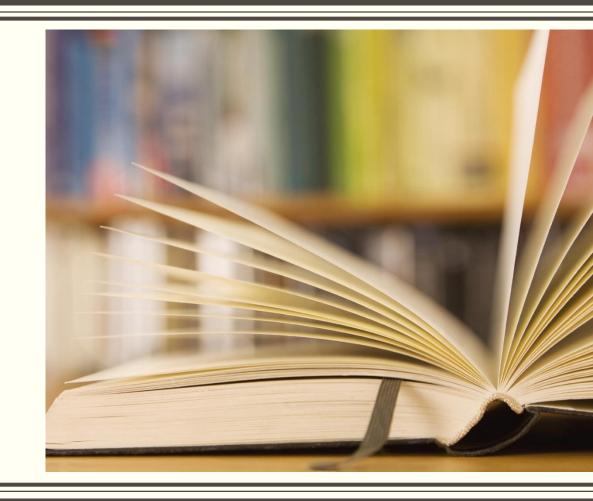


Biblical - Christ-centered - Trusting - Teachable



QUESTION

I believe in the Trinity, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit; all three individual Persons, and yet all three one Person at the same time. When I pray, do I pray to God the Father or God the Son, and can I pray to God the Holy Spirit?

Holy Spirit

- Ontological / Economical
- Identified with the Father (Matthew 10:20; Luke 4:18)
- Identified with the Son (Acts 16:7; Romans 8:9; Philippians 1:19)
- Identified as Equal with the Father and the Son (Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14)
- Sent by Both the Father and the Son (John 14:16; 15:26; 16:7)

Prayer is to be Offered

- To the Father (Matthew 6:6, 9; Galatians 4:6)
- **To the Son** (John 14:13–14; Acts 7:59-60; 1 Thessalonians 3:11)
- Through the Son (John 15:16; 16:23–24; Ephesians 2:18; 5:20; Hebrews 10:19; 1 Peter 2:5; Colossians 3:17)
- By the Spirit (Romans 8:15, 26; Ephesians 6:18; Jude 20)

QUESTION

What does the apostles creed mean when it says that Jesus descended into hell?

The 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.

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.

Westminster Larger Catechism

Christ's humiliation after his death consisted in his being buried, and continuing in the state of the dead, and under the power of death till the third day; which hath been otherwise expressed in these words, He descended into hell.

QUESTION

Can you explain where Jesus was between the time he died and rose again – and what it means for the Christian spiritually? What is the difference between Hades and Sheol?

Hades and Sheol

 death, grave, underworld; disembodied spirits without any necessary implication of torment.