

HOME TALK

Making Disciples in the Middle of Everyday Life Mt 28:20a



Talking about the Second Article of The Apostles' Creed *

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, bought and freed me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil - not with silver and gold, but with His holy and precious blood, and with His innocent sufferings and death - in order that I might be His own, live under Him in His Kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness; even as He is risen from the dead, and lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

191 Of what benefit is the death of Jesus to you?

By His death, Jesus willingly suffered the punishment of sin as my substitute. Because of His death, I am no longer God's enemy and can have fellowship with Him.

2 Corinthians 5:19,21 ... in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them ... For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

192 What comfort do you find in Christ's burial?

The burial of Christ assures me that He has buried my sins, that He has gone ahead of me to the grave and taken away its power, and that when I die, He will be present with me so that I need not be afraid.

Psalms 23 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

193 What are the five stages of the exaltation of Christ?

Five stages in the exaltation of Christ are: 1) His descent into hell*; 2) His resurrection; 3) His ascension; 4) His mediation at the right hand of the Father; 5) His second coming.

* Hell, as used here, does not refer to the place of final punishment. It refers to *Hades*, a place for the spirits of the dead between death and final punishment or reward.

A Verse to Remember

Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

John 17:3 ESV

* in the *Explanation of Luther's Small*



Scriptures are noted in the English Standard Version

