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# A Plea for the Principle of a Creedless Church (Outline)

**Earl Clement Davis** 

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I Plea for the Principle of a Breedles Church.

(4) Such a tolk ought votte he work in a Democratic country.

(4) That a greating of faith (4) That a greation of faith
(3) not a greation of behilf.
(4) not a criticism of churche that still relain creecls. He What is a creed in its water.

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A Plea for the Principle of a Creedless Church Outline of an Address in Coordination with Ordination

### Earl Clement Davis

### Pittsfield, MA

#### 1905

- I) A Plea for the Principle of a Creedless Church
  - 1) Such a talk ought not to be made in a Democratic country
  - 2) Not a question of faith
  - 3) Not a question of belief
  - 4) Not a criticism of churches that still retain creeds.
- II) What is a creed in its nature
  - 1) Historically.
    - i) {???} creed.
    - ii) Nicene creed.
    - iii) It is then a doctrine that is no longer vital
    - iv) Egyptian mummery
    - v) Life is too short to explain its meaning. Teach the old and eternal truths in terms of our own life.
- III) Why should not a creed be retained in the church today?
  - 1) It is morally upon a doubtful basis
  - 2) It is intellectually impossible
  - 3) It is spiritually inconsistent with Christ's teachings
- IV) What attitude should we take?
  - 1) The free open church, where the spirit may have free play
  - 2) In regard to intellectual truth we ought to be willing and ready to favor all things. Hold fast to that which is true. Scientist. The historical club. Same method in church.
  - 3) We have no moral right to any artificial barrier