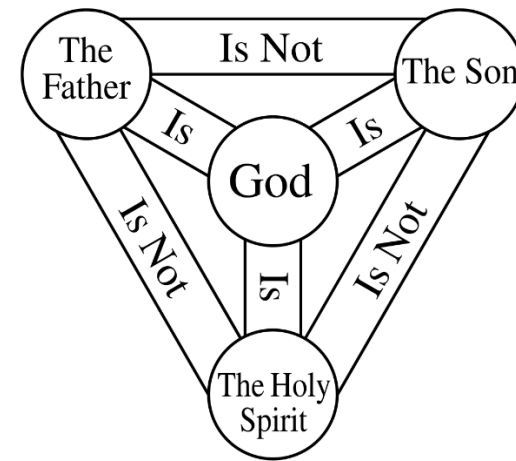
Scripture says and the church believed:

- There is one God,
- eternally existing simultaneously as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
- as three distinct persons who are each fully and equally God.

How is this explained? By formulating the doctrine of the Trinity: **God is one being in three persons.**

Being: What God is (one essence and nature / general properties)

Persons: Who God is (three distinct relational identities / personal properties)



Against Arianism, each person of the Trinity is God.
Against Modalism, each person of the Trinity is distinct.

The Trinity is a mysterious concept, but it is not an illogical possibility. Just because something is a mystery does not mean it is a contradiction. It just means we do not understand it. There is no one like God.

1 Samuel 2:2 "There is no one holy like the LORD..." (NIV)