

The Nicene Creed A.D.325:-

This year (2025) marks the 1700 anniversary of the Nicene Creed. As it is still the Season of Christmas we look briefly at what it says about the Incarnation of the Lord Jesus Christ. The appropriate section of the original text from Nicaea (direct translation from the Latin and Greek) reads:-

*'I believe' in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the Son of God,
begotten from the Father, only-begotten,
that is, from the substance of the Father,
God from God,
light from light,
true God from true God,
begotten not made,
of one substance with the Father,
through Whom all things came into being,
things in heaven and things on earth,
Who because of us men and because of our salvation came down,
and became incarnate
and became man*

In these 'days after Christmas' it is of value to re-read some appropriate passages of scripture and reflect on the wonder of the Incarnation. Along with the familiar reading from the Gospel of John, chapter 1, verses 1 – 14 see also Hebrews chapter 1, verses 1 – 14 and the Epistle to the Colossians, chapter 1, verses 15 to 23.

In all of these remember that it is “. . . because of (for) us men and because of (for) our salvation” that the Incarnation took place, see Philippians chapter 2, verses 5 – 11. There is enough in these readings to keep our minds and hearts occupied, not just for 'a few days after Christmas' but for the rest of our lives!

*Come, ye faithful, raise the anthem,
cleave the skies with shouts of praise;
sing to him who found the ransom,
Ancient of eternal days,
God of God, the Word incarnate,
whom the heaven of heaven obeys.*

*Ere he raised the lofty mountains,
formed of the seas, or built the sky,
love eternal, free and boundless,
moved the Lord of life to die,
foreordained the Prince of princes
for the throne of Calvary.*

Job Hupton 1762 – 1849 altered by J. M. Neale 1818 – 1866