



# **Introduction to the Doctrine of Vocation**

**CPC Adult Sunday School  
Week 7 - The Kingdom of God and Vocation**

March 23, 2025

# The Apostles' Creed



**WE BELIEVE**  
THE APOSTLES' CREED

*I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
Born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, dead, and buried: he descended into hell;  
The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,  
And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.*

**\*We confess that Jesus came to save his people from their sins.**

**\*We confess that Jesus now sits at the right hand of the Father as our Lord and Savior.**

**\*We confess that Jesus will come again in final judgement.**

**\*What are the implications for our vocations?**

# Messianic Hope



2 Samuel 7:8-16 → God's promise to establish David's kingdom forever.

Psalm 110 → The Messianic king is also a priest who will execute God's judgment.

Isaiah 11 → The promised Messiah would have the Spirit of the Lord rest upon him, filled with wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge and fear of the Lord.

Isaiah 60 → The nations gather to worship God & God's blessed presence with his people.

Daniel 7 → God's final judgment and one like the son of man given an everlasting kingdom, universal in scope.

Zechariah 3; 6 → The servant of the Lord, "The Branch," would lead to removal of iniquity from the land and build the temple of the Lord, uniting the offices of priest and king.

Zechariah 14 → The Day of the Lord promised which will lead to judgement, peace and worship.

# Messianic Fulfillment: Already & Not-yet

*Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him...*

Luke 8:1

*<sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.”*

John 18:36

Acts 1:1-11

1 Corinthians 15:20-26; 50-58

Hebrews 4:14-16 → He sits on a throne of grace.

Revelation 4-5 → The Lion & Lamb who is worthy.

Revelation 19

Revelation 21-22 → The new heavens and new earth.



# Christ Our King

**WLC 43 How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?**

*Christ executeth the office of a prophet, in His revealing to the church in all ages, by His Spirit and Word, in divers ways of administration, the whole will of God, in all things concerning their edification and salvation.*

**WLC 44 How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?**

*Christ executeth the office of a priest, in His once offering Himself a sacrifice without spot to God, to be a reconciliation for the sins of His people; and in making continual intercession for them.*

**WLC 45: How doth Christ execute the office of a king?**

- Calls a people to himself
- Governs his people by providing officers, laws, and censures
- Bestows saving grace upon his elect:
  - \*Rewards their obedience
  - \*Corrects them for sins
  - \*Preserves and supports in temptations & sufferings
  - \*Orders all things for his own glory and their good
  - \*Takes vengeance on those who know not God



# Putting it all Together: The Example of Ephesians

*The “heavenly realms” are not equivalent to our usual use of “heaven,” since evil spiritual powers are located in these heavenly realms (3:10) and our spiritual battle is being fought there (6:12). The word appears to denote broadly the spiritual realm—that realm where the truth about our world is fully and truly disclosed.*

Douglas J. Moo

Blessed in Christ - Ephesians 1:3

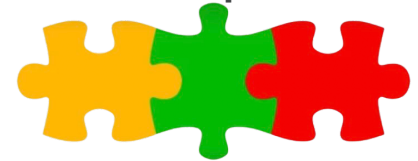
Wisdom of God made known to rulers and authorities through the church - Ephesians 3:6-10

Christ raised and seated at the Father’s right hand - Ephesians 1:20

Vocations: Church, Family, and Culture/state - Ephesians 4-6:9

We are raised up and seated with Christ - Ephesians 2:4-6

Our battle against the spiritual forces of evil - Ephesians 6:12



*<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup> and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; <sup>17</sup> and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, <sup>18</sup> praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints...*

Ephesians 6:10-18



# Kingdom Prayer



***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.***

**WSC 99-107 (see also WLC 186-196)**

***Our Father, who art in heaven*** → “...teacheth us to draw near to God with all holy reverence and confidence, as children to a father, able and ready to help us; and that we should pray with and for others.”

***hallowed be Thy Name*** → “...we pray, that God would enable us and others to glorify Him in all that whereby He maketh Himself known, and that He would dispose all things to His own glory.”

***Thy Kingdom come*** → “...we pray that Satan’s kingdom may be destroyed; and that the kingdom of grace may be advanced, ourselves and others brought into it, and kept in it; and that the kingdom of glory may be hastened.”

***Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven*** → “...we pray that God, by His grace, would make us able and willing to know, obey, and submit to His will in all things, as the angels do in heaven.

***Give us this day our daily bread*** → “...we pray that of God’s free gift we may receive a competent portion of the good things of this life, and enjoy His blessing with them.”

***And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors*** → “...we pray that God, for Christ’s sake, would freely pardon all our sins; which we are the rather encouraged to ask, because by His grace we are enabled from the heart to forgive others.”

***Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil*** → “...we pray that God would either keep us from being tempted to sin, or support and deliver us when we are tempted.”

***For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*** → “...teacheth us to take our encouragement in prayer from God only, and in our prayers to praise Him, ascribing kingdom, power, and glory to Him; and in testimony of our desire and assurance to be heard, we say, ***Amen.***”

# Digging Deeper

1. What encourages you most about Christ's kingship?
2. What areas of your life are most difficult to submit to Christ's lordship?  
Why do you think this is the case?
3. In what ways would you like to grow in your use of prayer and the Word?  
What adjustments would you need to make in your life for this to happen?

