



THE ASCENDED CHRIST



The Creed is easy to remember and provides the believer with a basic guide to retain the substance of the Biblical story:

God who is manifested as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Working together in the confines of time and space.
By sending God incarnate as Jesus, born as man, and coming to die.
To bring hope and redemption to broken human existence.
And in the end to restore all things fully in the resurrection.

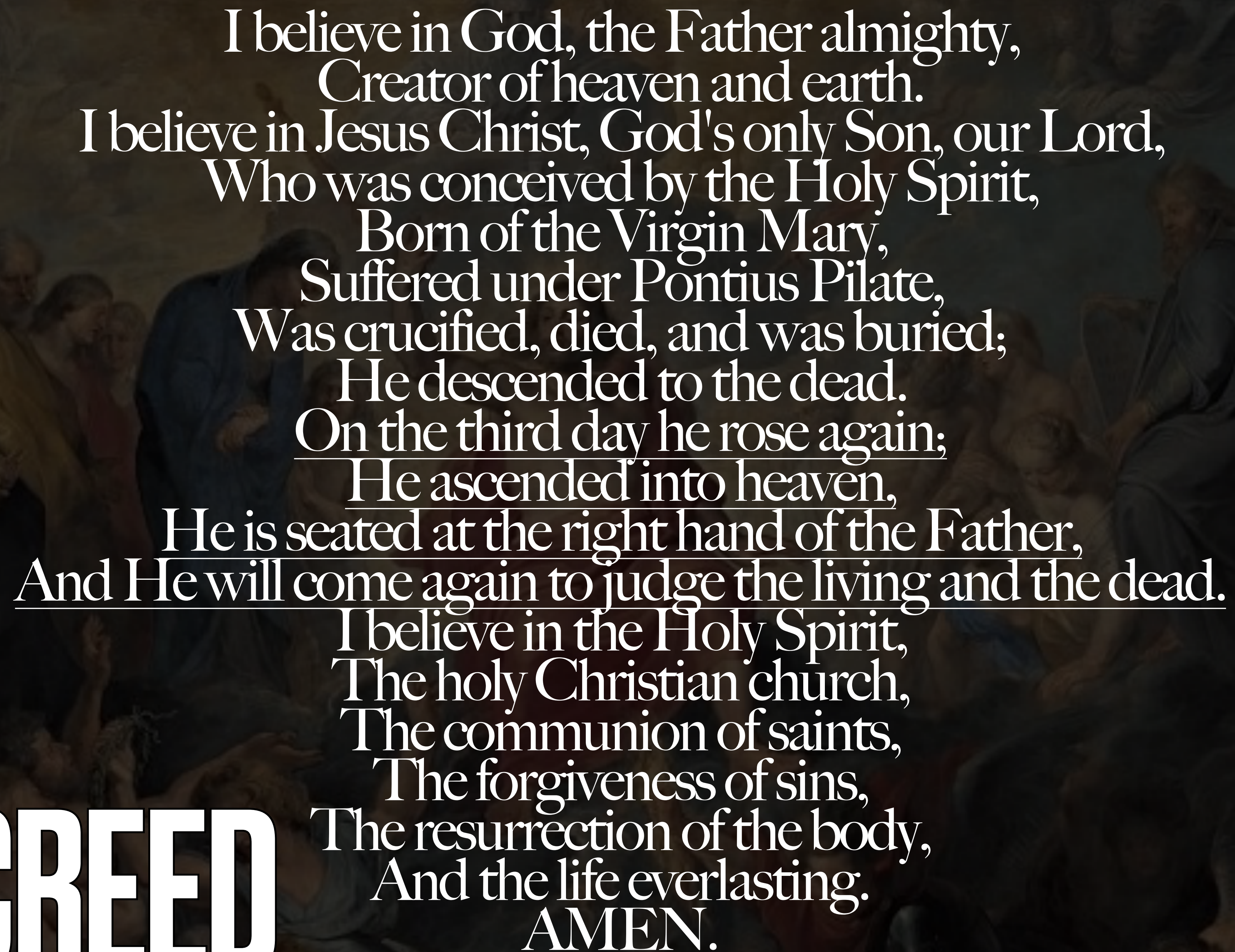
The Creed is one of Church's earliest doctrinal statements:

It has shaped orthodox Christian belief for over 2000 years.
It was not influenced in any way by a response to heresy.
It was not influenced by politics like some of the later creeds.

The Creed is sacramental:

It's a pledge of allegiance to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
It unifies me with something universally timeless and true.
It's a submission of my beliefs to the truths of God revealed to us.

I BELIEVE



I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
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.

THE CREED



RUN & HIDE

At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly **felt shame** at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to **cover themselves...** and **they hid** from the Lord God among the trees.

