

# The Creed

# The Creed

- ✦ What is a Creed?
- ✦ What all **Christians believe** expressed in few words.  
Based on Latin word “credo” that means “I believe.”
- ✦ Think of it as a **road map**.  
Not the territory - serves as a guide so won't get lost.
- ✦ Boundaries of what it means to be Christian



# The Creed

- ✦ The **Church Fathers** developed this for our benefit.  
Why was it developed?
- ✦ Were many **heretical innovations** by 4th century when persecutions were stopped.  
Necessary to clarify true Christian belief.  
Included also necessity for canon of New Testament.
- ✦ Reflects true **teachings of Apostles** without innovation. **Affirms tradition** of Church.
- ✦ Based on Divine revelation and considered as **dogma**.

# The Creed

- ✦ The Creed we recite today in our services is result of **1st & 2nd Ecumenical Councils** held in 4th century.
- ✦ Commonly referred to as the Nicene Creed but more accurately the **Nicene/Constantinople Creed**.
- ✦ In the Third Council it was affirmed, by the whole Church, that this Creed would **never be changed**.



# The Creed

- ✦ Is knowing the Creed and agreeing with it enough for our salvation?
- ✦ So what is involved in being saved?
  - ✦ Much more than confession of a creed.
  - ✦ Creed only points us in right direction without error.
  - ✦ Must believe and become obedient - deep faith.
  - ✦ Christianity is a **way of life** to become **united** with Christ, have direct **relationship** with Him, and do **His will** out of our love for Him.

# The Creed

- ✦ For Orthodox Christians there is no separation between dogma and a life in Christ.  
Christianity is **not a philosophy or moral system.**
- ✦ Dogma and mystical experience are two sides of the same coin. Like the Church Fathers who know God through mystical experiences we too must use what we learn from dogma to help us **live in a mystical union** with God.
- ✦ With **humble mind**, must be guided by those who have a mystical relationship with God. Through them comes unerring guidance and understanding of Scripture.

# The Creed



## ✦ *The Creed.*

- ✦ *Πιστεύω εἰς ἕνα Θεόν, Πατέρα, Παντοκράτορα, ποιητὴν οὐρανοῦ καὶ γῆς, ὁρατῶν τε πάντων καὶ ἀοράτων.*
- ✦ *Καὶ εἰς ἕνα Κύριον Ἰησοῦν Χριστόν, τὸν Υἱὸν τοῦ Θεοῦ τὸν μονογενῆ, τὸν ἐκ τοῦ Πατρὸς γεννηθέντα πρὸ πάντων τῶν αἰώνων· φῶς ἐκ φωτός, Θεὸν ἀληθινὸν ἐκ Θεοῦ ἀληθινοῦ, γεννηθέντα οὐ ποιηθέντα, ὁμοούσιον τῷ Πατρί, δι' οὗ τὰ πάντα ἐγένετο.*
- ✦ *Τὸν δι' ἡμᾶς τοὺς ἀνθρώπους καὶ διὰ τὴν ἡμετέραν σωτηρίαν κατελθόντα ἐκ τῶν οὐρανῶν καὶ σαρκωθέντα ἐκ Πνεύματος Ἁγίου καὶ Μαρίας τῆς Παρθένου καὶ ἐνανθρωπήσαντα.*
- ✦ *Σταυρωθέντα τε ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν ἐπὶ Ποντίου Πιλάτου, καὶ παθόντα καὶ ταφέντα.*
- ✦ *Καὶ ἀναστάντα τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ κατὰ τὰς Γραφάς.*
- ✦ *Καὶ ἀνελθόντα εἰς τοὺς οὐρανοὺς καὶ καθεζόμενον ἐκ δεξιῶν τοῦ Πατρὸς.*
- ✦ *Καὶ πάλιν ἐρχόμενον μετὰ δόξης κρῖναι ζῶντας καὶ νεκρούς, οὗ τῆς βασιλείας οὐκ ἔσται τέλος.*
- ✦ *Καὶ εἰς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ Ἅγιον, τὸ κύριον, τὸ ζωοποιόν, τὸ ἐκ τοῦ Πατρὸς ἐκπορευόμενον, τὸ σὺν Πατρὶ καὶ Υἱῷ συμπροσκυνούμενον καὶ συνδοξαζόμενον, τὸ λαλῆσαν διὰ τῶν προφητῶν.*
- ✦ *Εἰς μίαν, Ἁγίαν, Καθολικὴν καὶ Ἀποστολικὴν Ἐκκλησίαν.*
- ✦ *Ὅμολογῶ ἐν βάπτισμα εἰς ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν.*
- ✦ *Προσδοκῶ ἀνάστασιν νεκρῶν.*
- ✦ *Καὶ ζωὴν τοῦ μέλλοντος αἰῶνος.*
- ✦ *Ἀμήν.*

