



THE AWAKENING WORLDWIDE . COM

AN EVANGELICAL OUTREACH OF THE HIMMELREICH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

ABOUT “THE AWAKENING”

– FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS –

Q: What is “The Awakening Worldwide?”

A: “The Awakening Worldwide” (subsequently referred to as “The Awakening”) is the online grassroots gathering among people of faith who take the promises of the Bible to heart – to turn back to God in repentance, that he will heal our land, as He has promised.

Q: Is “The Awakening” a political movement?

A: “The Awakening” is not political and is not a political movement. We are simply a gathering of Christian believers joining together to pray for God to heal our land.

Q: What does this cost?

A: Any and all resources of “The Awakening” are available FREE.

Q: What is the mission of “The Awakening?”

A: Our mission is to support the work of Christian pastors and churches while offering to 1) Pray 2) Teach 3) and Share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with skeptics, seekers, and fellow believers.

Q: Who is sponsoring “The Awakening?”

A: “The Awakening” is the non-denominational outreach of The Himmelreich Memorial Library. For over a century The Himmelreich has been dedicated to the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through its library collections, programs, and services which are offered FREE to the public. Upon its opening in 1902, The Himmelreich was recognized as “the finest library of its kind in America, and the second largest in the world.”

Q: Is a church sponsoring “The Awakening?”

A: The national sponsoring organization for “The Awakening” is The Himmelreich Memorial Library. The Himmelreich has long been affiliated with the Presbyterian church – yet for over a century has welcomed and provided books and programs for men, women, and children of all denominations and faiths, as well as the general public.

Q: Is “The Awakening” a church?

A: “The Awakening” is not a church. Our goal is simply to help lead and direct seekers, skeptics, and believers to churches in their own areas where the Word is faithfully taught and the God of the Bible is freely worshiped.

Q: What is the doctrinal foundation for “The Awakening?”

A: “The Awakening” affirms The Apostle’s Creed as a true and full expression of our belief. We welcome all to join us who similarly embrace this historic foundational Christian creed which has been shared and proclaimed for centuries by Christians and churches all around the world (please see attached pdf).



THE AWAKENING WORLDWIDE . COM

AN EVANGELICAL OUTREACH OF THE HIMMELREICH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

WHAT WE BELIEVE OUR CREED & PROCLAMATION OF FAITH

*WE THE BOARD, STAFF & VOLUNTEERS OF
THE HIMMELREICH CAMPAIGN BELIEVE THE FOLLOWING:*

*WE 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 GHOST,
BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY, SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE,
WAS CRUCIFIED, DEAD, AND BURIED.*

*HE DESCENDED INTO HELL;
THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN
FROM THE DEAD;*

*HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN, AND
SITTETH ON THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD THE FATHER ALMIGHTY;
FROM THENCE HE SHALL COME TO JUDGE
THE QUICK AND THE DEAD.*

*WE BELIEVE IN THE HOLY GHOST;
THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH, THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS;
THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS; THE RESURRECTION OF
THE BODY, AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING.
AMEN.*

TAKEN FROM & INSPIRED BY "THE APOSTLES CREED,"
THE EARLIEST ANCIENT CHRISTIAN CREED WHICH DATES FROM AT LEAST 140 A.D.
FORMALLY ADOPTED AT THE STRATEGIC RETREAT OF THE HIMMELREICH MEMORIAL LIBRARY
1 FEBRUARY 2020



THE AWAKENING WORLDWIDE . COM

AN EVANGELICAL OUTREACH OF THE HIMMELREICH MEMORIAL LIBRARY
“THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW”

WHAT WE BELIEVE OUR CREED & PROCLAMATION OF FAITH – BACKGROUND –

Background. The Apostles’ Creed, though not written by the apostles, is the oldest creed of the Christian church and is the basis for others that followed. Its most used form is:

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 Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on 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 Ghost; The Holy catholic Church, the Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

In its oldest form, the Apostles’ Creed goes back to at least 140 A.D. Many of the early church leaders summed up their beliefs as they had an opportunity to stand for their faith—see, for example, 1 Timothy 6:12. These statements developed into a more standard form to express one’s confession of faith at the time of baptism. It is not Scripture, but it is a simple list of the great doctrines of the faith.

The word “catholic” means “relating to the church universal” and was the word used in the original version of the Creed. It does not mean the Roman Catholic Church, but the church, the body of Christ, as a universal fellowship. The phrase, “He descended into hell,” was not part of the creed in its earliest form.

