**The Westminster Assembly and the Church**

**Lecture**

**To Have and to Hold: Creeds, Confessions, and the Church**

I. Having a confession: a cost-benefit analysis

A. What it is

B. What it costs

C. Where we benefit

1. Biblical roots

2. Honesty

3. Unity

4. Truth

5. Teaching

II. Holding a Confession: A Cautionary Tale

A. American Progress

B. Seminaries and social problems

C. Progressive theology: made in Germany?

D. Progressive preachers

E. Progressive presidents: the case of Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924)

F. Protest: J. Gresham Machen (1881-1937)