



The Small Catechism of Doctor Martin Luther

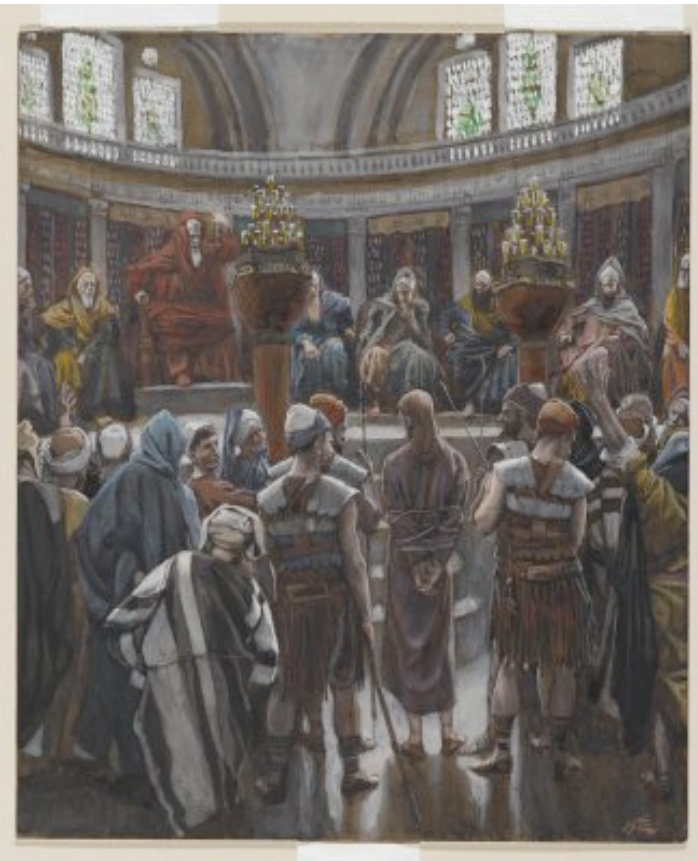
The Creed, the Second Chief Part: The Gospel

Explanation of the Second Article

I believe that Jesus Christ is true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary; and that He is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood, and with His innocent suffering and death; in order that I might be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness; even as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. **This is most certainly true.**

You cast your sins from yourself onto Christ when you firmly believe that His wounds and sufferings are your sins, to be borne and paid for by Him, as we read in Isaiah 53, "The Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all." St. Peter says, "in His body He has borne our sins on the wood of the cross." (1 Peter 2:24) St. Paul says, "God has made Him a sinner for us, so that through Him we would be made just." (2 Corinthians 5:21) You must stake everything on these and similar verses. The more your conscience torments you, the more tenaciously must you cling to them. If you do not do that, but presume to still your conscience with your contrition and penance, you will never obtain peace of mind. – **Martin Luther, A Meditation on Christ's Passion, LW 42, pp. 12-13.**

FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE - MATTHEW 26:59-67



"The chief priests, the elders, and all the council sought false testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none. Even though many false witnesses came forward, they found none. But at last two false witnesses came forward and said, 'This fellow said, "I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'" And the high priest arose and said to Him, 'Do You answer nothing? What is it these men testify against You?' But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, 'I put you under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!' Jesus said to him, 'It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.' Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, 'He has spoken blasphemy! What further need do we have of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy! What do you think?' They answered and said, 'He is deserving of death.' Then they spat in His face and beat Him."

A VERSE TO REMEMBER

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. **John 1:1-3**

Jesus is judged and condemned by the high council
James Tissot, opaque watercolor over graphite - 1894