

The Apostles' Creed

The Church of Scotland acknowledges the Word of God, contained in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the supreme rule of faith and life. The Church of Scotland holds as its subordinate standard the Westminster Confession of Faith, recognising liberty of opinion on such points of doctrine as do not enter into the substance of the Faith, and claiming the right, in dependence on the promised guidance of the Holy Spirit, to formulate, interpret or modify its subordinate standards: always in agreement with the Word of God and the fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith contained in the Confession, of which agreement the Church itself shall be sole judge.

1. A creed illumines

The Shema 'Hear O Israel: the Lord our God is one.' Deuteronomy 6:4 (TNIV)

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fulness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Colossians 1:15-20 (TNIV)

2. A creed was needed in the early church to present the truth of the Gospel

You are the Messiah (Christ), the Son of the Living God. Matthew 16:16 (TNIV)

3. Creeds were needed to ensure that was given throughout the church.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.....

4. Faith is