

**The Father: "I believe in one God, the Father..."**

# Introduction

# **Overview of the Study**

# Overview

## Nicene Creed (381 A.D.)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible.

**I Believe**

Latin: *Credo* = "I believe"

Latin: *Credemus* = "We believe"

English derivative: Creed







Eyewitness NEWS 4, 5, 6 & 10

DISCOVER For people who expect value.

Lite BEER

Gatorade Gatorade Gatorade  
Slam-Dunk Championship

**Believing something vs. Believing  
in something/someone**

Believing something

vs.

Believing *in* something/someone

**In One God**

**"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God,  
the Lord is one.**

**Deuteronomy 6:4**

ESV

**“You shall have no other gods  
before me.**

**Exodus 20:3**

ESV

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.

**Isaiah 44:6**

ESV

"I am the Alpha and the Omega,"  
says the Lord God, "who is and  
who was and who is to come, the  
Almighty."

**Revelation 1:8**

ESV

In the beginning, God...

**Genesis 1:1**

ESV

## Biblical Monotheism

*mono* = "one," *theos* = "God"

- Transcendent & Immanent
- Triune

# Biblical Monotheism

Transcendent & Immanent ≠ Islam & Platonism



# Biblical Monotheism

Triune ≠ Islam, Platonism, or Judaism



# Heidelberg Catechism (1563)

#1 What is your only comfort in life and death?

Answer: That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

# Westminster Shorter Catechism (1648)

#1 What is the chief end of man?

Answer: Man's chief end is to glorify  
God, and enjoy him forever.

# Baptist Catechism (1693)

#1 Who is the first and chiefest being?

Answer: God is the first and chiefest being.

**...all truth is founded in God and His character, and therefore any summary of Christian teaching must begin with God.” - Jim Scott Orrick (2025)**

In the beginning, God...

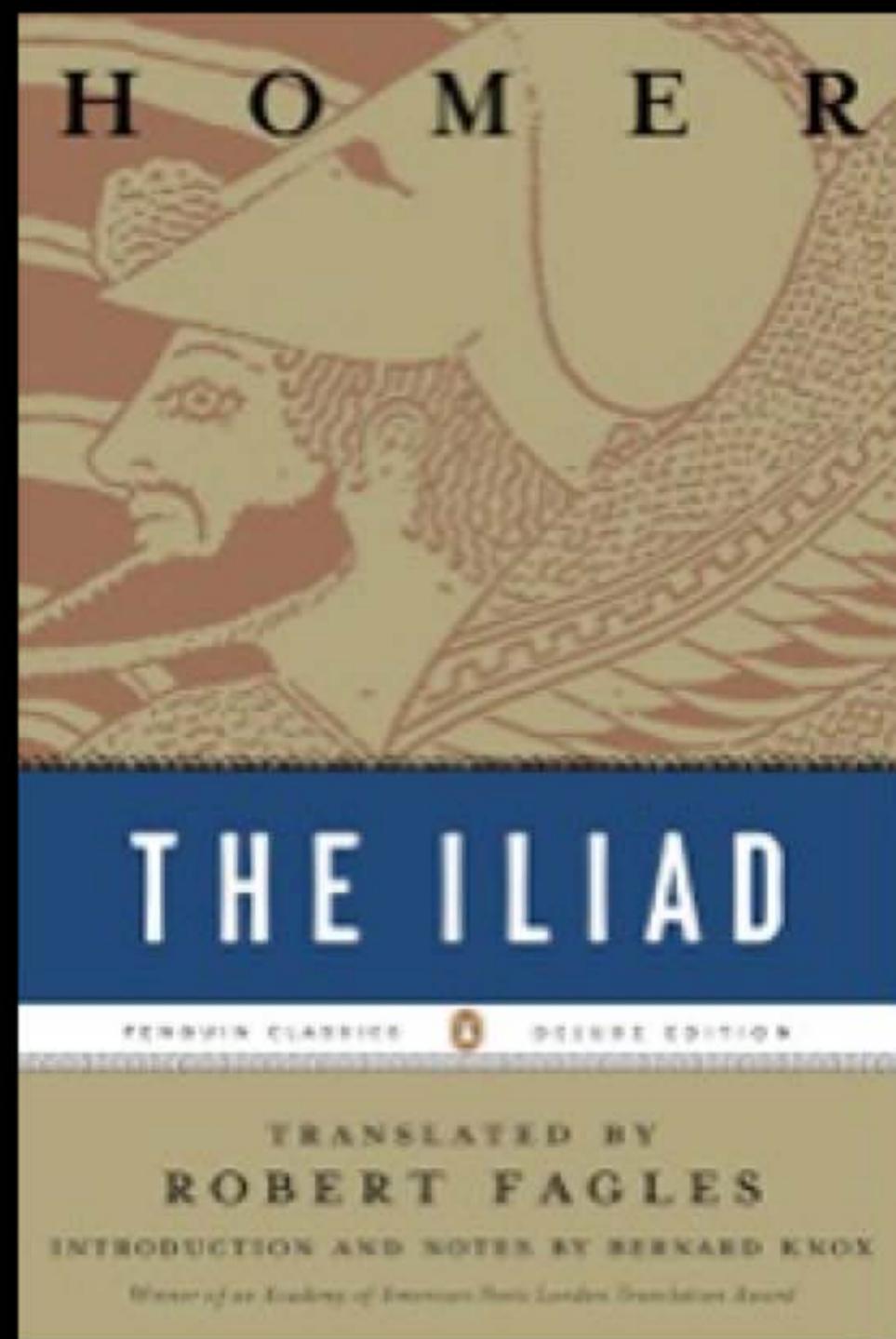
**Genesis 1:1**

ESV

**The Father Almighty**

*The Illiad* by Homer (8<sup>th</sup> century, B.C.)

