

Westminster Confession of Faith

Introduction & Historical Overview

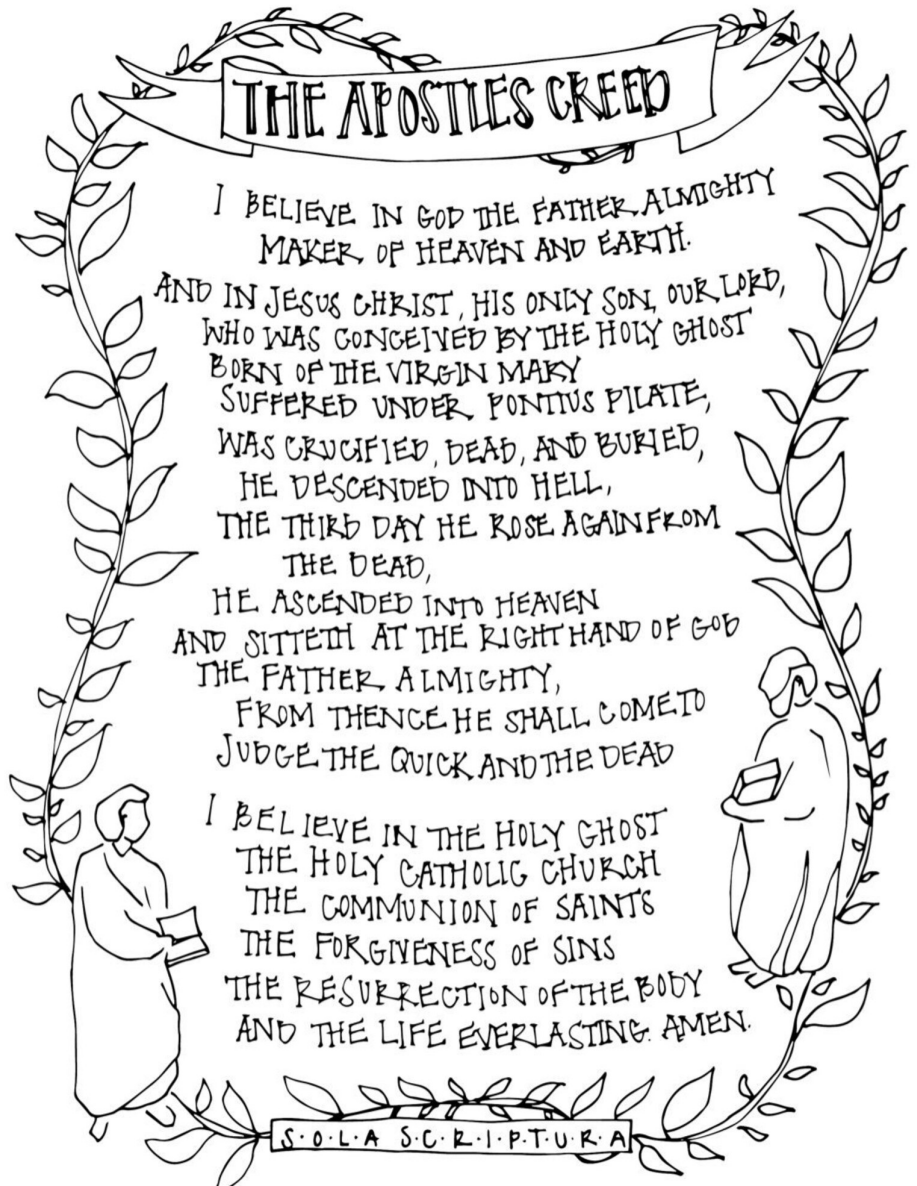
I. INTRODUCTION

II. WHY is it important to KNOW what you BELIEVE about God?

What is a CREED??

What is a CONFESSION??

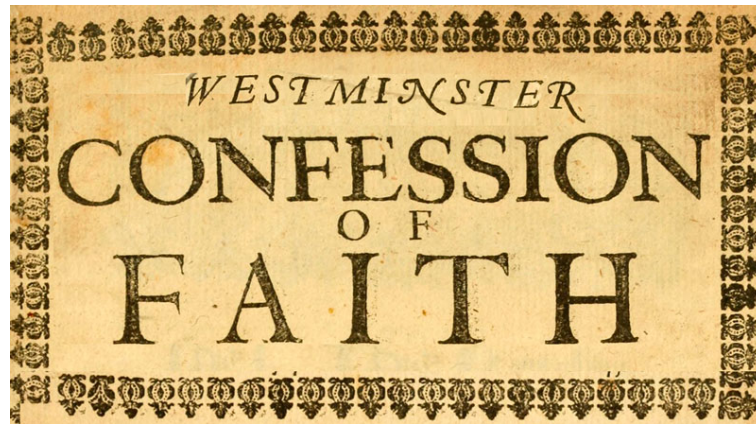
What is a CATECHISM??



