I Believe in an Almighty Creator

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Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (John 20:29-31)

Evangelical Christians believe that God is the all-<u>knowing</u>, all-<u>powerful</u>, <u>perfect</u> deity who <u>created</u> the universe and still <u>rules</u> it today.

I. There is only **One True** and **Living God**.

You were shown these things so that you might know that the LORD is God; besides him there is no other. From heaven he made you hear his voice to discipline you. On earth he showed you his great fire, and you heard his words from out of the fire. Because he loved your ancestors and chose their descendants after them, he brought you out of Egypt by his Presence and his great strength, to drive out before you nations greater and stronger than you and to bring you into their land to give it to you for your inheritance, as it is today.

Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other. Keep his decrees and commands, which I am giving you today, so that it may go well with you and your children after you and that you may live long in the land the LORD your God gives you for all time. (Deuteronomy 4:35-40)

One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' (Mark 12:28-30)

The LORD is exalted, for he dwells on high; he will fill Zion with his justice and righteousness. He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the LORD is the key to this treasure. (Isaiah 33:5-6)

II. God is omniscient.

He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name. Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit. (Psalms 147:4-5) "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades. For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Sodom, it would have remained to this day. (Matthew 11:21-23)

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. (Matthew 10:29-30)

You have searched me, LORD, and you know me.

You know when I sit and when I rise;

you perceive my thoughts from afar.

You discern my going out and my lying down;

you are familiar with all my ways.

Before a word is on my tongue

you, LORD, know it completely.

You hem me in behind and before,

and you lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,

too lofty for me to attain.

Where can I go from your Spirit?

Where can I flee from your presence?

If I go up to the heavens, you are there;

if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn,

if I settle on the far side of the sea,

even there your hand will guide me,

your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me

and the light become night around me,"

even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day,

for darkness is as light to you.

For you created my inmost being;

you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

your works are wonderful,

I know that full well.

My frame was not hidden from you

when I was made in the secret place,

when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes saw my unformed body;

all the days ordained for me were written in your book

before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! (Psalms 139:1-17)

III. God is omnipotent.

"To whom will you compare me?
Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens:
Who created all these?
He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name.
Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. (Isaiah 40:25-26)

"I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted. (Job 42:2)

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. He gathers the waters of the sea into jars; he puts the deep into storehouses. Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him. For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm. (Psalms 33:6-9)

The LORD reigns, he is robed in majesty;
the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength;
indeed, the world is established, firm and secure.
Your throne was established long ago;
you are from all eternity.
The seas have lifted up, LORD,
the seas have lifted up their voice;
the seas have lifted up their pounding waves.
Mightier than the thunder of the great waters

Mightier than the thunder of the great waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea—the LORD on high is mighty.

Your statutes, LORD, stand firm; holiness adorns your house for endless days. (Psalms 93:1-5)

Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth, sing praise to the Lord,

to him who rides across the highest heavens, the ancient heavens, who thunders with mighty voice.

Proclaim the power of God,

whose majesty is over Israel,

whose power is in the heavens.

You, God, are awesome in your sanctuary;

the God of Israel gives power and strength to his people.

Praise be to God! (Psalms 68:32-35)

IV. God is <u>impeccable</u>.

- 1) Not capable of <u>sinning</u>
- 2) Free from <u>fault</u> or <u>error</u>

He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he. (Deuteronomy 32:4)

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. (1 John 1:5)

"As for God, his way is perfect: The Lord's word is flawless; he shields all who take refuge in him. (2 Samuel 22:31)

When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone... (James 1:13)

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:48)

V. God is the <u>Creator</u>.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. (John 1:1-4)

For this is what the LORD says—
he who created the heavens,
he is God;
he who fashioned and made the earth,
he founded it;
he did not create it to be empty,
but formed it to be inhabited—

he says: "I am the LORD, and there is no other.

I have not spoken in secret,

from somewhere in a land of darkness;

I have not said to Jacob's descendants,

'Seek me in vain.'

