THE APOSTLES' CREED;
COLLATED CHIEPLY FROM THE
WORKS OF
BISHOP PEARSON, DR. BARROW,
AND DR. HAMMOND, ETC. ETC.

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R. C. GIBSON

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BY

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SHORT PREFACE.

Ir may be urged that many of the questions in this compilation are childish. To this objection the author answers that it was written for the young in humble life, who had not access to the works it was taken from, nor time to read them if they had them.

"Butler's Analogy" has been found on the shelves of more than one factory operative, but these are rare, and quite exceptional instances.

THE APOSTLES' CREED.

I believe.

- Q. How many parts are there in belief?
- A. Two: one of the brain, the other of the heart.
- Q. Must both be joined together?
- A. Yes. "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thy heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Rom. x. 9.
 - Q. What do you mean by "I believe in God"?
- A. I believe, generally implies a doubt. Here it means, I have not the least doubt that there is a God.
 - Q. Why do you believe what God told you?
- A. Because God is so wise that nobody can deceive Him, and He is too good to tell me what is untrue.
- P. 1 Tim. i. 17. "The only wise God."
 - Rom. xvi. 27. "To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever."
 - 1 Sam. ii. 3. "The Lord is a God of knowledge." (Here knowledge is a plural word, put for all knowledge.)
 - Numbers xxiii. 19. "God is not a man that He should lie."

1 Sam. xv. 29. "The strength of Israel will not lie nor repent."

Titus i. 2. "God that cannot lie."

- Q. By whom has God spoken to men?
- A. Before Jesus Christ lived He spoke to mankind through the prophets. But He has now spoken to all men through Jesus Christ in His manhood.
- P. Heb. i. I, 2. "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son."
- Q. When you say, "I believe in God," must you do no more than say so?
- A. Yes. I must say so with my lips, but I must also believe in Him with my heart.
- P. Rom, x. 10. "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."
 - Q. What good will your belief in God do for you?
- A. I could not have been baptized unless my godfathers and godmother had promised for me that I should believe in God; and if I always continue to do so, my belief in Him will save my soul.
- P. Acts viii. 37. "And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest," i.e., be baptized.
 - St. Mark xvi. 16. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, and he that believeth not shall be damned."
 - Q. Whom do you say you believe in?
 - A. In God.
 - Q. What is God?

- A. A Spirit.
- P. St. John iv. 24. "God is a Spirit."
 - Q. Was there ever a time when God was not?
 - A. No, He is from everlasting.
- P. Psalm xc. 2. "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God."
 - Q. Can God die?
- A. No, He is immortal, a word meaning, "cannot die."
- P. 1 Tim. i. 17. "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever."
- Q. Are there not many gods mentioned in the Bible?
- A. Yes, besides the heathen gods of wood and stone, judges, kings, and great men were sometimes called gods.
 - Q. Are they like the God you believe in?
- A. No; they were not really gods though called so. They could not give life to a dead man, or even make a common living animal. So our God is called the God of gods, and all other gods are told to worship Him. Isa. xliv. 10—17.
- "O give thanks unto the God of gods." Ps. exxxvi. 2.
- P. 1 Cor. viii. 5, 6. "For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many and lords many), but to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things."

Psalm lxxxii. I, 6. "God standeth in the congregation of the mighty; He judgeth among the gods."

"I have said, Ye are gods, and all of you are

children of the Most High."

Psalm xevii. 7. "Worship Him, all ye gods."

- St. John x. 34—36. "Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; say ye of Him whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?"
- Q. Can you live without God?
- A. No, I could not.
- P. Acts xvii. 28. "For in Him we live, and move, and have our being."
- P. Psalm exxxix. 7—12. "Whither shall I go from Thy Spirit? or whither shall I flee from Thy presence?

"If I ascend up into heaven, Thou art there; if I make my bed in hell, behold Thou art there.

- "If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- "Even there shall Thy hand lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me.
- "If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me, even the night shall be light about me.
- "Yea, the darkness hideth not from Thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to Thee."
- Q. Does God know what you say and think?
- A. Yes; He knows everything I have said, and

what I think, and what I have always thought, even before my thoughts came into my mind.

P. Rom. ii. 16. "God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ." Therefore He must know them before He can judge them.

Romans viii. 27. "He that searcheth the hearts."

Jeremiah xvii. 10. "I, the Lond search the heart,
I try the reins."

- I Chronicles xxviii. 9. "The Lord searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts."
- Q. What must your belief in God make you do?
- A. It must make me love Him better than any one else, and try to do what He wishes me to do, and always to think what is good; or else my belief will be no better than that of devils, for "they believe and tremble."
- P. St. James ii. 19, 20. "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?"

I believe in God the Father.

- Q. Who taught you to call God your Father?
- A. Jesus Christ.
- Q. Dared you have called Him so of yourself?
 A. No.
- P. St. Matt. vi. 9. "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father, which art in heaven."
 - Q. Why do you call God the Father?
 - A. Because He made the world and all things in it.