Circle the places where it says "I BELIEVE"

Take my instruction instead of silver,
and knowledge rather than choice gold.

Proverbs 8:10



How do we USE the Confession?

1. As a solid guide for the READING & _____ of the Bible.
2. To help us understand things that are _____.

III. HISTORY leading to the Westminster Confession

King Henry VIII

(1509-1547)

- Wanted to have a BOY (heir) but wasn't able until his 3rd wife
- His son _____ became king at 9 yrs old (lived until he was 16). He reformed the Church of England.
- King Henry's daughter (_____) became queen in 1552. She was Roman Catholic - she killed many. She was called "Bloody Mary."
- _____ was queen for 45 years. She was Reformed, but still didn't give true freedom of worship.



King James I

(1603-1625)

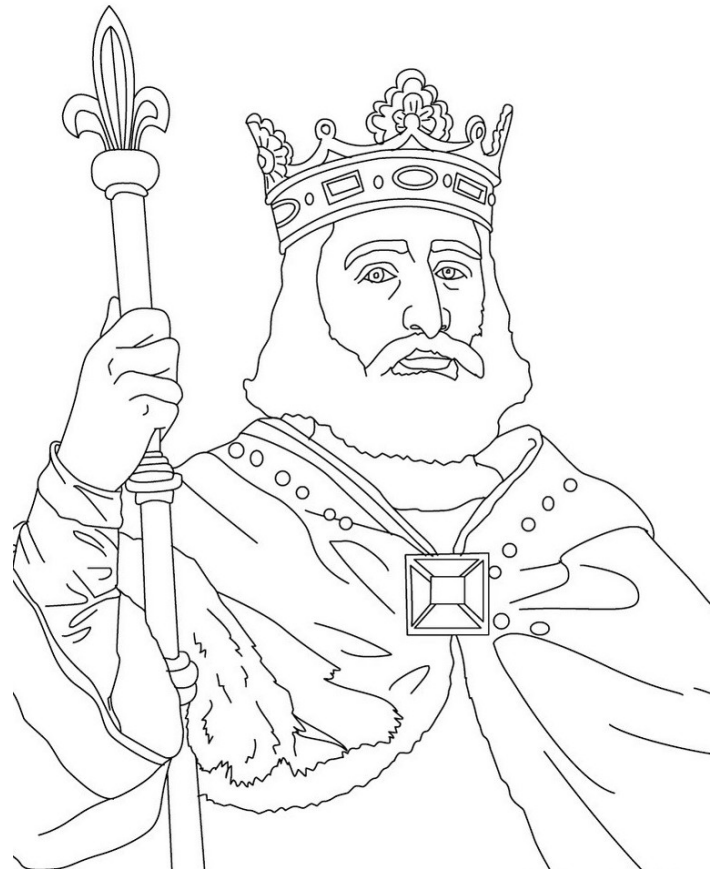
- Was king of Scotland AND England
- Was raised a PRESBYTERIAN (but he wasn't really!).
- Best known for the _____ translation of the Bible
- Stood against the PURITANS, who wanted to bring the Church into conformity with the Bible.



King Charles I

(1625-1649)

- King James' son
- The Church of England had been reformed, but Charles reversed it and brought in "High Church"
- Severe _____ of Puritans
- Called Parliament to raise taxes for his war against Scotland



IV. The CREATION of the Westminster Assembly

- King Charles wouldn't let the people worship according to the _____ of God
- The English Parliament wanted the people to KNOW God, and LOVE God, and WORSHIP God

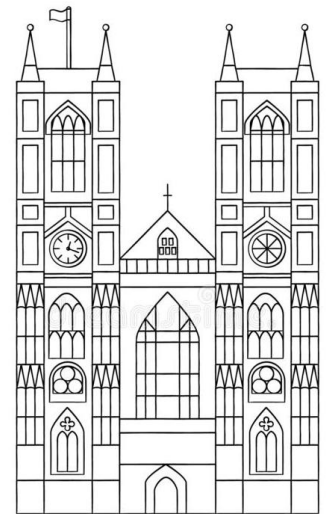
RESULT:

English
Civil
War

(1642-1646)



- Another RESULT?? Parliament agreed (with Scotland and Ireland) to "reform" the English Church according to God's Word.
- The group responsible for the reforms were called the WESTMINSTER ASSEMBLY. They met at _____.
- There were 150 pastors and theologians who met for more than five years - their MOST IMPORTANT document was called...the _____ of Faith.



— WESTMINSTER ABBEY —