

Creeds and Confessions

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Creeds and Confessions / Creed / Jude 17; 1 Timothy 6:3–5; 2 Peter 3:16; 2 Peter 3:2; Hebrews 2:1–3

Introduction to Church Creeds and Confessions, why they were developed and how they help today.

Introduction - Guardrails

Creeds are the guardrails along the highway of biblical orthodoxy - they are those basic tenants of the faith that keep up aligned within accurate biblical truth. **Confessions** allow diversity within the Christian Faith on non-essential issues, but the creeds keep us from flying off the road into heresy.

Pitfalls

Chronological Snobbery : the **assumption** that the current intellectual culture is inherently superior to any previous period. Thus, old is bad.

Willful Ignorance: is the deliberate **choice** to avoid, ignore, or reject known facts, truths, or available information. People often do this to protect their personal beliefs, maintain a positive self-image, or escape legal, moral, or emotional discomfort.

Tradition Bias: is the national, cultural, historical, and

denominational prejudice (or bias) that Christians practice without realizing it.

Church History

When we as Christians understand Church History, not necessarily every single detail, but the general history of the Church it helps us first of all avoid Chronological Snobbery, but offers immense benefits to living out our faith today.

Being familiar with church history helps the church address social issues.

Church History supplies that which is necessary for healthy discipleship

Church History is useful in spreading the Gospel

Church History enables us to assess and create culture

Church History serves as a roadmap from the present to the future

Denominational History

Knowing big “C” church history is extremely beneficial for every Christian. And knowing denominational history is beneficial for those in that denomination or “tradition”.