# One God

*1. I believe in One God, the Father  
almighty. Maker of all things visible  
and invisible.*



# I Believe

- ✦ When we say “**I Believe**”, what do we mean?
- ✦ More than intellectual assent – a total commitment.
- ✦ We believe “**in**” God and not “about” God or “I suppose” or “I surmise”.
- ✦ Means we will **follow** what He says - voluntary obedience

# Mystery of God

- ✦ God is a mystery beyond our full rational comprehension.
- ✦ Theology of the Orthodox Church is apophatic.



*“We can not explain what God is, but confess that we do not have exact knowledge concerning Him... to confess our ignorance is the best knowledge.” St. Cyril*

- ✦ **Humility of mind** is essential.
- ✦ When Abraham spoke before God he said, *“I am earth and ashes.”* He humbly had view of his perishable nature which is small and light.
- ✦ Can we accept the limitations of our mind?
- ✦ How do we avoid following superstitions or false beliefs?

# Mystery of God

- ✦ We begin our quest to know God by acknowledging our own limitations and weaknesses.
- ✦ Think of the bounds of earth itself. Even this you do not know fully. You know it is but a speck in the cosmos.
- ✦ Even the sun which is much greater is but a speck in the cosmos.
- ✦ *Scripture tells us: "Seek not the things which are too deep for you, neither search out the things that are above your strength: what is commanded of you, think on. (Ecclesiastics 3:21,22)*
- ✦ Even the least of things are not fully comprehensible. We do not fully understand the atom.



# One God



- ✿ Why do we say ***One God?***
- ✿ When Creed was written in 4th century there were many Gods worshiped by Romans.
- ✿ Idolatry is the real enemy of faith
- ✿ What is idolatry?
  - ✿ Where other things are given more importance than the one God. Anything we place our trust in, anything that comes first in our hearts and minds.  
1st Commandment says *“I am your Lord your God. ... You shall have no other gods before me.”*
- ✿ What are idols of today to be concerned about?

- ✦ This faith, ***I believe in One God***, is one of our greatest challenges in living a Christian life.
- ✦ Idolatry is the **most common** sin today. How So?
- ✦ Our basic problem in life is to know **what to put first**, what to trust in.
- ✦ These first words of the Creed challenge us to take a good **look at our lives** to see **what has priority** in our lives. Must ask, “Where does our God fit in?”
- ✦ For eternal life, You **must** believe in **ONE** God.  
*“You shall have no other gods before Me”.*
- ✦ What are some of the challenges in this?

# Everywhere Present

- ✦ God is **everywhere present**, beholds all things, **creates all things** through Christ.
- ✦ He is **infinite and boundless** existing beyond all categories of space and time.

# Everywhere Present

- ✦ How can some say God is in heaven or in the Church?
- ✦ *In heaven He has a special presence manifested in everlasting glory to the blessed spirits;*
- ✦ *Also in churches He has, through grace and Sacraments, a special presence devoutly recognized and felt by believers... (St. John Catechism)*
- ✦ Foundation of the mystical Sacramental life in the Orthodox Church.



# Scientism

- ✦ Today we face the growing heresy of **scientism** –
- ✦ What is Scientism?
  - ✦ Those who believe everything can be explained by Science
  - ✦ They attempt to banish God from His creation
  - ✦ They actually hate God & are enemy of Christ.





