

The Attributes of the Church

One, Holy, Catholic,
Apostolic

The Attributes of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

The Nicene Creed

The Attributes of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

The Nicene Creed

Emperor Constantine

The Attributes of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

The Nicene Creed

Emperor Constantine

Council of Nicea 325 A.D.

The Attributes of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

The Nicene Creed

“We believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible

The Attributes of the Church:

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The Nicene Creed

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of the Father before all ages,
God of God,

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The Nicene Creed

Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made;
being of one substance with the Father.

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The Nicene Creed

“...And I believe **one holy catholic and apostolic Church**. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.”

The Attributes of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

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The Westminster Confession of Faith

25.1 “The **catholic** or **universal** church, which is invisible, consists of the whole number of the elect, that have been, are, or shall be gathered into **one**, under Christ the head thereof;

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25.2 “The visible church, which is also catholic or universal **under the gospel** (not confined to one nation, as before under the law), consists of all those throughout the world that profess the true religion;

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“...and of their children: and is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, the house and family of God, out of which there is no ordinary possibility of salvation.”

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25.3 “Unto this catholic visible church Christ hath given the ministry, oracles, and ordinances of God, for the **gathering and perfecting of the saints**, in this life, to the end of the world:

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“...and doth, **by his own presence and Spirit,** according to his promise, make them effectual thereunto.”

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One

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Ephesians 2:11-22

¹¹ Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands—

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Ephesians 2:11-22

¹² remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

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Ephesians 2:11-22

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility

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Ephesians 2:11-22

¹⁵ by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

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Ephesians 2:11-22

¹⁷ And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.

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Ephesians 2:11-22

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, ^[d] but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone,

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Ephesians 2:11-22

²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

²² In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

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Ephesians 5:31-32

³¹ “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” ³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

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One

John 10:16

²⁰ “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

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¹Ephesians 4:3

³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace

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Holy

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Holy

Set Apart

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Holy

Set Apart

Separated from the world

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Holy

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Dedicated to God's service

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Holy

Set Apart

Separated from the world

Dedicated to God's service

Consecrated

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Set Apart

Separated from the world

Dedicated to God's service

Consecrated

Made Clean

The Attributes of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

Holy

Set Apart

Separated from the world

Dedicated to God's service

Consecrated

Made Clean

Purified

The Attributes of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

Holy

Leviticus 11:44-45

44 For I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. You shall not defile yourselves with any swarming thing that crawls on the ground.

45 For I am the LORD who brought you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.”

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Holy

Leviticus 20:6-8

6 “If a person turns to mediums and necromancers, whoring after them, I will set my face against that person and will cut him off from among his people. 7 Consecrate yourselves, therefore, and be holy, for I am the LORD your God. 8 Keep my statutes and do them; I am the LORD who sanctifies you.

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Leviticus 20:25-26

25 You shall therefore separate the clean beast from the unclean, and the unclean bird from the clean. You shall not make yourselves detestable by beast or by bird or by anything with which the ground crawls, which I have set apart for you to hold unclean. 26

You shall be holy to me, for I the LORD am holy and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be mine.

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1 Peter 1:14-16

¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, ¹⁵ but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶ since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

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Holy

Ed Clowney

“The Bible gives us God’s own plan for claiming a holy people. Because they belong to the Separated One, his people are separate: a redeemed people, cleansed of sin and drawn closer than the angels to the love of the righteous Father

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Ed Clowney

“In the Old Testament, an elaborate structure of ceremonial and civil law marks out the distinctiveness of the people God calls to be holy. Sin is imaged as filth, and as ceremonial ‘uncleanness’. It is a contagion, linked with diet, blood, bodily excretions and death..”

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Ed Clowney

“The radical revelation of the Old Covenant is that the Holy One, who dwells on high, and whose eyes are too pure to look upon evil, nevertheless comes to dwell among his people.”

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1 Corinthians 1:2

² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

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1 Corinthians 6:11

“...But you were **washed**, you were **sanctified**, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

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Ephesians 5:25-27

⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might **sanctify** her, having **cleansed** her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, **that she might be holy and without blemish.**

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Ed Clowney

“The life of holiness is the life of faith in which the believer, with a deepening knowledge of his own sin and helplessness apart from Christ, increasingly casts himself upon the Lord, and seeks the power of the Spirit and the wisdom and comfort of the Bible to battle against the world, the flesh, and the devil”

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Genesis 12:2-3

“²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

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Psalm 2:7-8

I will tell of the decree:

The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;

today I have begotten you.

8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,

and the ends of the earth your possession.

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Isaiah 2:2

It shall come to pass in the latter days

that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,

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Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
² that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.

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Psalm 67

- ³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!
- ⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.

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Psalm 67

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!

The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, shall bless us.

⁷ God shall bless us;
let all the ends of the earth fear him!

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Matthew 28:19-20

“⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

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Revelation 5:8-10

⁸ And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying,

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Revelation 6:8-10

“Worthy are you to take the scroll

and to open its seals,

for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people
for God

from every tribe and language and people and nation,

The Attributes of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic

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Revelation 6:8-10

“and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our
God,
and they shall reign on the earth.”

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Revelation 7:9-10

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

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Revelation 7:9-10

and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

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Herman Bavinck

“Christianity is a world religion suited and intended for every people and age, for every class and rank, for every time and place. That church is most catholic that most clearly expresses in its confession and applies in its practice this international and cosmopolitan character of the Christian religion”.

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Ed Clowney

“Catholicity is not a wide gate opening to a broad road, but that narrow gate to which that Lord of the church calls us. Catholicity means that the church is Christ’s. We cannot exclude whom he welcomes, or welcome those whom he excludes”.

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1 Timothy 1:8-11

⁸ Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, ⁹ understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers,

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1 Timothy 1:8-11

¹⁰ the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers,^[a] liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound^[b] doctrine, ¹¹ in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

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1 Corinthians 15:1-5

Now I would remind you, brothers,^[a] of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand,² and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

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1 Corinthians 15:1-5

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

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