

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

Explanation of Luther's Small Catechism

## Talking about the Third Article of The Apostles' Creed

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him, but the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, and sanctified and preserved me in the true faith, just as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and preserves it in union with Jesus Christ in the one true faith, in which Christian church He daily forgives abundantly all my sins, and the sins of all believers, and at the last day will raise up me and all the dead, and will grant everlasting life to me and to all who believe in Christ, This is most certainly true.



February 13, 2022

#### **269** What is eternal death?

Eternal death is a dreadful separation from God that will last forever.

Matthew 13:40-42 "Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Daniel 12:2 "And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt."

### **270** Who will be condemned in this way?

All who do not repent of sin and trust in Jesus as Savior will be condemned.

Acts 4:12 "And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

John 3:36 "Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him."

### **271** How can you have eternal life?

I can have eternal life by continually receiving the grace that God offers me in the Gospel.

John 17:3 "And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." Philippians 3:8-9 "Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing

worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith."

# **272** What does the word *Amen* mean at the end of the Apostles' Creed?

The word *Amen* means *so be it* and is used to emphasize the truth of the creed that I confess.

Scriptures are noted in the English Standard Version

