

GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

Arianism Recap - Arianism is the belief that the Son was created by the Father, and that "there was a time when the Son was not."

Why might Christians be tempted to think this way?

What are some of the ways this belief can show up?

Why is Arianism wrong? Why is it so dangerous?

The Nicæan Creed - The Church's response to Arianism was the Nicæan Creed; a confessional statement affirmed by nearly all Christians and denominations across all time (including the ECC). The creed was meant to be used for both instruction and worship. Read through the creed below: consider it in light of the Arian heresy; meditate on what it means; look for how it summarizes the teachings of the whole of scripture; use it for worship this week and beyond.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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