
Sermon Notes

August 27, 2023

First Congregational Church of Pomfret

God the Father Almighty

Isaiah 40:28-31, Ephesians 3:20

Apostolic Teaching

- ❖ The Apostles' Creed it is not contained in Scripture and it was not designed or written by any of Jesus' 12 Apostles
 - it does, however, summarize the core of Apostolic teaching in a clear, concise, easy to remember format
 - the Creed consolidates what all Christians believe in a single, concise, basic statement
 - although Christians embrace more truth than the Creed contains
 - no one who truly follows Christ will believe in less truth than those which are summarized in it
- ❖ Every word in the Apostles' Creed matters!

■ *I believe*

- our faith is personal
- our faith has content (propositional truth)

■ *in God*

- literally: *I am believing into God*
- I live in a continuing state of relationship with and commitment to God

■ *the Father*

- adoption is the highest privilege the gospel offers
- a special Father/child relationship with God that allows us to call Him *Abba*

Almighty

- ❖ In contrast to any earthly father or any pagan deities, the God of the Bible is the God who possesses ALL power
 - God is not simply mighty, He is ALL-mighty
 - unlike pagan deities in the ancient world who were seen as having regional or local powers, God was known by the ancient Israelites as the "Almighty One"
- ❖ Our omnipotent God has unlimited, infinite power
 - Psalm 62:11, Hebrews 7:25, 2 Corinthians 9:8, Jude 1:24, Ephesians 3:20
 - though God is all powerful, there are some things God cannot do (die, go out of existence, lie, go back on His Word, break His promises, change His plans)
 - to confess that God is almighty means we believe that God exercises complete dominion and absolute control over His creation
- ❖ What good would it do for you to have a heavenly Father who was less than almighty?
 - the Apostles' Creed links God's fatherhood with His omnipotence
 - Romans 8:28-33
 - the loving heart of an all-powerful Father moves the almighty hand

- ❖ *My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.* (Psalm 121:2)
- ❖ Whatever God deems good, whatever pleases God, God does
- ❖ There isn't any power anywhere that doesn't have God as its source
 - all human power and ability ultimately belong to God
 - God delegates power to His creation but He never relinquishes power
 - even the little power Satan has, comes from God
 - Martin Luther: "The devil is God's devil."
 - though Satan prowls around like a lion, he is a lion on a chain who cannot go beyond the boundaries established for him by God

Infinite Power

- ❖ There is an extended discourse on God's power in Job 25-26
 - Job sums it up in 26:14 by saying that all we know about God and His power *are the fringes of His ways...* a small whisper of God's omnipotence
 - no matter how much we know about God's power, we only know "a whisper" of it
- ❖ Infinite power has no limits or boundaries
 - nothing is hard for God
 - God wills something and it is done (Jeremiah 32:17, 27)
- ❖ Remembering God's unlimited power gives us tremendous incentive to pray to God boldly and persistently

Irresistible Power

- ❖ No one can thwart, resist or undermine God's purposes (Job 42:2, Isaiah 42:13)
- ❖ God effortlessly prevails over human rebellion and Satanic resistance
 - the battle between God and Satan is not a stalemate or a tug of war
 - even if the whole world, Satan and all demonic powers were aligned against God, it would still take no effort for God to make His will prevail
 - evil and death will not win!

Inexhaustible Power

- ❖ God's power does not diminish over time
 - God never has more or less power than He has always had
 - unlike us, God doesn't grow old
- ❖ The Lord gives strength to His people (Isaiah 40:28-31, Philippians 4:13)

Incomprehensible Power

- ❖ God's power is beyond our ability to understand it (Ephesians 3:20)
- ❖ God's power works in us, for us, through us, in ways that far outstrip what we can ask or think
- ❖ Only the unlimited power of God that is capable of raising people who are dead in sin to life

