

Text from the Apostles' Creed: "I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth."

This line in the Apostles' Creed asserts two major ideas about God the Father.

1. He is Infinitely Powerful.

a. *His power is seen in the act of Creation:* Genesis 1-2

- i. Genesis 1: He speaks the universe into existence
- ii. Genesis 2: He creates man and woman.
 1. How powerful do you have to be to be able to speak a universe into existence and fill it with all that it needs to thrive?
 2. The God of Genesis is the Creator, bringing order out of chaos, calling life into being by the power of His Word, creating Adam from the dust and Eve from Adam's ribs. his is the Lord almighty!

b. *His power is seen in relation to us:* Psalm 139. The Lord wants us to see His power in relation to us so that we would remove from our thinking any ideas that would limit or make Him appear small, so that we can worship Him in His majesty!

- i. **Omnipresence:** Psalm 139:7-12. One of the ways His infinite power is on display is that we're always in His presence; it's the idea of His omnipresence, meaning He's everywhere, fully present. We are always in His presence: Our ways are always before Him and while we might be able to hide our actions and ways before others, we can't hide our actions or ways, or cut ourselves off from God.
- ii. **Omniscience:** Psalm 139:1-6. The Lord knows you better than you know yourself. You may be able to talk in a way that deceives others and possibly even yourself, but nothing you say or do can deceive God.
- iii. **Omnipotence:** Psalm 139:13-16. David recognizes that God's power is on display in the amazing complexity of the human body, which leads Him to worship God by saying, "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

1. This news that there is an all-seeing, ever-present, all-powerful God is either terribly good news or terribly bad news depending upon if you have a relationship with Him or not.
 2. If you do, it brings you great security and hope. If you don't, it produces great fear and a sense of dread.
- c. ***His power is seen to be greater than the powerful nations and great people whom we esteem.*** Isaiah 40
- i. Greater wisdom: Verse 12
 - ii. Greater than the national powers: Verses 15-17
 - iii. Greater than the most powerful people: Verses 21-24
 - iv. Greater than the Creation itself: Verse 26.
 1. Astronomers now estimate that there are more than 400 billion stars in the Milky Way galaxy, and that there are 125 billion galaxies in the universe. Which means the number of stars is estimated at 10 billion trillion—our minds cannot grasp that number. We cannot conceive the unfathomable depths of outer space.
 2. But the Lord it is He who calls them by name and brings them out one by one. It is He who is their Maker and Master. This is our God.
 3. This is the Lord almighty, the Creator of Heaven and Earth. The best thing we do with our minds is to think of the majesty of God. He is infinitely powerful.
2. **He is Incredibly Personal and Loving Like a Good Father.** Luke 15
- a. One of the major hang-ups with believing God is a Father is our own relationships with our earthly father's. And what you must not do, as you wrestle with the feelings is to transfer the failings of your earthly father upon God the Father. We must consider our earthly father's character in light of God the Father—not the other way around.
 - b. Luke 15:11-24: This Father is lavishing love upon the one whom rejected him! How deep the Father's love for us indeed.

- i. The Father's love is so full and so free. He delights in anyone who comes to Him through Christ in repentance and faith.
- ii. If you've come to Christ, this is the image you need to hold of your Father. He delights in you; He's covered your shame and nakedness with His righteousness and welcomes you back into the family.

The Bible presents God as an infinitely powerful, yet incredibly personal and loving Father.

When we believe this (believe, not know) it does three things for us.

1. It Gives You Peace In A Complex World: Behind the apparently faceless universe lies your good Father who delights in you! The stars in the night sky are no longer symbols of despair, but lights that speak of His power and ongoing care, because just as He brings them forth one by one and calls them by name, He as our Father knows us by name and even knows the number of hairs on our head.

2. It Drives You to Prayer: Luke 11. Jesus teaches His disciples to pray to God as their Father. They're to talk to Him as readily and as comfortably as we who have a healthy father relationship talk to our earthly Father's.

- a. Which means no formula to follow. No agenda needed. Your Father simply wants to communicate with you!
 - b. And He wants to be gracious with you. Luke 11:11-13: Paul states in Romans 8:32 that "He, (that is God) who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?"
 - c. So more important than what you say in prayer is how you think about the One you're praying to. If you mattered enough to Him that He would deliver up His only Son, so you and I could be with Him forever and ever, how will He not freely give us all things. When you think of Him in that way, your greatest joy will be to pray.
- 3. It Causes You to Marvel at the Cross:** Because its at the Cross, where God's power and love are most clearly on display. In love He willingly sacrifices Himself. In the crucifixion of Jesus, in the apex of agony, in the summit of suffering, we see God's power unleashed on an unsuspecting world, as He disarms the demonic powers to rescue and redeem, to purify and purchase a people for Himself.