

# The Nicene Creed

## OUTLINE

### Introduction

#### I. What a Creed is meant to do

#### II. NT origins of the Creeds

1 Cor. 15:3-4

2 Cor. 13:13

Phlp. 2:6-11

Mt. 28:19

#### III. Gnosticism and St. Irenaeus's response

St. Irenaeus of Lyons (c. 130-c. 200)

Rule of Faith

#### V. Background to Nicea (325) & Constantinople (381)

Sabellians (modalists)

Adoptionists

Subordinationists

Arius of Alexandria (c. 260-336)

Alexander of Alexandria (d. 328)

Emperor Constantine (c. 285-337)

St. Athanasius of Alexandria (c. 295-373)

Cappadocians

St. Basil of Caesarea (the Great) (329-379)

St. Gregory of Nyssa (335-395)

St. Gregory of Nazianzus (329-389)

Emperor Theodosius I (346-395)

#### VI. Elements of the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed

“consubstantial”

Marcellus of Ancyra (c. 280-374)

Holy Spirit = Ruah – Breath of God

#### VII. Springboard for Our Christian Life Today

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