

This Is My Creed

I believe in God the Father, maker of heaven and earth
And in Jesus Christ His only son, I believe in the virgin birth
I believe in the Man of Sorrows, bruised for iniquities
I believe in the lamb who was crucified, and hung between two thieves

I believe in the resurrection, on the third and glorious day
I believe in the empty tomb, and the stone that the angel rolled away
He descended and set the captives free
And now He sits at God's right hand and prepares a place for me

I believe He sent His spirit, to comfort and to reveal
To lead us into truth and light, to baptize and to seal
I believe that He will come back, the way He went away and
Receive us all unto Himself but no man knows that day

This is my Creed - The witness I have heard
The faith that has endured - This truth is assured
Through the darkest ages past - Though persecuted it will last
And I will hold steadfast - To this Creed

Recently I viewed a website by an organization that claimed to be Christian and that it was founded on the teachings of Christ. As you read the "ABOUT US" page and their creed statement you quickly find out that it supports the LGBTQ agenda, abortion, climate and social justice. It is obvious that they do not follow all the values of God's Word for here is one of their creed statements:

"We stick up for courageous Christian voices acting for fairness and freedom in every denomination, and we work together for immigrant and refugee rights, climate justice, and full LGBTQ inclusion, among other important social, economic, and racial justice causes that reflect the values Jesus taught."

"But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves. Many will follow their depraved conduct and will bring the way of truth into disrepute."

2 Peter 2:1-2

This has been a favorite song of mine from the band PETRA since it was released in 1990. A creed is a confession, proclamation, or statement of faith. As I alluded to in my last article there are many organizations, denominations, pastors, and independent churches that claim to be Christian but do not hold on the true words of Jesus Christ and the Bible. They are culling from God's Word and are either deleting or ignoring what they think is not applicable in today's society. All of the Bible is applicable in today's society. Jesus said in Matthew 15:8, *"These people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."* Jesus and His disciples warned us that these deceivers were out there and with more still to come.

During the time of the Roman Empire a loyalty oath was required by Roman citizens to demonstrate their allegiance to the empire and to the emperor in particular by declaring publicly "Caesar is lord." In the first-century church, Christians bent over backward to be obedient to the oppressive measures of Caesar and his civil magistrates, and yet, when it came to making the public affirmation that Caesar is lord, Christians

could not do so in good conscience. As a substitute for the phrase, "Caesar is lord," the early Christians made their affirmation by saying, "Jesus is Lord. To do that was to provoke the wrath of the Roman government, and in many cases, it cost the Christian his life.

What is your personal creed? Is it like the one stated above? Many people can recite creeds and make definitive declarations of faith without truly believing those affirmations. The time has come when we will have to stand firm on the Word of God. Today we need to declare that "JESUS IS LORD!" and not a government leader, organization, or a social movement. Will you hold steadfast to your Creed.

Fight the Good fight,

Bro. Andrew