“Father Zeus, if I ever did you service in word or deed among the immortals, hear my prayer.”



# **Biblical Language**

When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God...When Adam had lived 130 years, he fathered a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.

**Genesis 5:1–3**

ESV

Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord, Israel is my firstborn son, and I say to you, "Let my son go that he may serve me." If you refuse to let him go, behold, I will kill your firstborn son.' "

**Exodus 4:22–23**

ESV

When Israel was a child, I loved  
him, and out of Egypt I called my  
son.

**Hosea 11:1**

ESV

Do you thus repay the Lord, you foolish and senseless people? Is not he your father, who created you, who made you and established you?

**Deuteronomy 32:6**

ESV

For you are our Father, though  
Abraham does not know us, and  
Israel does not acknowledge us;  
you, O LORD, are our Father, our  
Redeemer from of old is your name.

**Isaiah 63:16**

ESV

But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

**Matthew 5:44–45**

ESV

But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

**Matthew 6:3–4**

ESV

Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

**Matthew 6:26**

ESV

**The Father "Almighty"**

Almighty



παντοκράτωρ  
almighty; omnipotent

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,”  
says the Lord God, “who is and  
who was and who is to come, the  
Almighty.”

**Revelation 1:8**

ESV

and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.”

**2 Corinthians 6:18**

ESV

**Beginning with the Father**

**Maker of heaven and earth, and of  
all things visible and invisible**

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

**Colossians 1:16**

ESV

**Explanation**

God



Creation

God

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Creation

Heaven  
Invisible

&  
&

Earth  
Visible

= Everything

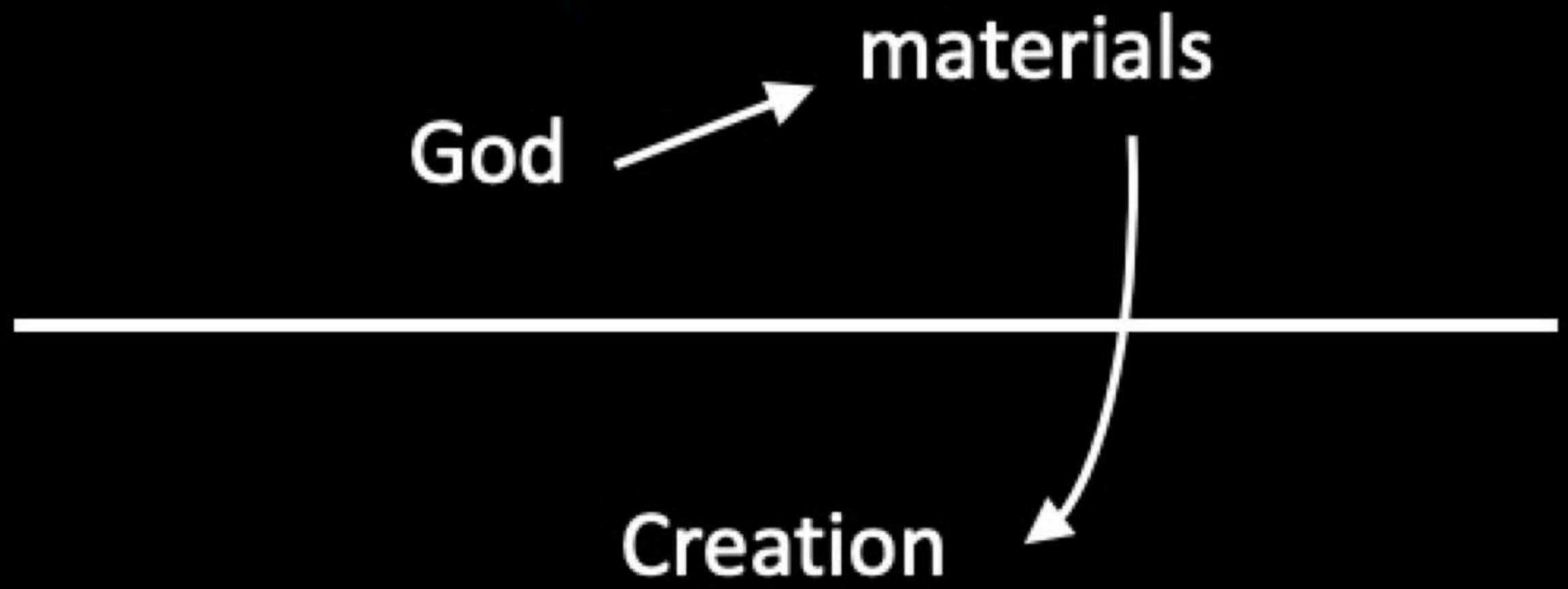
**Modern Materialism**  
**(atheistic materialism)**

**(creation  
without Creator)**



**Materials**  
**(matter or**  
**"things")**

Modern Materialism  
(theistic materialism)



# Ancient Paganism

Creation

Heaven

Invisible

gods  
e.g. "Father Zeus"



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Earth

Visible

**Ancient Neoplatonism  
(related: Gnosticism)**

The "One"/Supreme god



The "Word"



The World Soul

Creation

Heaven  
Invisible



Earth  
Visible

God



Creation

Let them praise the name of the  
Lord, for his name alone is exalted;  
his majesty is above earth and  
heaven.

**Psalm 148:13**

ESV

**Fundamental Idea**

God



Creation

## Nicene Correction for the 21<sup>st</sup> century

This is not you.

God



This is you.

Creation

# Summary

## Nicene Creed (381 A.D.)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and of all things visible and invisible.

**Conclusion**

Do not be like [the Gentiles], for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

**Matthew 6:8–9**

ESV