

No Human Creeds

A Mark That Matters

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- 6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— 7 which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! 9 As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!

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Gal 1:11-12

11 I want you to know, brothers, that the gospel I preached is not something that man made up. 12 I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.

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The So-Called Apostles' Creed

- The Apostle's Creed is one of the earliest man-made creeds (Perhaps appeared first in 390 AD).
- The creed appears nowhere in the Bible.
- Thus, this creed and all other human creeds are not scripture; and therefore, they are not inspired.
- From this early beginning, many groups have written creed books of one kind or another—manuals, disciplines, catechisms, etc.
- The New Testament is man's only statement of faith and conduct: "1 If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God." 1 Peter 4:11

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- Wholeheartedly obey that form (pattern) of teaching. Rom 6:17

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17 But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted.

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17 Join with others in following my example, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you. 18 For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ.

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2 Tim 1:13-14

13 What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. 14 Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you — guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

There Is a Pattern of Sound Teaching:

The word *pattern* is used by Paul to state the certainty of New Testament teaching: “. . . Whereas you were once servants of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching whereunto you were delivered; and being made free from sin, you became servants of righteousness.” Rom. 6:17-18.

The same root word, TUPOS, is translated *form*—the same word we use for concrete forms. Change the shape of the form, and the shape of the material changes. When human creeds change the form of teaching, the outcome changes. No longer are servants of sin made servants of righteousness.

Human creeds are not the pattern of sound words from Paul or the form of teaching delivered to the Romans!

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- Human creeds are not revelation: Eph 3:3-4

Eph 3:2-5

2 Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, 3 that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. 4 In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets.

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2 Tim 3:16-17

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

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2 Peter 1:19-21

- 19 And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. 20 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. 21 For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

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- God has spoken through his son, not through human creeds. Heb 1:1-2; Matt 17:5

God Has Spoken by His Son

Heb 1:1-2: 1 In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.

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Matt 17:5: 5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

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The Gospel Is the Power of God for Salvation

- Rom 1:16-17:16 I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. 17 For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

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creeds and accept “. . . the faith that was *once for all* entrusted to the saints.” (Jude 3)

The Faith Once for All

Jude 3-4: Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for *the faith that was once for all entrusted* to the saints.

4 For certain men whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless men, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only Sovereign and Lord.

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