The Apostles’ Creed is a variant of an ancient baptismal confession known as the Old Roman Creed...believed to have been created in accordance with Jesus’s command in Matthew 28:19: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

– *CONT.* –

The Apostles' Creed is the oldest creed and lies at the basis of most others. It has its roots in apostolic times, and embodies, with much fidelity, apostolic teaching. It had an important place in the early church, when as yet no creed but itself existed.

The creed is not merely a catalog of doctrines but is phrased as a confession. Sincere recitation of the creed requires faith in the God who has accomplished these great things and belief that these great things were accomplished.

In this way, the Apostles' Creed is not just theology, but doxology, and as it is so often included in the liturgy of Christian worship services, it is meant to be recited together, as a body of believers, as an act of worship. The creed is a confession in the truest sense of the word.

The Creed is narrative and tells the gospel story! Beginning with the one true God creating the universe. It goes on to detail the incarnation of God in flesh, giving us the historical detail of Christ's birth and life and death. It moves on to the grand tale of redemption: the resurrection; then the ascension.

This is why the Holy Spirit, the third person of the triune Godhead, doesn't appear until the latter portion of the creed. Confession of the Spirit coincides narratively with the sending of the Spirit at Pentecost after the ascension of Christ. The Spirit empowers the gospel of Christ to build the church, unite the saints in their spirits, and save the lost.

Finally, the creed ends with the new beginning when the dead in Christ are raised incorruptible and the Lord's return ushers in the eternal joy of the new heavens and the new earth. This is what "the life everlasting" corresponds to – Jesus' renewing all things, not simply our receiving a ticket to heaven when we die.

<https://billygraham.org/answer/what-is-the-apostles-creed/>

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/9-things-know-apostles-creed/>

<https://www.christianity.com/theology/the-apostles-creed-part-one-introduction.html>

<http://www.beamsandstruts.com/articles/item/786-understanding-the-apostles-creed>

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/dictionary/apostles-creed-the/>



THE HIMMELREICH MEMORIAL LIBRARY

"THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW"

WE BELIEVE OUR RENEWED VISION & MISSION

WE THE BOARD OF THE HIMMELREICH LIBRARY BELIEVE

THAT THE HIMMELREICH MEMORIAL LIBRARY
IS BEING CALLED TODAY INTO **A RENEWED MISSION** WHOSE PURPOSE IS TO
REACH OUT TO SHARE THE WORD OF GOD WITH BOTH CHILDREN AND ADULTS
WITHIN OUR OWN FELLOWSHIP AND OUR SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES
– AND TO REACH THE WORLD WITH THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

WE ACCEPT THIS MISSION AS A HIGH CALLING.
AND IN SO DOING, **WE ARE INSPIRED** BY THE EXAMPLE OF

WILLIAM D. HIMMELREICH

AREA BUSINESSMAN, TRUSTEE, AND TEACHER AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN, LEWISBURG, PA
WHO, UPON HIS PASSING IN 1897, BEQUEATHED SUBSTANTIAL SUMS FOR THE BUILDING & SUSTAINING OF
"A LIBRARY – WITH THE BIBLE AT ITS CENTER."

WE BELIEVE THAT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
TODAY ENJOYS **NO GREATER EVANGELICAL ASSET** THROUGH WHICH
TO REACH OUR SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES – AND THE WORLD.

OUR VISION & MISSION TO REACH OUT WITH THE STORY OF JESUS CHRIST
IS A NATURAL EXTENSION OF **WILLIAM D. HIMMELREICH'S** OWN SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE
OF NEW LIFE AS HE EXPRESSED THROUGH HIS LOYAL SERVICE TO THIS CHURCH
AND THROUGH HIS PROVISION IN HIS WILL FOR
THE HIMMELREICH LIBRARY.

WE THEREFORE ENTHUSIASTICALLY PLEDGE OUR RENEWED DEDICATION
FOR EMBARKING ON A BOLD NEW EVANGELICAL OUTREACH OF THE HIMMELREICH FOR CHRIST.
IN SO DOING, WE PLEDGE TO REACH OUT IN WELCOME INVITATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT
TO ALL INDIVIDUALS – YOUNG AND OLD – TO JOIN IN OUR PROGRAMS & EVENTS.

WE FURTHER PLEDGE TO LIFT UP, TRAIN, AND ENLIST
GIFTED NEW VOLUNTEERS FROM WITHIN OUR OWN FELLOWSHIP
AND FROM OUR SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES TO JOIN WITH US IN OUR MISSION.

ADOPTED 15 NOVEMBER 2016