

problem:

who is Jesus - which Jesus

When the Apostles' Creed was drawn up, the chief enemy was Gnosticism, which denied that Jesus was truly Man; and the emphases of the Apostles' Creed reflect a concern with repudiating this error.

When the Nicene Creed was drawn up, the chief enemy was Arianism, which denied that Jesus was fully God

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son].
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. AMEN.

“Jesus never claimed to be God’

John sets out to show that not only is Jesus God the Incarnate Word but that He claimed to be so in the most bold way possible using seven I AM statements - saying I AM God

Text:**Jesus is God**

John 1:1 In the beginning was (imperfect) the Word (**the Word was**), and the Word was (imperfect) with God (**always**), and the Word was (imperfect) God (**one God three persons**).

In the beginning-

Matt (went back to David and Abraham - the promised King of prophecy)

Mark (went back to John the Baptist - all the sudden the hero emerges)

Luke (went back to the birth narratives - history and to Adam theologically as the second adam the perfect man)

John begins with Gen 1:1 and ends Jn 20:28; 31 (went to the beginning -He is God)

John does not include Jesus' genealogy, birth, baptism, temptation, casting out of demons, parables, transfiguration, instituting of the Lord's Supper, His agony in Gethesemane, or His Ascension. John's presentation of Jesus stresses His ministry in Jerusalem, the feasts of the Jewish nation, Jesus' contacts with individuals in private conversations (e.g., chaps. 3-4; 18:28-19:16), and His ministry to His disciples (chaps. 13-17).

7 I AM statements in - (John 6:35; 8:123; 10:7, 9; 10:11, 14; 11:25; 14:6; 15:1, 5)

the greatest statement is seen in 8:52-59 - I AM - (Exodus 3:13-14)

the key point is repeated over 98 times- believe - do you?

the Word was God — not a god - John 1:6

Divine wisdom manifest - Jn 1:18 (one thought expressed from the original language)

True God from true God - eternally begotten not made - of one being with the Father

John 1:2 He was in the beginning with God.

Eternally Begotten (in relationship with) the Father

there is one God - Mk 12:28-29 (deut 6:4)

in three persons - Gen 1:26

the Father is God - Phil 1:2; the Son is God Titus 2:13; the Spirit is God Acts 5:3-4

True God from True God

the father is not the son etc - Matt 3:16-17; 28:19

Eternally the Son, begotten not made -Isaiah 43:10-11

of one being with the Father - Jn 19:7; 5:18 - of the same essence = was in the beginning

Maker of all things

John 1:3 All things were made (aorist - one act) through him, and without him was not any thing (not one single thing) made that was made.

Col 1:15-20 - all things created through Him

the Word was God - Heb 1:1-3

The Incarnate Word

John 1:4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

In Him was life = Incarnate - life the light of men - Jn 1:9-14

darkness= death reigned in Adam - Gen 2:15-17; 3:6-7, 20-21(born again) Rom 5:12-17 -

Christ brought life - 1 Cor 15:20-22; 2 cor 5:16-17 (a new - re-creation) -hence the new 'let there

be light...'

The 'Let there be light' of a new creation

John 1:5 The light shines in the darkness (present tense), and the darkness has not overcome it.

people who walked in darkness have seen a great light - Isaiah 9:1-7 (Matt 4)

light shines and darkness does not overcome- Jn 3:19; 8:12; 9:5; 12:46; 1 Jn 2:7-8; 4:4

Implication: it still does not overcome it - 2 Cor 4:4-6

Main Idea:

Jesus is God

True God from true God, eternally begotten, not made, of one being with the Father

Maker of all things

The incarnate Word

The 'let there be light' of a new creation

Implication: 2 Cor 4:4-6

A.W. Tozer (devotional)

Bible-believing Christians stand together on this. They may have differing opinions about the mode of baptism, church polity or the return of the Lord. But they agree on the deity of the eternal Son. Jesus Christ is of one substance with the Father—begotten, not created (Nicene Creed). In our defense of this truth we must be very careful and very bold--belligerent, if need be.

here is why -

There is no Jesus that is a good teacher who is not also the Divine Wisdom personified.

There is no Jesus who is a loving shepherd who is not also the Creator of the universe.

There is no Jesus the friend of sinners who is not also Jesus the supreme ruler of matter itself.

There is no Jesus the good example who is not also the very doorway to the New Creation.

There is no other Jesus - this is who He is.

Application:

Do you believe it.

notes - study the Nicene creed

<http://www.spurgeon.org/~phil/creeds/nicene.htm>

eternal sonship of Christ - eternally begotten

<http://www.gotquestions.org/eternal-Sonship.html>

the Deity of Christ

<http://www.middletonbiblechurch.org/manchris/manchr4.htm>