

The Apostles' Creed: Second Article

[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 into hell. 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 thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean? I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord,

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

In the excerpt from the ***Explanation of the Small Catechism*** you have in front of you, there is a list of some of the many names the Second Person of the Trinity was called in the Bible: Angel of God, Redeemer, Immanuel, Son of the Living God, Son of Man, the Word, and Lord. But the two that are most well-known are Jesus and Christ. Many times, they are used together, Jesus Christ, or Christ Jesus.

Jesus is the Greek form of the Hebrew *Jeshuah*, which means “Yahweh is salvation” or “Yahweh has saved.” It tells us why He came to this world. He came to save us from our sins.

Christ is the Greek word for the Hebrew *Messiah*, which means “Anointed One.” Jesus was anointed by the Holy Spirit for His office as Prophet, Priest, and King. This name shows how He did what He did when He was on the earth as a man, through the power of the Holy Spirit. He gives that same Holy Spirit to all who believe in Him.

Jesus Christ is our Savior who gives us His Holy Spirit for forgiveness of sins and strength for living.

Prayer:

Thank you, Lord for being our Savior and for giving us Your Holy Spirit. Amen.