

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

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- 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) {???
 - 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