

## The Creeds of Man By Trey Sullins

Is the Bible enough? This is the simple question that should be easily answered by anyone who understands the Bible's claims. 2 Peter 1:3 says that God has given us "all things that pertain to life and godliness." This passage reveals that what God has given us should be enough for us to know His will and serve Him properly. Therefore, we do not need to create and devise for ourselves creeds to guide us. A creed is the system of beliefs that you follow in your faith, and in God's design there is only one creed that is appropriate – the Bible.

Man's creeds contain more than the Bible. If the Bible gives us all things that pertain to life and godliness, then nothing more is needed. If nothing more is needed, then we should never create anything which adds to the word of God. When you look back in history people have always tried to interject their own desires into God's will. Satan added "not" in Genesis 3:4. Early Christians who converted from Judaism tried to add some of the Law of Moses back into the Law of Christ (Acts 15:24). Paul even warned Timothy that these things would continue into the future (1 Timothy 4:3). We should never seek to add to the commands of God, and always reject anything that is in addition to the Bible. Jesus said it best by quoting Isaiah when the Jews did the same thing in His day: "and in vain they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men" (Matthew 15:9).

Man's creeds contain less than the Bible. Once again, if the Bible gives us all things that pertain to life and godliness, then anything less than the Bible is insufficient and inaccurate. When it comes to God's law, we do not have the authority to choose what we do not follow; we either serve Him or not! First Corinthians 13:10 explains that when "that which is perfect" has come, then the miraculous age will cease. "That which is perfect" is the word of God, the Bible. The word "perfect" means the Bible is complete the way that God gave it. If you took the tires away from your car, would it still be perfect? If you take any part of God's will away, then it is no longer complete. In Deuteronomy 12:32, God warned, "you shall not add to it [God's commands] nor take away from it." All throughout history we find the constant result to those who try – punishment.

Man's creeds are sinful. Anything that differs from the God's word cannot be the pattern and guide to lead someone to God! Consider the great examples of Daniel, Shadrack, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. All four of these men refused to forsake the Almighty by following the creeds of men. They were all blessed for their great choices. On the contrary, Nadab and Abihu of Leviticus 10:1-2 and Ananias and Saphira of Acts 5:1-5 all tried to change the commands of God for something more convenient to them. In the end, they all were punished with death for their choices. The Bible is truly inspired by God, and it is only His words that are profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness.

There is only one book of God, and it is His Bible. The choice is set before us in our lives to serve Him according to His will or serve man's will. Seeing the examples of so many who have gone before us shows that this task is easy when you study, understand, and love His word. When we read Psalm 119, we can see the strong dedication we ought to have to God's word. Let us always keep God's word hidden in our hearts so that we might never sin against Him (Psalm 119:11).