# In Creation

- ✿ We can find Him in His Creation.
- ✿ The beauty and wonder of nature can lead us to an appreciation of the magnificence of our creator.
- ✿ *St. Cyril: “To look upon God with eyes of flesh is impossible: for the incorporeal cannot be subject to bodily sight...*
- ✿ *but from works which are divine it is possible to attain to some conception of His power, according to Solomon, who says,*
- ✿ *“For by the greatest and beauty of the creatures proportionately the Master of them is seen.” (Wisdom 13:5) Cyril*



# Attributes of God

- ✦ What are essential attributes of God that we can derive from Divine revelation?
- ✦ God is Spirit,
- ✦ eternal,
- ✦ all-good,
- ✦ love,
- ✦ omniscient,
- ✦ all-just,
- ✦ almighty,
- ✦ omni-present,
- ✦ unchangeable,
- ✦ all-suffering to Himself,
- ✦ all-blessed,
- ✦ merciful.
- ✦ All these can be derived from Scripture.

# The Father

- ✿ Why do we refer to God as ***Father***?
- ✿ We believe in One God and also that He is the Father of the Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ.
- ✿ What does it mean to not see God as Father ?
  - ✿ Denies the Son.  
*“No man comes to the Father but by the Son” (John 14:6), who says, “I am the door, and I am the way.” (John 10:9)*
  - ✿ God is perfect Father who begets the perfect Son.
- ✿ *Every gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom can be no variation, neither shadow of turning.” (James 1:17)*

# The Father

- ✦ How can we say ***Our Father***?
- ✦ Christ says, “*I go to My Father, and your Father.*” He is saying first what is proper to Himself by nature and to others who say so by adoption.
- ✦ We call God “*Our Father who art in Heaven*” not having been by nature begotten of Him, but because of our servitude to the Son
- ✦ By the grace of the Father through Christ we can speak in such enduring terms.

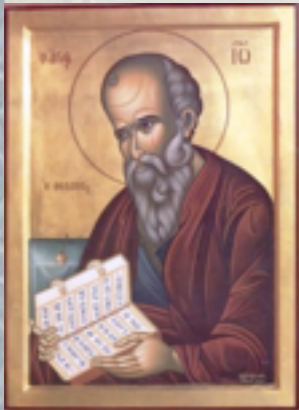
# The Father

- ✦ By **faith** we become adopted **Children of God** and can call God our Father.
- ✦ *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the power to become the **children of God**, even to them that believe in His name (John 1:12)*
- ✦ We must learn to **walk spiritually** so we may be counted **worthy** of God's adoption.



# The Father

- ✦ Meaning of “**Hallowed** be thy name”?
- ✦ *If you were Abraham’s children, you would do the the works of Abraham” (John 8:29)*
- ✦ We must act as God’s children. This is how His name is “hallowed”. How can we Hallow His name?  
*“For if we call on Him as Father, who without respect of persons judges according to every man’s work, let us pass the time of our sojourning here in fear,” (1 Peter 1:17)” loving not the world, neither the things that are in the world: for if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in Him. (1 John 2:15)*
- ✦ Do you think of God as **your** Father?



# The Father

- ✦ What does it imply that we are to do if we say God is our Father?
- ✦ Must **offer all our works to the glory of “our Father who is in heaven, that they may see our good works, and glorify our Father which is in heaven.** *(Matt 5:26)*  
*Let us cast all our care upon Him, for our Father knows what things we have need of.* *(1 Pet 5:7; Matt 6:8)*
- ✦ We must **love God above all others and not even Father or mother or our children more than God.** *(Matt 10:37)*
- ✦ Must also **honor the fathers of our flesh.** *“Honor thy father and Mother, that it may be well with thee, and thy days shall be long in the land.”* *(Deut 5:16)*

# God Almighty



- ✦ ***“the Father almighty”*** - pantocrator  
What does it mean to be almighty?
- ✦ No limit to His power.
- ✦ We Believe in a God with Whom **all** things are possible.  
Archangel says, *“With God **nothing** is impossible.”* (Lk 1:37)
- ✦ God is almighty and rules all things.  
*“for all things are Thy servants”* (Ps 119: 91)
- ✦ *“He spoke, and it was done, He commanded and it stood fast.”* (Ps 33:9)



