

Joshua John / General Adult

Creeds and Confessions / Galatians 1:6–10

Introduction - The Chalcedonian Creed (The Symbol of Chalcedon)

The **Bible** produces the highway that is called orthodoxy. **Creeds** are the guardrails along the highway of biblical orthodoxy. **Confessions** allow for diversity within the Christian Faith on non-essential issues. The Church councils clarified ancient **existing** truths, refining them and reforming them into our doctrine and practice today

Two Councils in Ephesus

Another council was convened in **Ephesus** in 431 AD to deal with another heretical teaching termed Nestorianism. And another was convened **18** years later precipitated by the results of the first. The Second Council held at **Ephesus** came to be known as the “Latrocinium” or **Robber’s Council**. This second council’s legitimacy was rejected at the outset.

The Council of Chalcedon

There are seven key points that are contained within the

Chalcedonian Creed that all center on the understanding of Jesus Christ or **CHRISTOLOGY**:

1. There is a true **INCARNATION** of the Logos, the second person of the Godhead.
2. The precise distinction between **NATURE** and **PERSON**
3. The **GOD-MAN** as the result of the incarnation.
4. The **DUALITY** of the natures.
5. The **UNITY** of the person.
6. The whole **WORK** of Christ is to be attributed to his person, and not to the one or the other nature exclusively.
7. The **IMPERSONALITY** of the human nature of Christ.

The Symbol of Chalcedon

We, then, following the holy Fathers, all with one consent, teach men to confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in Godhead and also perfect in manhood; truly God and truly man, of a reasonable soul and body; consubstantial with us according to the manhood; in all things like unto us, without sin; begotten before all ages of the Father according to the Godhead, and in these latter days, for us and for our salvation, born of the Virgin Mary, the mother of God, according to the Manhood; one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, to be acknowledged in two natures, inconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, inseparably; the distinction of natures being by no means taken away by the union, but rather the

property of each nature being preserved, and concurring in one person and one Subsistence, not parted or divided into two persons, but one and the same Son, and only begotten, God the Word, the Lord Jesus Christ, as the prophets from the beginning [have declared] concerning him, and the Lord Jesus Christ himself has taught us, and the Creed of the holy Fathers has handed down to us.

Conclusion

A great way to commit the key teachings of the Christian faith is to learn the creeds. Start with the Apostle's Creed and work from there. Use them in your personal prayer time, utilize them during your Bible study, and commit them to memory.