

Contents

Preface to the Second Edition

v

A Fresh Look at the Creed

Introduction: Forms and Functions of the Ancient Creeds

1

From Kerygma to Creed 2

The Creed as Profession of Faith 4

The Creed as Symbol 5

The Creed as Story 6

The Creed as Doxology 8

The Creed as Rule of Faith 9

Articles of Faith 11

Interpreting the Creed 13

THE FIRST ARTICLE: FATHER AND CREATOR

1. I/We Believe

18

"We believe in..."

The Metamorphosis of "Belief" 19

Personal and Corporate Faith 20

New Testament Understanding of Faith 21

Believing and Believing In 23

The Act of Faith 24

Faith as Response 26

The Human Face of Faith 27

Faith in Dispute 29

The Leap of Faith 30

The First Vatican Council 32

Vatican II 33

Faith to Beliefs 35

2. God-Talk and the Limits of Language

37

"...one God, the Father, the Almighty"

Theology as "God-Talk" 38

The Principle of Analogy 39

Naming God 40

One God and Father of All	42
From Covenant to Monotheism	44
Atheism	46
The God of Philosophers, God of Faith	47
An Excursus: The Tasks and Divisions of Theology	50
3. Creation: More Than a Beginning	53
<i>"Maker of heaven and earth"</i>	
Creation Accounts	54
Gnostic Dualism	58
Marcion and Valentinus	59
St. Irenaeus of Lyons and the "Rule of Faith"	62
Creation and Science	65
A Christian View of Creation	68

THE SECOND ARTICLE: SON AND REDEEMER

4. Names, Titles, and Relationships	72
<i>"One Jesus Christ, the only Son of God"</i>	
Names and the Titles of Jesus	73
"The Name"	73
"The Anointed One"	74
"Jesus is Lord"	76
"Son of God"	78
"God's Only Son"	80
5. The Son a Lesser God? The Arian Controversy	83
<i>"Eternally begotten, one in being with the Father"</i>	
Councils and Controversy	84
Act I: Monarchianism	86
Act II: Enter Arius	88
Act III: The Demise of Arianism	91
The Creed of Constantinople	93
6. Salvation and Sin	96
<i>"For us and for our salvation"</i>	
Creation/Re-Creation:	
Salvation from Chaos and the Forces of Evil	97
The Exodus: Salvation from Slavery and Oppression	100
Revelation: Salvation from Ignorance and Meaninglessness	102

Sin and Sins 104

The Inevitability of the Incarnation 107

- 7. Christology: Two Approaches** 110
- "He came down from heaven"*
- "From Above": Descending Christology* 111
- "From Below": Ascending Christology* 113
- Nestorius Condemned: The Council of Ephesus 114
- Toward a Solution: The Council of Chalcedon 116
- Spirituality and Devotions 120
- 8. From the Infancy Narratives to Mariology** 123
- "By the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary"*
- Mary in the New Testament 124
- The Infancy Narratives 124
- The Family of Jesus 128
- Blessed Among Women 131
- Marian Devotions and Dogmas 132
- 9. In Quest of the Historical Jesus** 137
- "Suffered under Pontius Pilate"*
- The Gospels as History 138
- Form Criticism 141
- Pontius Pilate and Form Criticism 142
- The New Quest for the Historical Jesus 144
- The Passion Narratives 145
- Redaction Criticism 147
- The Trial 148
- Rivalry Between Church and Synagogue 150
- 10. The Sacrifice of the Cross and Senseless Suffering** 152
- "He was crucified...suffered, died, and was buried"*
- Anamnesis: "Do This as a Remembrance of Me" 153
- That the Scripture Be Fulfilled 154
- St. Anselm's Theory of Satisfaction 157
- The "Hyper" Formula 159
- The Cross: Scandal and Absurdity 161
- A Modern Approach 163
- 11. The Nether World** 167
- "He was buried. He descended to the dead"*

Entombment 168
Ad Inferos 170
A New Relevance for the Descent 174

- 12. Life Is Changed, Not Taken Away** 178
"On the third day he rose again"
New Testament Accounts 179
"In Another Form" 181
Beyond Doubt 182
"The Third Day" 184
Sunday, *"The Eighth Day"*: Eucharist and Rest 186
- 13. "If I Be Lifted Up..."** 190
"He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father"
"Forty Days" 191
Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension 193
Liturgical Time 198
- 14. The Second Coming and Judgment** 201
"He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead"
The Parousia 203
Judgment 206
Punishment and Reward 207
Purgatory 211
- 15. The Present and Future Kingdom** 216
"And his kingdom will have no end"
Miracles 217
Parables 219
The Ethics of the Kingdom 221
"Without End" 226

THE THIRD ARTICLE: SPIRIT AND SANCTIFIER

- 16. The Holy Spirit in Scripture and Experience** 232
*"The Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified"*
The Spirit of God in the Old Testament 233
The Spirit of God in the New Testament:
The Power and Gifts of the Spirit 234

Triadic Formulas in St. Paul	240
Prelude to the Council of Constantinople:	
Cappadocians vs. Pneumatomachs	242
17. Principle of Unity, Cause of Division: The "Filioque"	247
<i>"Who proceeds from the Father and the Son"</i>	
The West Adds "Filioque" to the Creed	248
The Photian Schism: Constantinople vs. Rome	251
Eastern and Western Approaches to the Trinity	253
The "Filioque" in Ecumenical Dialogue Today	257
18. The Inspired Word	259
<i>"He has spoken through the prophets"</i>	
Prophets and Prophecy	261
Safeguarding the Message	265
Montanus and Joachim of Fiore	273
19. From Community to Ecclesiology	277
<i>"We believe in [the] church"</i>	
The Primitive Church	278
From Images to Ecclesiology	281
The Ecclesiology of Vatican II	285
20. The Marks of the Church	292
<i>"One holy catholic and apostolic"</i>	
One and Undivided	293
A Holy People	298
Catholic and Roman Catholic	300
Apostolic: Witness and Mission	302
21. Sacraments of Initiation and Sacramental Theology	312
<i>"We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins"</i>	
Baptism and Confirmation	313
The Nature and Effectiveness of Sacraments	320
Infant Baptism	324
Passing on the Story	328
22. Holy Things for Holy People	329
<i>"The communion of saints"</i>	
The Partaking of the Holy Things (<i>Sancta</i>)	331
Fellowship with the Saints (<i>Sancti</i>)	344

23. Immortality and/or Resurrection	348
<i>"We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come"</i>	
Resurrection as an Eschatological Sign	349
Immortality of the Soul: From Plato to Descartes	350
The Anthropology of the Bible	353
Resurrection of the Body	354
Paul's Theology of the Resurrection	356
The Christian Tradition: Life Is Changed, Not Ended	361
 24. One Faith, Many Creeds	 364
Toward a Common Confession of Faith	364
Suspicion of Creeds	365
New Creeds	367
The Need for New Creeds	372
Lessons from Antiquity	375
Preference for the Ecumenical Creed of Nicea-Constantinople	378
 Epilogue	 381
<i>"Amen"</i>	
 Notes	 383
 Glossary	 405
 Index of Names	 423
 Index of Subjects	 429