# Creation

# Creator of All Things

- ✦ ***“Maker of heaven and earth and all things visible and invisible”***
- ✦ Genesis: *“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”*
- ✦ Paul says, *“By Him were **all things** created, that are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers; all things were created by Him, and for Him.”* (Col. 1:16)
- ✦ John says, *“All things were made by Him and without Him nothing was made.”* John 1:3



# Genesis

- ✿ What do you believe about the story of Creation in Genesis?

Is it True or is it Outdated?

- ✿ Is Science in conflict with Genesis?

# How about age of Earth?

- ✿ 4,000 BC to 10,000 BC or 4.5 Billion BC ????
- ✿ Who really knows?  
Neither saint, theologian or scientist knows.  
No-one knows with certainty. Bible does tell us directly.
- ✿ Good evidence that its 4+ Billion & universe 14 Billion
- ✿ Scientific explorations provide information and theories about the nature of Creation.
- ✿ Why all the controversy?  
What is the point of knowing it?

# Six Days of Creation

- ✿ *“Thus the heaven and earth, and all their adornment were finished. And on the seventh day God finished the works He made and He rested...”* (Gen 2:1-2)
- ✿ How about the Six days?
  - ✿ In Scripture day used to refer to long periods of time.
  - ✿ St. Peter says, *“But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”* 2 Peter 3:8
  - ✿ Christians call the age to come as the Eighth Day

# Six Days of Creation

- ✿ Shows there are **stages** in God's **miraculous work**
- ✿ Time not factor in God's actions.
  - ✿ Sun wasn't created until the 4th day.  
A day of Creation cannot be the same as 24 hours.
  - ✿ In science we now know time is relative.
- ✿ Must remember, even Natural laws are the **result** of the process of God's creation.

# Genesis

- ✿ Bible is a spiritual guide, not scientific textbook.
- ✿ Genesis provides the basis for what we know about Creation from a **spiritual perspective**
- ✿ God is the **Creator**.
- ✿ He **creates everything** out of nothing.
- ✿ With humility we can learn spiritual truths from Scripture.

