

- i. God is almighty
 1. His character limits his power.
 2. God cannot do what is unloving, unfaithful, unrighteous, or unmerciful.
 3. God limited himself when he created. God respects the orderliness of the universe and our freedom.
 4. Almighty does mean that God will accomplish his ultimate purposes in the world.
- b. "...Creator of Heaven and Earth
 - i. Heaven and earth means everything that is not God.
 - ii. Therefore the creed affirms that God created something out of nothing. But what about the Genesis account?
 - iii. God created freely; God was not driven to create out of some lack or need.
 - iv. Creation is an expression of God's love.
 - v. From the beginning God intended to create human beings whose nature his son would one day share. This is possible because humans were made in God's image and likeness.
 - vi. To confess God as the creator of all is to confess that we are God's creatures.
 1. We are not God, not the center of creation
 2. We are always and everywhere dependent on God.
 3. We belong to God; we are not our own
 4. We are called to reflect God in the world, to glorify God, to struggle to know God and serve God
 5. Sin is ultimately a denial that we are creatures of God and under God's lordship.
 - vii. The Creation belongs to God, not us
 1. It has its own right to exist and its own God-given value. It does not derive its value from its usefulness to human beings
 2. We must therefore respect creation and treat it as belong to the Creator. We must defend creation not exploit it.

3. Part of our service to God is to celebrate God's good creation
4. The evil of the world does not come from God.