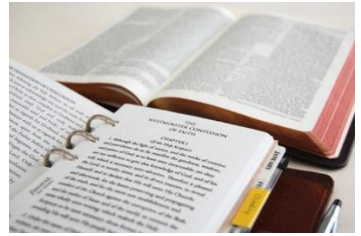


# Pros & cons of a *Confession of Faith*

## 2 Peter 3<sup>14-18</sup>



Why God did not give us a Confession of Faith, and why we need one

Wrapping up the series

### **Why God did not give us a *Confession of Faith***

The Bible is a story

The Bible describes a journey

The Bible is living & active

### **What is a *Confession of Faith*?**

A wilderness & a botanic garden

### **Why we need a *Confession of Faith***

The Bible has difficulties

The Bible is twisted

The Bible is deep

We are under spiritual attack

We are called to be prepared

We need the help of all the saints

### **Cons of a *Confession of Faith***

We deem it infallible

We fail to wrestle with the Scriptures

We fail to make it personal

# Westminster Confession of Faith

## Theology – the doctrine of God

- 1 Holy Scripture
- 2 God and the Holy Trinity
- 3 God's eternal decree
- 4 Creation
- 5 Providence

## Christology & Soteriology – the doctrine of Christ & of salvation

- 6 The fall of man, sin & its Punishment
- 7 God's covenant with man
- 8 Christ the Mediator
- 9 Free will
- 10 Effectual calling
- 11 Justification
- 12 Adoption
- 13 Sanctification
- 14 Saving faith
- 15 Repentance unto life
- 16 Good works
- 17 Perseverance of the saints
- 18 Assurance of grace & salvation

## Ethics – the doctrine of life

- 19 The Law of God
- 20 Christian liberty & liberty of conscience
- 21 Religious worship & the Sabbath day
- 22 Lawful oaths & vows
- 23 The civil magistrate
- 24 Marriage & divorce

## Ecclesiology – the doctrine of the church

- 25 The Church
- 26 Communion of the saints
- 27 The sacraments
- 28 Baptism
- 29 The Lord's Supper
- 30 Church discipline
- 31 Synods & councils

## Eschatology – the doctrine of the last things

- 32 The state of the dead & the resurrection
- 33 The last judgement