

ISAAC NEWTON'S TWELVE ARTICLES ON GOD AND CHRIST

c. 1710s-1720s

KEYNES MS 8, KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

Artic. 1. There is one God the Father ever-living, omnipresent, omniscient, almighty, the maker of heaven and earth, and one Mediator between God and Man the Man Christ Jesus.

Artic. 2. The father is the invisible God whom no eye hath seen or can see, all other beings are sometimes visible.

Artic. 3. The Father hath life in himself and hath given the son to have life in himself.

Artic. 4. The father is omniscient and hath all knowledge originally in his own breast, and communicates knowledge of future things to Jesus Christ and none in heaven or earth or under the earth is worthy to receive knowledge of future things immediately from the father except the Lamb. And therefore the testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of Prophecy and Jesus is the Word or Prophet of God.

Artic. 5. The father is immoveable no place being capable of becoming emptier or fuller of him then it is by the eternal necessity of nature: all other beings are moveable from place to place.

Artic. 6. All the worship (whether of prayer praise or thanksgiving) which was due to the father before the coming of Christ is still due to him. Christ came not to diminish the worship of his father.

Artic. 7. Prayers are most prevalent when directed to the father in the name of the son.

Artic. 8. We are to return thanks to the father alone for creating us and giving us food and raiment and other blessings of this life and whatsoever we are to thank him for or desire that he would do for us we ask of him immediately in the name of Christ.

Artic. 9. We need not pray to Christ to intercede for us. If we pray the father aright he will intercede.

Artic. 10. It is not necessary to salvation to direct our prayers to any other than the father in the name of the Son.

Artic. 11. To give the name of God to Angels or Kings is not against the first commandment. To give the worship of the God of the Jews to Angels or Kings is against it. The meaning of the commandment is Thou shalt worship no other Gods but me.

Artic. 12. To us there is but one God the father of whom are all things and we of him, and one Lord Jesus Christ by whom are all things and we by him. That is, we are to worship the father alone as God Almighty and Jesus alone as the Lord the Messiah the great King the Lamb of God who was slain and hath redeemed us with his blood and made us kings and Priests.

Normalised ("clean text") transcription with biblical quotations and allusions underlined

Biblical quotations and allusions

Article 1: 1 Timothy 2:5 (*cf.* 1 Corinthians 8:6), with influences from the opening line of the Apostles' Creed: "I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son our Lord". **Article 2:** Colossians 1:15 (*cf.* 1 Timothy 1:17); 1 Timothy 6:16. **Article 3:** John 5:26. **Article 4:** Matthew 24:36 (*cf.* Mark 13:32); John 5:19-20, Revelation 1:1; Revelation 5:3; Revelation 19:10; Revelation 19:13. **Article 8:** 1 Timothy 6:8. **Article 10:** Ephesians 5:20. **Article 11:** Exodus 20:30. **Article 12:** 1 Corinthians 8:6; Matthew 5:35; John 1:29, 36; Revelation 5:9-10.

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