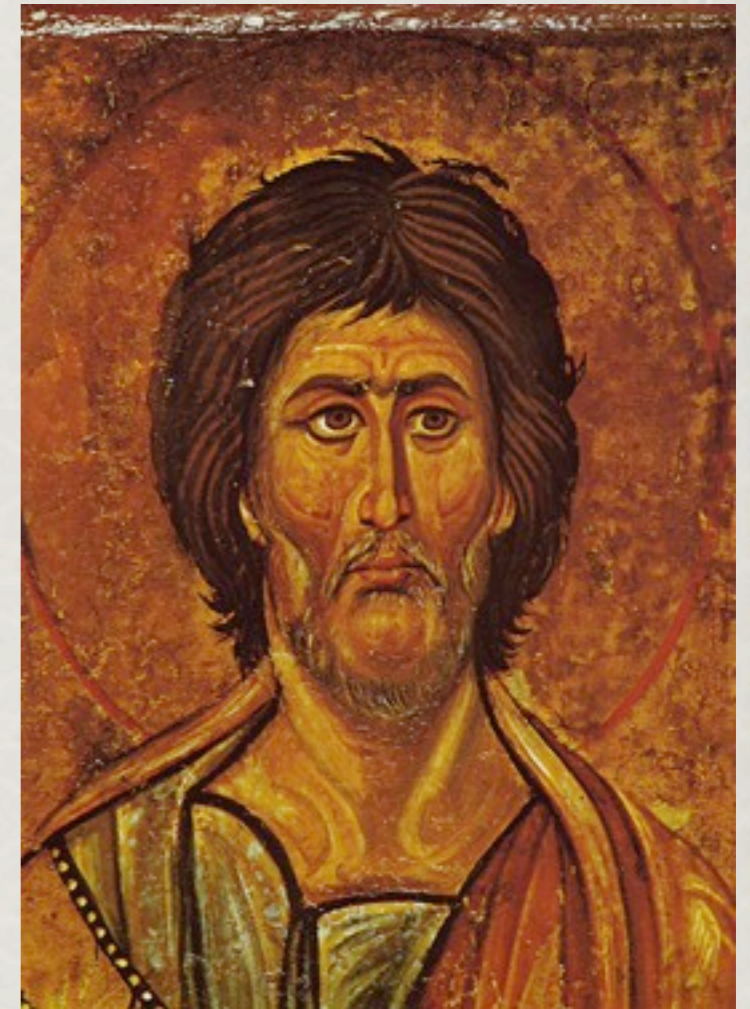
# Genesis

- ✦ Who witnessed Creation?
- ✦ There were **no witnesses**.  
Must rely on God's revelation  
through Moses.

Basil the Great

*This man (Moses) who is made equal to the angels, being considered worthy of the sight of God face to face, reports to us those things which he heard from God.*

Remember Moses used language and symbols of his time.





# How are we to Interpret Genesis?

- ✦ God's process of Creation is **beyond our comprehension**
- ✦ We are the created. God is the Creator.
- ✦ Pot cannot know the potter (Isaiah 29:16)

*With great gratitude let us accept what is related (by Moses), not stepping out of our own limitations, and not testing what is above us as the enemies of truth did when, wishing to comprehend everything with their minds, they did not realize that Human nature cannot comprehend the creation of God.*

Saint John Chrysostom

- ✦ Let's explore what we know about Creation from Genesis



# How was the World Created?

- ✦ ***Christ is the Creator***
  - ✦ *In the beginning was the Word... all things were made through Him and without Him was made nothing that was made (John 1:1, 3)*
  - ✦ *God ...Created all things by Jesus Christ (Eph 3:9)*
- ✦ ***Holy Spirit Sustains.***
  - ✦ *And the Spirit of God moved over the waters (Gen 1:1)*  
*Like in baptism?*



# I. Creation out of Nothing

## ✦ **First Day.**

- ✦ The Creation is **out of nothing**.  
Not a development out of some preexisting material.
- ✦ God is other
- ✦ Established the foundation of Creation and the beginning of all that is to come after.  
What follows is a “**shaping**” of Creation.
- ✦ We see confirming evidence of this in scientific theories like Big Bang and modern evolution.

## 2. Creation was Sequential

Saint Gregory the Theologian:

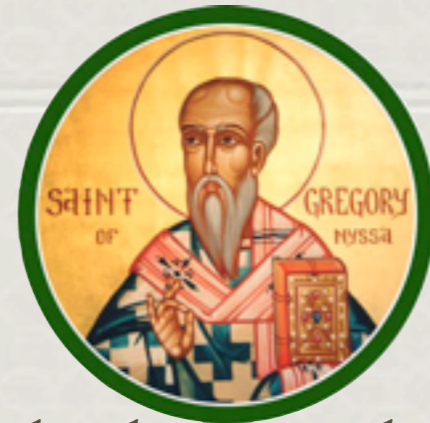
*There is a certain firstness, secondness, thridness, and so on to the seventh day of rest from works, ...by these days is divided all that is created, being brought into order by unutterable laws, but not produced in an instant....*

*...man appeared in the world last, honored by the handiwork and image of God,*

*... like for a king, the royal dwelling had to be prepared and only then was the king to be led in, accompanied by all creatures.*



# Creation Was Sequential



Saint Gregory of Nyssa

*Scripture shows the vital forces blended with the world of matter according to a gradation:*

*first, it infused itself into insensate nature (elements); then advanced into the sentient world (life);*

*then ascended to intelligent and rational beings....*

*The creation of man is related to coming last, who took up into himself every single form of life, both that of plants and that which is seen in animals.*

# Creation Was Sequential



- ✿ Saint Gregory of Nyssa (con)  
*...what is perfect comes last, according to a certain necessary sequence in the order of things...*
- ✿ *Thus we may suppose that nature makes an ascent as it were by steps--I mean the various properties of life--from the lower to the perfect form.*

# What is the Nature of the World?

- ✦ Distinct in essence from God.  
Created out of nothing.
- ✦ Earth appeared in time.
- ✦ Did not form itself but is dependent on God.
- ✦ Not created out of necessity,  
but by the free desire of God -  
so that other beings can participate in His goodness.