I, the LORD, speak the truth;

I declare what is right.

"Gather together and come;

assemble, you fugitives from the nations.

Ignorant are those who carry about idols of wood, who pray to gods that cannot save.

Declare what is to be, present it—

let them take counsel together.

Who foretold this long ago,

who declared it from the distant past?

Was it not I, the LORD?

And there is no God apart from me,

a righteous God and a Savior;

there is none but me.

"Turn to me and be saved,

all you ends of the earth;

for I am God, and there is no other.

By myself I have sworn,

my mouth has uttered in all integrity

a word that will not be revoked:

Before me every knee will bow;

by me every tongue will swear.

They will say of me, 'In the LORD alone are deliverance and strength.'"

All who have raged against him

will come to him and be put to shame.

But all the descendants of Israel

will find deliverance in the LORD

and will make their boast in him. (Isaiah 45:18-25)

"Woe to those who quarrel with their Maker, those who are nothing but potsherds among the potsherds on the ground.

Does the clay say to the potter,

'What are you making?'

Does your work say,

'The potter has no hands'?

Woe to the one who says to a father,

'What have you begotten?'

or to a mother,
 'What have you brought to birth?'

"This is what the LORD says—
 the Holy One of Israel, and its Maker:

Concerning things to come,
 do you question me about my children,
 or give me orders about the work of my hands?

It is I who made the earth
 and created mankind on it.

My own hands stretched out the heavens;

I marshaled their starry hosts. (Isaiah 45:9-12)

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen. (Romans 1:20-25)

This is what God the LORD says—
the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out,
who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it,
who gives breath to its people,
and life to those who walk on it:
"I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness;
I will take hold of your hand.
I will keep you and will make you
to be a covenant for the people
and a light for the Gentiles,
to open eyes that are blind,
to free captives from prison
and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness. (Isaiah 42:5-7)

VI. God is the reigning King.

The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.

But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations. (Psalms 33:10-11)

For Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." (Romans 9:17)

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. (Romans 13:1-2)

Do you not know?
Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood since the earth was founded?
He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth,
and its people are like grasshoppers.
He stretches out the heavens like a canopy,
and spreads them out like a tent to live in.
He brings princes to naught
and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing.
No sooner are they planted,
no sooner are they sown,
no sooner do they take root in the ground,
than he blows on them and they wither,

God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne. (Psalms 47:8)

and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff. (Isaiah 40:21-24)

The Lord reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord. (Psalms 146:10)

I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God.

I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting people may know there is none besides me.

I am the LORD, and there is no other.

I form the light and create darkness,
I bring prosperity and create disaster;
I, the LORD, do all these things. (Isaiah 45:5-7)

God's rule and reign will never end: Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He will not grow tired or weary,
and his understanding no one can fathom.
He gives strength to the weary
and increases the power of the weak. (Isaiah 40:28-29)

VII. The <u>display</u> of His <u>glory</u> is God's ultimate purpose.

Do not be afraid, for I am with you;
I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west.
I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.'
Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made." (Isaiah 43:5-7)

"This is what the LORD says—
Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty:
I am the first and I am the last;
apart from me there is no God.
Who then is like me? Let him proclaim it.
Let him declare and lay out before me
what has happened since I established my ancient people,
and what is yet to come—
yes, let them foretell what will come.
Do not tremble, do not be afraid.
Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago?

You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me?

No, there is no other Rock; I know not one." (Isaiah 44:6-8)

"I am the LORD; that is my name!
I will not yield my glory to another or my praise to idols.
See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being
I announce them to you." (Isaiah 42:8-9)

"Remember these things, Jacob, for you, Israel, are my servant.

Israel, I will not forget you.

I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist.

Return to me, for I have redeemed you."

Sing for joy, you heavens, for the LORD has done this; shout aloud, you earth beneath.

Burst into song, you mountains, you forests and all your trees, for the LORD has redeemed Jacob, he displays his glory in Israel. (Isaiah 44:21-23)

I have made you, you are my servant;

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:4-6)