GENESIS 3:7-8

THE
SON *of* **MAN**
C A M E
T O S E E K
&
T O S A V E
T H E L O S T
LUKE 19:10

PERSISTENT



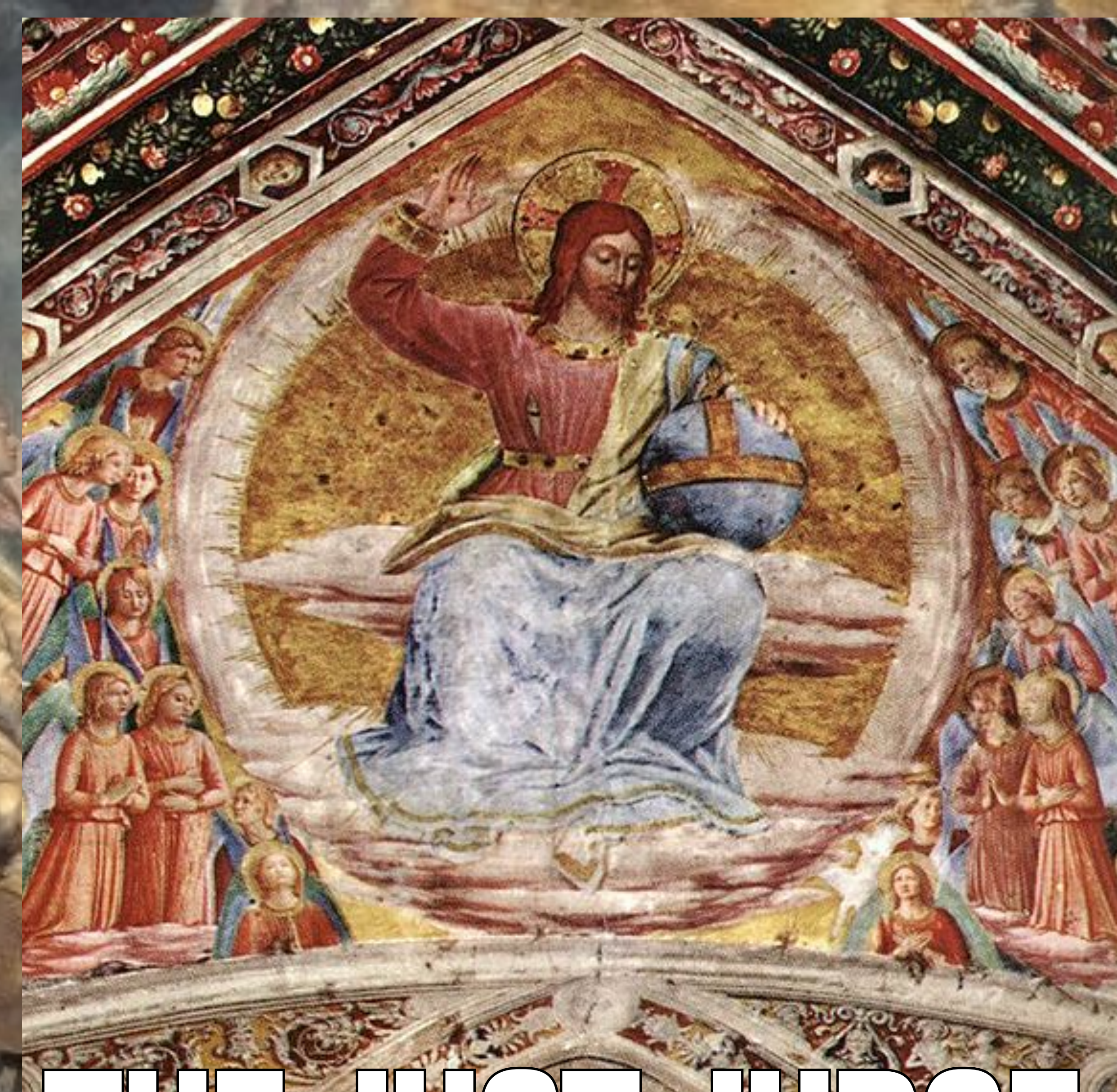
On the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

ASCENT

1 Corinthians 15:43, 53, “Our bodies are buried in **brokenness**, but they will be **raised in glory**. They are buried in **weakness**, but they will be **raised in strength**... For our dying bodies must be **transformed** into bodies that will **never die**; our mortal bodies must be **transformed** into **immortal** bodies.”

Acts 1:3, “During the forty days after Jesus suffered and died, He **appeared** to the apostles from time to time, and He **proved to them** in many ways that **He was alive**. And He talked to them about the Kingdom of God.”

Mark 16:19, “When the Lord Jesus had finished talking with them, He was **taken up into heaven** and sat down in the **place of honour** at God’s right hand.”



