
SESSION THREE: NT CREEDAL STATEMENTS

Let's read Hebrews 12:1-3. What has just preceded this passage and why is that important?

What is significant about the term *surrounded*?

Who are these *witnesses* and what is their function with regard to us?

What is meant by *sin that clings so closely*?

What is this *race* and what does that tell us about the Christian life?

Why *looking to Jesus*?

What does it mean to be *the Founder and Perfecter*?

What does *despising the shame* mean?

What does it mean *to be seated at the right hand of the throne of God*?

12:3 why is *consider* so important?

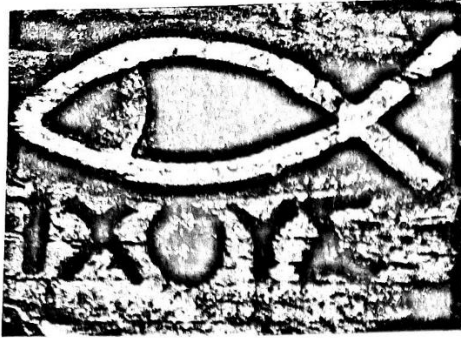
What is the problem with growing *weary and fainthearted*?

SYMBOLS

Often undervalued (or overlooked altogether) are early Christian symbols. I was in Rome this March and had the pleasure of visiting the catacombs. Here Christians were buried outside Rome from between 90-300 AD. On many of these graves were inscribed in the rock Christian symbols. It should be kept in mind that Christians were not the flavour of the day in Rome at this time. Therefore, symbols became ways of confessing you were a Christian. We still employ such symbols even today when we gather for worship. Let's look at a few.



The first two Greek letters in the word Christ.



Greek word for fish (Ithos). Jesus Christ God's Son & Saviour.

Α Ω

Alpha & Omega – First and last.

IHS

Latin initials of Jesus Saviour of humanity.

SCRIPTURAL CONTENT OF THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father

(Mt. 6:9; John 6:44; 14:6; Gal. 4:6; 1 John 3:1; etc.)

Almighty

(Gen. 17:1; Ps. 91:1; Rev. 1:8; 21:22; etc.)

Maker of heaven and earth

(Gen. 1; Job 4:17; Ps. 149:2; John 1:1-3; Acts 17:24; etc.)

And in Jesus Christ His only Son

(John 1:14; 3:16; Mt. 3:17; 17:5; Romans 8:3; Heb. 1:2; 1 John 1:7; etc.)

Our Lord

(John 20:28; Rom. 10:9-10; Phil. 2:11; 1 Cor. 8:6; Acts 2:36; etc.)

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary

(Mt. 1:20-23; Luke 1:26-38; 2:1-7; Rom. 1:3-4; Gal 4:4; etc.)

Suffered under Pontius Pilate

(Mt. 27:11-26; Mark 15:1-15; Luke 23:1-5, 18-25; John 18:28-19:16; Acts 3:13; 1 Tim. 6:13)

Crucified, died, and was buried

(Mt. 27:45-66; Mark 15:21-47; Luke 23:26-56; John 19:17-43; Acts 2:23-24; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; Etc.)

Descended into hell

(1 Peter 3:19-20)

The third day He arose again from the dead

(Mt. 28:1-14; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-20; Acts 2:24-32; 1 Cor. 15:5-11).

He ascended into heaven

(Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11; Eph. 1:20-22; etc.)

And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty

(Acts 2:33; Eph. 1:20-22; Col. 3:1; Heb. 1:13; 12:2; etc.)

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead

(Mark 14:62; Acts 17:31; 2 Tim. 4:1; 1 Peter 4:5; etc.)

I believe in the Holy Spirit

(Gen. 1:1; Ps. 51:11; t. 3:16; John 7:39; Acts 2:4; 2 Cor. 1:22; 1 Thes. 5:19; Jude 20; etc.)

The holy Christian Church

(Eph. 1:22; 2:20; 5:23; Col. 1:24; 1 Cor. 12:27-28; etc.)

The communion of saints

(Mt. 26:26-28; Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 10:23-29; etc.)

The forgiveness of sins

(Ps. 103:12; Luke 24:47; John 20:22-23; etc.)

The resurrection of the body, and life everlasting

(1 Cor. 15:50-58; 1 Thes. 4:15-18; 2 Thes. 1:5-12; 2 Peter 3:10-13; etc.)
