



TODAY'S BELIEF

"We do have a problem of belief, and it not only raises the question of why we should believe in God but why we should believe in this GOD. There are others, after all, and they are made available in an unprecedented way through the religious supermarket of modern pluralism."

Peter Berger

SYNCRETIC, ECLECTIC AND PLURALISTIC

OUR BELIEFS DETERMINE OUR BEHAVIOUR

HUMAN MANIFESTO

Religion

In the best sense, religion may inspire dedication to the highest ethical ideals. The cultivation of moral devotion and creative imagination is an expression of genuine "spiritual" experience and aspiration. We believe, however, that traditional dogmatic or authoritarian religions that place revelation, God, ritual, or creed above human needs and experience do a disservice to the human species.

HUMAN MANIFESTO

Sexuality

In the area of sexuality, we believe that intolerant attitudes, often cultivated by orthodox religions and puritanical cultures, unduly repress sexual conduct. The right to birth control, abortion, and divorce should be recognized. While we do not approve of exploitive, denigrating forms of sexual expression, neither do we wish to prohibit, by law or social sanction, sexual behaviour between consenting adults. The many varieties of sexual exploration should not in themselves be considered "evil." Without countenancing mindless permissiveness or unbridled promiscuity, a civilized society should be a tolerant one.

APOSTLES' CREED

- It is Christian orthodoxy
- It is not written by the Apostles
- It is first used for baptismal (and still is)
- It is to refute false teachings
- It speaks about the Trinity
- It served as a foundation for Nicene Creed 325 AD
- It is the most proven summary of the Gospel

APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

APOSTLES' CREED:

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

I BELIEVE, NOT I KNOW

- I Know = Understanding it with our heads. It is knowledge in our minds.
- I Believe = Understanding it with our hearts. It is lived out in our lives.

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised

Rom 4:18-21

WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

• Matthew 16:13-16

WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

• Matthew 16:13-16

WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

• Matthew 16:13-16

POPULAR BELIEFS ABOUT JESUS TODAY

- Wise teacher
- Morally upright/holy
- Great leader
- Respected individual
- Sacrificial man
- Miracle worker
- Claimed to be the Messiah
- A prophet
- Enlightened man

I BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST, HIS ONLY SON, OUR LORD

"I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him [that is, Christ]: 'I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God.' That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic-on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg-or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse.... You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come up with any patronising nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

CS Lewis

For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

—• 2 Timothy 1:12