

Apostles' Creed: The First Article

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.

All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve, and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

Racism and Wokeism

Racism—it's an ugly word and an even uglier reality of fallen mankind. In one form or another, it has torn humanity apart since the tower of Babel. Today, that reality is being exploited by a philosophy, a religion, if you will, of "wokeism." One of the tenets of wokeism is Critical Race Theory (CRT). It claims that all racism is systemic and is rooted in oppression. According to this theory, everyone in the world is either an oppressor or being oppressed. And the dividing line, the determining factor is race. This theory accomplishes two things: 1) By focusing on racial differences, it keeps driving the wedge deeper and deeper between the races. 2) By claiming it is systemic absolves people from responsibility; the only way to fight racism is to destroy the system.

Reality

What the proponents of this theory miss is reality. The First Article of the Creed has the answer to the problem of racism. "God is the Father of all people because He created them." **Acts 17:26** says, *He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth.* All people are descended from Adam. We all share the same bloodline. The differences we have are superficial physical ones and cultural. God gave the different languages at the Tower of Babel to stop the people from making a name for themselves in their arrogance. Instead of being united around a common bloodline, they found commonality in language. This separation led to different cultures. Sin caused the hatred.

Remedy

We also see the remedy here. **Galatians 3:26** says, *For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.* In Christ, God reconciled us to Himself and to each other. When we find our commonality in Christ, the line of race becomes unimportant, as in Him *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:28).* The Gospel, not CRT, is the answer to racism, just as it is the answer to all our ills.