THE JUST JUDGE

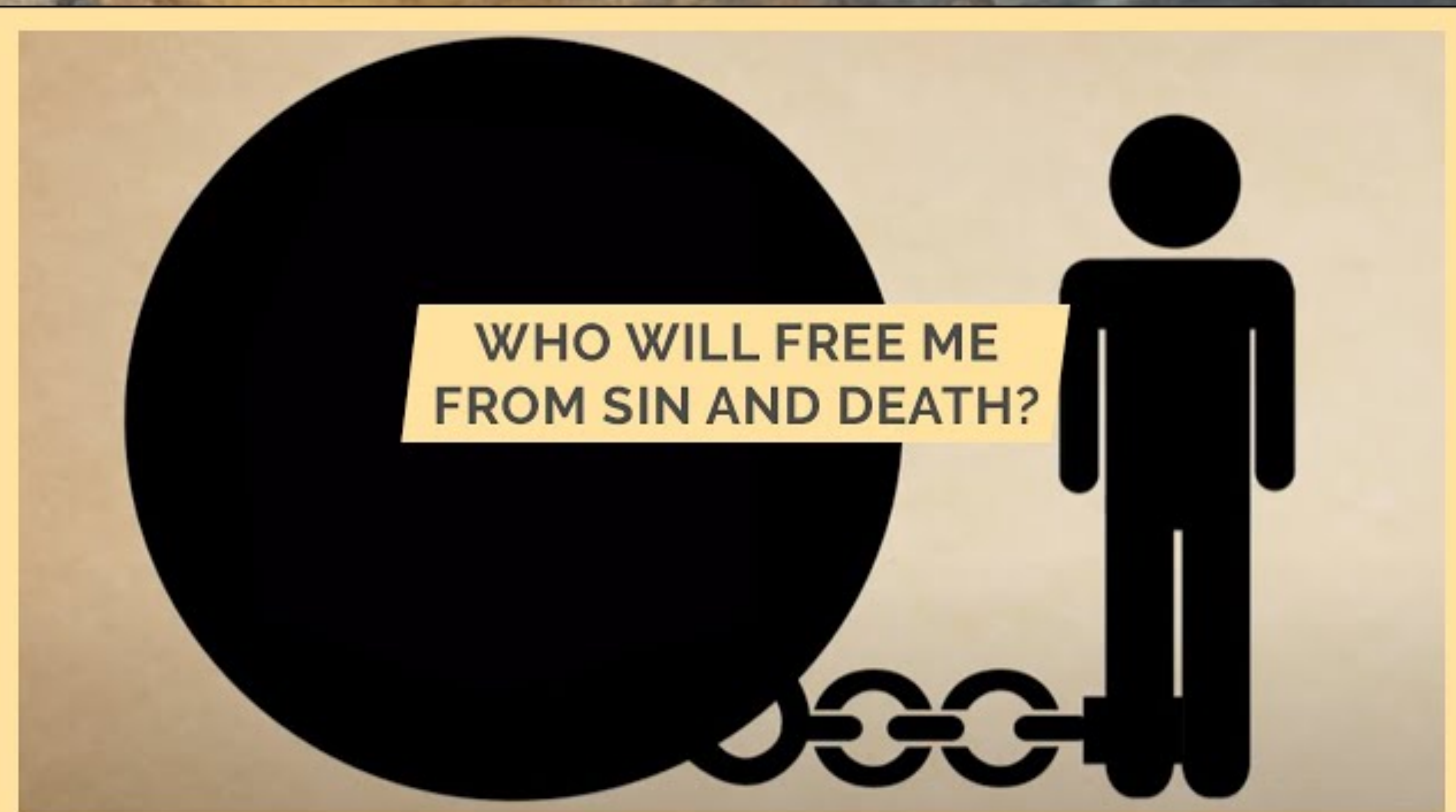
...the **Son gives life to anyone he wants**. In addition, the Father judges no one. Instead, **He has given the Son absolute authority to judge**, so that everyone will honour the Son, just as they honour the Father...

...the time is coming, indeed it's here now, when the dead will hear my voice - the voice of the Son of God. And **those who listen will live**.

...the time is coming when all the dead in their graves will hear the voice of God's Son, and they will **rise again**. Those who have **done good** will rise to experience eternal **life**, and those who have **continued in evil** will rise to experience **judgment**. I can do nothing on my own. I judge as God tells me. Therefore, **my judgment is just**, because I carry out the will of the one who sent me, not my own will.



UNTANGLING



“The divine judgement... does not primarily bring punishment on sinners... It operates by separating good from evil and pulling the soul toward communion in blessedness. It is the tearing apart of what has grown together which brings pain to the one who is being pulled.”

GREGORY OF NYSSA