

The First Principles

Class 7 • The First Christadelphian Statement of Faith

- We've developed an excellent "Index to First Principles"
- We're now looking at three different documents:
- Last week, we looked at The Apostle's Creed - Probably the first Statement of Faith
 - We saw that most, but not all, of our First Principles were listed there
 - We had an overall feeling of uneasiness, due to it being a little vague
- Today, we are going to go ahead about 1600 years, and we'll look at John Thomas' EARLY Statement of Faith
- Our goal is to end our class, next week, with a review of our current, Birmingham Amended Statement of Faith
- Remembering, we are looking at these things, to try to keep clear in our heads what is a First Principle, and what is just helpful exposition. Exposition that is profitable for us to know... but, not necessarily First Principles
- If someone asks us what we believe... We may believe everything in the Statement of Faith, but we really would want to tell them the important things, and not get bogged down in details...
- If someone disagrees with us on a point in the Bible, we need to know when to allow, perhaps even encourage, good healthy discussion, and differences of opinion, and know when to separate ourselves from error.
- In 1867, Dr. John Thomas wrote, "*Synopsis of the One Faith Taught by the Apostles*"
- Let's compare this now to what we understand to be the "Saving Truth"
- COMPARE
- What did we notice about this?
- Does this "feel" better than the Apostle's Creed?
- What is missing?