

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.

Christ's Work of Redemption, or Atonement

Redemption is a big word we use a lot in church. And it can be confusing. I looked up what it means to redeem. I think this definition will help.

-to buy

-to pay off

-to get back

-to exchange

First, what did Christ buy? Us. The Bible says that we *are not our own but were bought with a price (1 Corinthians 6:20)*. The price was the body and blood of Jesus.

What did Jesus 'pay off'? Our sins, *for the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23)*.

We needed to get back to God because we were separated from Him by sin, *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23)*.

What about the exchange? Jesus exchanged His life for ours. *He gave His life as a ransom [or redemption] for all (1 Timothy 2:6)*.

And that's what Jesus did for us when He redeemed us. He bought us with His blood, paying the price for our sins, so we could get back to God. To do that, He exchanged His life for ours.

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for redeeming us, buying us back, paying for our sins, bringing us back to God, all by exchanging Your life for ours. Amen.