

- i. 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.
- b. "I believe in Jesus Christ, His only son, our lord."
  - i. This is the key section of the Creed. It is only through Jesus Christ that we know God the Father and the Holy Spirit.
  - ii. Jesus' name in Hebrew means Yahweh is salvation.
  - iii. Christ is the Greek form of Messiah and means anointed. In referring to Jesus in this way we confess that he was the Jewish Messiah and the fulfilment of God's promises to Israel. Thus to fully understand Jesus we must know the Old Testament. This also acknowledges the special place of the Jews in God's plan of salvation.
  - iv. We are confessing that God has one son, Jesus. He is the son of God in a unique way. The truth of the gospel rests on this assertion.
  - v. This means that God himself has come to our aid in Jesus.
  - vi. God is thus revealing himself through himself. We have true and unique knowledge of God through Jesus.
  - vii. Jesus is our Lord. That is the word in the OT used for God. Christ through his saving act has claimed us as his own.