

# FOUNDATIONS

## LESSON 62: THE CONFESSION OF THE CHURCH - CREEDS

*Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. (Jude 3)*

**Main Idea:** *Confessions and creeds are important because they clarify what we believe the Bible teaches.*

### I. The Importance of Creeds and Confessions

- A. The purpose of Creeds and Confessions
- B. The improper use of Creeds and Confessions
- C. The proper use of Creeds and Confessions
- D. In Essentials Unity, In Non-Essentials Liberty, In All Things Charity

### II. Creeds

- A. Creeds are Intentionally Broad
- B. Creeds are Normally Shorter Statements
- C. What We Believe (even broadly believe) Matters
- D. Creeds Help Christians Understand the Broad Original Intent of what God has Said

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## III. Confessions

- A. Confessions are Intentionally Longer
- B. Confessions are Normally More Narrow in their Doctrinal Positions
- C. What We Confess (even narrowly confess) Matters
- D. Confessions Help Christians from Entertaining Heretical and Dangerous Doctrines

## IV. Helpful Confessions and Creeds

- A. The Apostles Creed
- B. The Second London Baptist Confession (1689)
- C. The New Hampshire Confession (1833)
- D. The Baptist Faith and Message (2000)

## V. Conclusion and Application: The Place and Purposed of Confessions and Creeds

*Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks, so what we really believe, we will confess.*