



Brief review

- The Apostles did not write the Creed themselves. The Creed is based on the teachings that Jesus taught the Apostles.
- The Apostles' Creed is arguably the oldest comprehensive creed in Christianity.
- The Apostles' Creed is agreed upon by every Christian denomination (i.e., Catholics and Protestants).
- Everybody believes in something. Everyone has a creed they live by. What you believe shapes you and determines the way to understand the world and the people around you.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker 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, dead, and buried;

the third day he rose from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and sits 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 universal Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

[I believe in] . . . “the forgiveness of sin.”

What is it that distinguishes Christianity from the world's other religions? We have a God who . . .

- Confesses _____.
- Claims He wants to _____.
- Expresses His desire to _____.

God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 3:16–17 (NIV)

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:17–19 (NIV)

To understand why God’s willingness to forgive us is such good news, we have to deal with two questions:

Why do I need to be forgiven?

Will God really forgive my sins?

Why do I need to be forgiven?

- Because I _____ of God’s desire for my life.

We—every one of us—have strayed away like sheep! We, who left God’s paths to follow our own. Isaiah 53:6 (TLB)

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23 (NIV)

English “sin”	Greek “hamartia”
Sin means _____	

The fruit of the spirit is “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” Galatians 5:22–23 (NIV)

Will God really forgive my sins?

Every Christian denomination in the world believes, teaches and proclaims that God can and does forgive our sin. We differ, however, on how God does it.

Where Roman Catholics and Protestants differ is in the concept of _____.

- Roman Catholics “participate in their forgiveness via required good works.”
- Protestants “believe our forgiveness is a free gift of love without required good works.”

And Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.” John 8:11 (NKJV)