

CONCEPTS OF THE LORD

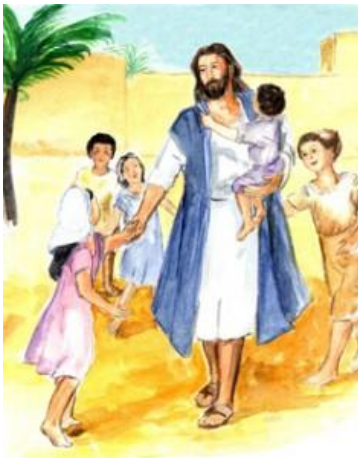
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind (Matthew 22:37).

The Lord is present with every person, urging and pressing to be received. A person receives Him, when he acknowledges the Lord as his God, Creator, Redeemer, and Savior (see *True Christian Religion* 766).

A key aspect of New Church education is helping students learn about the Lord and all that He does for us. One way to do this is to look at the many names for God that we find in the Word. Each one reflects His qualities and helps us relate to Him in different ways.

The school curriculum focuses on a different concept of the Lord at each grade level, from kindergarten through eighth grade. Here is an overview of these concepts of the Lord with some passages from the Lord's Word.

The Lord Is Our Heavenly Father (ages 5-6)



“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Thy name” (Matthew 6:9).

“Let the children come to Me” (Luke 18:16).

You, O Lord, are our Father (Isaiah 63:16).

The Lord is the heavenly Father of all people and all people are His spiritual children (see *Divine Providence* 330).

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The Lord Is Our Heavenly Father, Creator, and Provider

(ages 6-7)



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

The Lord is the Creator and Savior of all people (*Divine Providence* 330:8).

In heaven, the Lord is Father of all and loves all His children so the whole of heaven resembles one family (see *Arcana Coelestia* 2360).

Peace has in it confidence in the Lord, that He directs all things, provides all things, and leads to a good end (*Arcana Coelestia* 8455).

The Lord Is Our Shepherd and Creator

(ages 7-8)



The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want (Psalm 23:1).

God created man in His own image (Genesis 1:27).

He who trusts in the Lord is led into all the goods and truths of heaven (*Apocalypse Explained* 375:34).

The Lord is called “shepherd” because He will feed them with Divine truth, and thereby lead to the good of love, and thus to Himself (*Apocalypse Explained* 701:19).

The Lord Is the Divine Provider and Lawgiver

(ages 8-9)



“I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments which I have written, that you may teach them” (Exodus 34:28).

The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul (Psalm 19:7).

Spiritual truths are the truths the Word teaches about God, that He is the One Creator of the Universe: that He is Infinite, Eternal, Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent, Provider (*Divine Wisdom* 11).

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The Lord Is the Hero of War

(ages 9-10)



Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and His name is God, Hero, the Father of Eternity (Isaiah 9:6).

Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and a Hero. The Lord a Hero of war (Psalm 24:8).

As the Lord alone conquered the hells without the aid of any angel, He is called Hero (*Doctrine of the Lord* 14).

The Lord Is the King of Kings

(ages 10-11)



God is King of all the earth (Psalm 47:7).

King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Revelation 19:16).

Your eyes will see the King in His beauty (Isaiah 33:17).

The Lord is called “King” in His Divine Human, because this is the Messiah, the Anointed the Christ (*Apocalypse Revealed* 664).

The Lord Is the Prophet and Preserver

(ages 11-12)



The Lord preserves the faithful (Psalm 31:23).

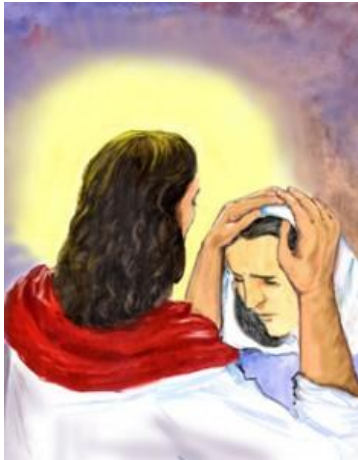
By the Lord as the Grand Prophet is symbolized the church itself and the Word itself (*Doctrine of the Lord* 15:8).

Everyone who thinks of God from essence, makes one God, saying, God created and preserves us, redeems and saves us, enlightens and instructs us (*Apocalypse Revealed* 611:7).

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The Lord Is Our Teacher and Healer

(ages 12-13)



The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound (Isaiah 61:1).

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people (Matthew 9:35).

In order that He might be acknowledged when He came into the world the Lord questioned the sick, when He healed them, about their faith; and those who had faith were healed. This faith was that He was the Son of God who was to come into the world, and that He had power to heal and save. Furthermore, every healing of sickness by the Lord when He was in the world served to mean a healing of spiritual life, thus served to mean the things that belong to salvation (*Arcana Coelestia* 10083:5).

The Lord Is the One God of Heaven and Earth

(ages 13-14)



I am the Lord, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to carved images (Isaiah 42:8).

Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father" (John 14:9).

There is one God, the divine Trinity exists within Him, and He is the Lord God the Savior Jesus Christ (*True Christian Religion* 3).