# *What are the Consequences of Creation?*

- ✿ There is **nothing uncreated** in the world apart from God Himself.
- ✿ All creation is **Very Good**.
- ✿ *“God Saw everything He had made, and indeed, it was **VERY GOOD.**” (Gen 1:31)*



# Humankind

*Peak of Holy Trinity's creative acts*

*Crown of creation*

# How Was Man Created ?



- ✦ *God formed man of the **dust of the earth**, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a **living soul***

*(Gen 2:7)*

- ✦ What is the dust of the earth?
  - ✦ Now know from science it's star dust.  
Humans are created from already existing elements by God's own action.
- ✦ God prepared the way. Before humans were the plants and animals. The biological nature preceded man.
- ✦ What differentiates humans from animals?
  - ✦ Our soul.

# What is Nature of the Soul?



✦ *The soul is the breath of God, and while being heavenly, it endures being mixed with what is of the dust.* Saint Gregory the Theologian



✦ *The Soul is an essence **created, living, and noetic**, transmitting from itself to an organized and sentient body the **power of living** and of grasping objects of sense, as long as a natural constitution capable of this holds together.* Gregory of Nyssa

✦ *The soul is a part of God in the human person,* Gregory the Theologian

✦ It through the soul that we can come to know God.

# What is Nature of the Soul?

- ✦ Completely different from the body and everything material.
- ✦ *“What is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”* (Matt 16:26)
- ✦ *“Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul.”* (Matt 10:28)
- ✦ Integral with body until at death, the the bond of soul and body is broken, but not cut off forever, as we will arise in a renewed form uniting body and soul.

# What is Nature of the Soul?

- ✦ What is function of the soul?
- ✦ Church Fathers Show:  
Soul is to **govern** strivings of the body,  
and the body is to accept this governance. Key for our  
perfection.
- ✦ Possesses reason, self-awareness, and **free will**.
- ✦ Body is a tool or instrument of an artist,  
Soul is the artist - not in a dualistic sense.
- ✦ Soul is a power to bring all members of our organism into  
full harmony and full unity to do God's work.

# What is Nature of Soul?

- ◆ Do you know your soul?  
How?

# How Was Man Created ?



- ✦ Creation proceeds from the lower to the higher, from plants to animals to men.
- ✦ Many resemblances between the human body and animals, especially those of the higher animals.
- ✦ Both the human body and animals were designed by the same Maker.

# How Was Man Created ?



- ◆ He is different from all else because God breathes life into him - endows him with '*a living soul*' (Gen. 2, 7).
- ◆ Body is made from '*the dust of the ground*' (Gen. 2, 7) - various chemical elements, hydrogen, oxygen, carbon, calcium, iron, magnesium, sodium, phosphorus, etc. which are all found in the earth - stardust
- ◆ Process of Creation is miraculous - remains a mystery
- ◆ Biggest mistake is assuming absolute knowledge about these things.



# How Was Man Created ?



- ✦ Last in chain of Creation is not man, but specifically woman. Although Eve began the process of the Fall, the greatest human-being in the Kingdom of Heaven, 'more honorable than the cherubim and beyond compare more glorious than the seraphim', is not a man, but a woman.
- ✦ Spiritually, woman stands higher than man.



# What is Special about the Creation of Man?

- ✦ Saint Theodore:

*God created all other creatures with His word but Man He **created with His own hands**... Showing the greater care God had for man than other creatures.*



- ✦ Saint Basil the Great:

*If you consider nature alone, man is nothing and has no value; but if you regard the **honor** with which he has been created, man is something great...*

- ✦ *There is more....*

# Man Made in Image of God.

- ✦ Genesis:

*God said, Let **US** make man **in OUR image, after our likeness; and let him have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the air... and over all the earth... So God created man **in His own image**, in the image of God created He him. (Gen. 1:26-27)***

- ✦ Three Persons took counsel together and made Man in their own image.

