

Sola Confirmation Series: Apostles' Creed – First Article

Test: 120 pts total / Score: _____ Name: _____

Fill in the blanks from the First Article of the Apostles' Creed, and Luther's explanation of it in the Small Catechism: (36 points; 1 point for each blank)

The First Article:

I _____ in _____, the Father _____, _____ of heaven and _____.

What does this mean?

I _____ that _____ has created _____ and all that _____; that he has _____ me and still _____ my body and _____, my eyes and _____, my _____ and all my _____, together with food and _____, home and _____ and all my _____. Every day he _____ abundantly for _____ the _____ of my life. He protects me _____ all _____, and _____ and _____ me from every _____. He does this _____ out of _____ and _____ goodness and _____, though I do not _____ it. Therefore I _____ to thank, _____, serve and _____ him. This is _____ certainly _____!

Fill in the blanks: (12 points; 1 point for each blank)

1. The word "Trinity" means: "_____-in-_____."
2. There are three sections or "_____" in the Apostles' Creed: The first is about God the _____, the second is about God the _____, and the third is about God the _____.
3. A _____ is a person who takes care of things that belong to another.
4. The Bible teaches us the basic concepts of Stewardship:
 - a) "_____ - _____ Giving" is when we remember to give our offering to God before we use our money for anything else.
 - b) "_____ Giving" is when we calculate our offerings based on a portion of what we have earned. Giving an offering of _____% is what the Bible calls "Tithing."

Give a short answer to the following questions: (24 points total)

5. What is a Creed? (2 points)

6. Give three reasons why we have creeds: (2 points each)

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

7. The manager of a store has two main responsibilities: a) maintaining the building and grounds, and b) keeping track of the store's finances for the owner. What are the two main responsibilities we have in being **stewards** of God? (2 points each)

a. _____

b. _____

8. What is the difference between believing that there is such a thing as God, and actually having faith in God? (4 points)

9. According to how Martin Luther explains the first article of Creed, what reasons do we have to "thank, praise, serve, and obey" God? (4 points)

10. Give an example or a story from the Bible that shows how God takes care of us. Describe what happens in the story, or tell what the example means: (4 points)

Match the following words with their definitions by drawing a line between them. There is one extra definition you will not use. (9 points; 1 point each)

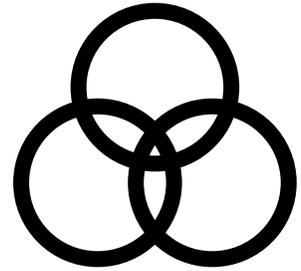
- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 11) Preserve | something that is a quality of God himself (god-like, or godly) |
| 12) Divine | make sure something remains in good condition |
| 13) Praise | supply what is needed for something's care |
| 14) Obey | speak well of something |
| 15) Provide | make something from nothing with imaginative skill |
| 16) Article | do what someone says |
| 17) Create | sinning against God |
| 18) Trinity | taking care of what belongs to someone else |
| 19) Stewardship | God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit |
| | a distinct part of a written document |

20) True / False Questions: Circle T or F (15 points; 1 point each)

- T F The Apostles' Creed was written by the twelve apostles
- T F Jesus Christ is not God
- T F The Holy Spirit is God
- T F God created the universe
- T F To say we believe in the Trinity means we believe in three separate Gods
- T F God said that everything he created was good -- including me!
- T F God protects and defends his creation
- T F Being a steward is like being a manager of what belongs to God
- T F We are to use God's gifts by caring for the needs of others
- T F God doesn't care if we pollute the environment; it's ours to use as we want
- T F What we do with our money is our own business, not God's
- T F Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are together one God
- T F Throughout history, people have had different scientific world-views
- T F Giving an offering in Church is an important way we do the work of God
- T F As God's stewards, everything we possess belongs to us

Thought Questions. Please write your answers in complete sentences. (5 points each)

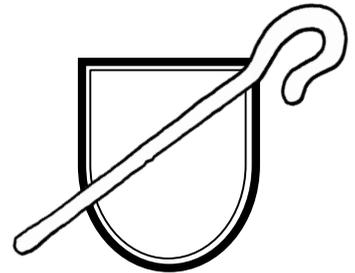
21) Why does the Church use the picture of three interlocking circles as a symbol for the Trinity? How does this symbol describe what God is like?



22) In what way is a watch a good 'object lesson' to remind us that God is the Creator of the universe? Could a watch be formed randomly or by accident? For a watch to come into being, what must be present?



23) In what ways does a hooked shepherd's staff remind us of God's *providence*? (Hint: think of at least three different functions a shepherd uses a staff for.)



24) In what way is it true that "everything we have belongs to God"? How should this affect the way we use the things we have been entrusted with?

