

# The Absolute Basics of the Christian Faith

WHY IS THERE EVIL?

10.13.19

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth,  
I believe 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 to the dead. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there, He shall come to judge the living 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

## WHY DO WE NEED TO KNOW THE "BASICS?"

1. What we **BELIEVE** has vital, eternal consequences
2. The **BIBLE** is our starting point, our checkpoint, and the final authority

## THE DOCTRINE OF GOD

**Q. #1 – Who is God?**

**Answer:** God is **HOLY TRINITY**; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

**Q. #2 - What is God like?**

**Answer:** God is perfect in **POWER, KNOWLEDGE**, and in His **HOLY LOVE**

## THE DOCTRINE OF CREATION

**Q. #1 – What did God make?**

**Answer:** God spoke **EVERYTHING** into being, by His own **FREE CHOICE**, and it was **VERY GOOD**

**Q. #2 – Why is there evil?**

**Answer:** God gave us \_\_\_\_\_ to obey and we did not

*“When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam’s sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.”*

Romans 5:12

[All Scripture references from the New Living Translation unless otherwise noted]

## THE PROBLEM OF EVIL

*“Man, as God sees him, was completely good and completely happy, but he disobeyed God and became what we now see. This condition was transmitted by heredity to all later generations, for it was not simply what biologists call an acquired variation; it was the emergence of a new kind of man – a new species, never made by God, that had sinned its way into existence.”* C. S. Lewis, The Problem of Pain

## THE BIBLE SAYS

1. God created the world and it was \_\_\_\_\_

*“In the beginning God created... Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good!”* Genesis 1

*“So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”* Genesis 1:27

- Human beings were created to \_\_\_\_\_ God with Godly characteristics
- Human beings were created to \_\_\_\_\_ God with Godly responsibilities

2. Humanity \_\_\_\_\_ to disobey God

*“The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too.”* Genesis 3:6

*“Real relationship requires real freedom.”* Phil Tallon

*“We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one.”* 1 John 5:19

3. Now we’re stuck with the \_\_\_\_\_

- Connection and communication were broken
- The entire cosmos was affected
- Death entered the human story
- Natural and moral evil exist in time and space

4. God is still in \_\_\_\_\_

- Life is not meant to be like this, nor will it always be like this
- God is still at work

*“Jesus replied, ‘My Father is always working, and so am I.’”* John 5:17

*“Each of us will give a personal account to God.”* Romans 14:12

*“Justice delayed is NOT justice denied.”* Author Unknown

*“For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son.”* Romans 5:10

*“The sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God’s wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ. And the result of God’s gracious gift is very different from the result of that one man’s sin. For Adam’s sin led to condemnation, but God’s free gift leads to our being made right with God, even though we are guilty of many sins. For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God’s wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ.”* Romans 5:15-17

*“God’s grace enables the ability to choose rightly or wrongly.”*  
Phil Tallon