- ✦ Man is the peak of creation -

They made man '**in our image, after our likeness**' (Gen. 1, 26).

# Man Made in Image of God.

- ✦ Can we say we are animals?
- ✦ Man was a distinct creation with a higher purpose on earth than rest of creation -  
Called to perfect himself in God's *likeness*.
- ✦ God's image in man testifies to a reflection of the very attributes of God in our spiritual nature.

# Man Made in Image of God.

- ✿ What does this word **image** mean?
  - ✿ An **icon** or picture.
  - ✿ We are created as a **living picture** of God.
- ✿ Not same as God but something **like God**.
- ✿ Have the **capacity** to receive God's **revelation** and act responsibility in obedience to God.
- ✿ We have a special **personal relationship** with Him.
- ✿ We have **capacity** to **love** as God loves us
- ✿ We have the power of **creativity, love** and privilege of **fellowship** with Him.

# What does it mean, created in **image** and **likeness** of God?

- ✦ **Image** of God is in the very **nature of the soul**, **Likeness** comes in **moral perfecting** of humankind, acquiring gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- ✦ We **receive** the **image** of God with our existence, we must **acquire** the likeness given this possibility.
- ✦ To become in the likeness of God depends on **cooperation** of our **free will** - **Synergia**.
- ✦ This is essence of Human nature and purpose in Orthodox Spirituality.

# Man highest creation of God

## ✦ *What is Free Will?*

- ✦ God had no necessity to create. He Created with free will
- ✦ Humankind was then created in His image with same freedom - with potential to grow through freewill.
- ✦ Means we can reject God if we choose.
- ✦ God will not force Himself on us.
- ✦ He wants us to love Him and this can only happen through voluntary action of our will.
- ✦ We each have unique skills and are unique in how we grow into His image. We must cooperate with God.
- ✦ We must learn to align our own will voluntarily with will of God.

# Created in **Image** and **Likeness** of God



Our **Natural** Condition



# Invisible & Angels

*Maker of all things visible and invisible.*

# Invisible & Angels

- ✦ What is meant by *invisible*?
- ✦ **Spiritual world** where angels belong  
All we cannot see or understand.
- ✦ What are angels?
  - ✦ Incorporeal Spirits, having intelligence, will and power engaged in unceasing praise of God.
  - ✦ Word means **messenger**.  
God sends them to announce **His will**. Gabriel sent to announce to Mary the conception of the Savior.
- ✦ First the invisible realm was created, then angels, then the visible realm.



# Angels

- ✦ Hierarchy of angels
  - ✦ Seraphim, cherubim and thrones illumined by the divine light and partake of divine mysteries of Godhead directly
  - ✦ Dominions, powers, authorities
  - ✦ Principalities, archangels, angels receive illumination by devolution through the higher ranks
  - ✦ There are “tens of thousands” or “thousand thousands” angels



# Invisible & Angels

- ✦ Do we all have a guardian angel?
- ✦ **Yes.** Jesus says, *“Take heed that you despise not one of these little ones: for I say unto you, that in heaven their Angels do always behold the face of My Father, which is in heaven.”*
- ✦ Generally believed that such an angel is assigned at the time of our Baptism.



# Invisible & Angels

- ✦ Are all Angels good and beneficent?
  - ✦ No. there are also evil angels called devils.
- ✦ How did they become evil?
  - ✦ They were created good but failed to be obedient to God and fell away from His with self-will, pride and malice.
  - ✦ *Apostle Jude says they are “the Angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation.” (Jude 6)*

# Invisible & Angels

- ✦ What is meaning of word devil?
  - ✦ Slanderer or deceiver
- ✦ Fallen angels are called this because they lay snares for men, seek to deceive them and inspire them with false notions.
- ✦ How do we know this is not mere superstition?

# I Believe

- ✦ Questions on first section

*1. I believe in One God, the Father almighty. Maker of all things visible and invisible.*