

I. Why were creeds & confessions written?

a. _____

2 Timothy 1.13-4

Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

~ NT 'creedal statement:

b. _____

~ 'Jesus is Lord'

- *which Jesus? what's 'Lord' mean?*

- *who is this Jesus? what'd he do that's so special?*

~ NT credal statements → Rule of Faith

~ Rule of Faith → Apostles' Creed

~ Apostles' Creed → Nicene Creed

~ Nicene Creed → Athanasian Creed

The early church creeds focus on the most basic building blocks of the faith. The Apostles' Creed is perhaps unparalleled in church history as a succinct statement of the history and significance of Jesus Christ.

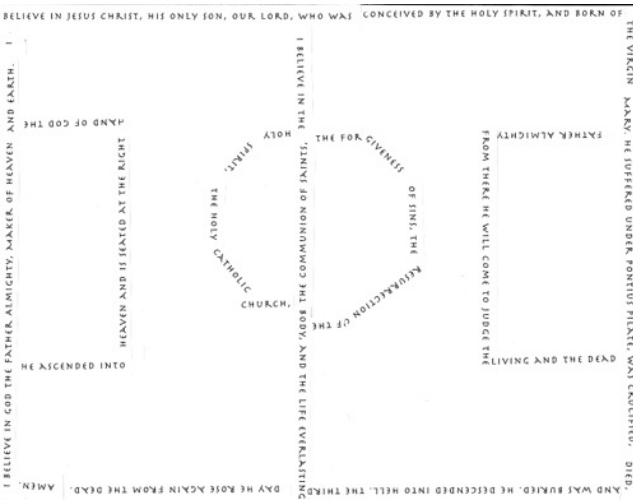
- Carl Trueman

an introduction to
The Apostles' Creed

C. _____

One simply cannot give full expression to that mystery in words; but what one can do is map out the theological field in which orthodox discussion can take place by indicating clearly what must not be said ...

- Carl Trueman



II. Why are creeds & confessions still useful today?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

On the whole, those who reinvent the wheel invest a lot of time either to come up with something that looks identical to the old design or something that is actually inferior to it. ... The Lord has graciously provided us with a great cloud of witnesses throughout history who can help us to understand the Bible and to apply it to our present day. To ignore such might not be so much a sign of biblical humility as of overbearing hubris and confidence in our own abilities and the uniqueness of our own age.

- Carl Trueman