

REFORMATION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, AUSTRALIAN PRESBYTERY
Moderator: Rev C Tuck Clerk: Pastor N van der Wel
C/O 206 High Street, Berserker, QLD 4701

DOCTRINAL STANDARDS AND PROTOCOLS OF THE PRESBYTERY

EXTRACT MINUTE

The Composite Presbytery of Eastern Australia met on the Twelfth of March 2014 and was constituted. Among other things,

4. Business Arising.

I. Doctrinal Standards of the Presbytery

It was Moved, Seconded and Agreed THAT:

The Section of the Doctrinal Standards of the Presbytery headed “The Great Commission” be amended by adding after “Church and Nation” the words: “bearing unequivocal witness to Christ as "Prince and Saviour”” so that the amended section reads:

The Presbytery holds fully to the propagation of the Gospel in terms of the Great Commission and particularly with reference to asserting the Kingship of Christ over Church and Nation, bearing unequivocal witness to Christ as "Prince and Saviour".
Acts 5:31&32.

II. Protocols.

Please refer to Appendix A.

It was Moved, Seconded and Agreed THAT:

The Protocols in Appendix A be approved and adopted.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery by the Clerk on the Twenty-Ninth of December 2020.

Pastor Neil van der Wel
Clerk of Presbytery

EXTRACT MINUTE

Reformation Presbyterian Church, Australian Presbytery, met via Skype video conference, on the Fifteenth of July 2022 and was constituted, was adjourned and then resumed on the Sixteenth of July 2022. Among other things,

6. General Business.

III. Suggested revision to the RPCAP Protocols Statement regarding relations with the Church of Rome.

A concern has been raised by some church members that Section 6 in the Presbytery Protocols, which reads, “6. The Presbytery is not to have relations with those that do not recognise the Church Rome to be the Church of the Antichrist and/or that have relations with such churches, and/or individuals that have relations with the Church of Rome”, could be understood as requiring members of the Presbytery, and of the churches, to totally disassociate from all Roman Catholics.

It was moved, seconded and agreed THAT:

The words in Section 6 of ‘Doctrinal Standards And Protocols Of The Presbytery’ be changed from, “6. The Presbytery is not to have relations with those that do not recognise the Church Rome to be the Church of the Antichrist and/or that have relations with such churches, and/or individuals that have relations with the Church of Rome.” to “6. The Presbytery is not to have ecumenical relations with those that do not recognise the Church of Rome to be the Church of the Antichrist and/or that have ecumenical relations with such churches, and/or individuals that have relations with the Church of Rome. This does not preclude private interaction with individuals who are part of the Church of Rome”.

Extracted from the Records of the Presbytery by the Clerk on the Seventeenth of August 2022.

Pastor Neil van der Wel
Clerk of Presbytery

DOCTRINAL STANDARDS OF THE PRESBYTERY

The Scriptures:

The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments which alone are the Word of God, and the Sole Supreme Rule of Faith and Duty;

Text of the Old Testament and of the New Testament:

The Masoretic Text, being the providentially preserved text of the Old Testament, and the Textus Receptus, being the providentially preserved text of the New Testament;

Subordinate Standards:

The Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms;
The Principles of the Worship and Service of God, and of Church Government set down in the Directory of Public Worship, The Directory of Family Worship; and the Form of Church Government; The Sum of Saving Knowledge.

The Great Commission.

The Presbytery holds fully to the propagation of the Gospel in terms of the Great Commission and particularly with reference to asserting the Kingship of Christ over Church and Nation, bearing unequivocal witness to Christ as "Prince and Saviour". Acts 5:31&32.

The Free Offer of the Gospel.

The overtures and offers of mercy in Christ in the Gospel are true, genuine, and well meant to all to whom they come and entirely consistent with sovereign particular grace.

Appendix A

PROTOCOLS OF THE PRESBYTERY

1. Like-mindedness: The Presbytery and its members are to promote like-mindedness among brethren, founded upon loving submission to the authority and truth of the Word of God. Philippians 2:2.
2. Artificial boundaries are to be avoided. Denominational boundaries are not to be an hindrance to the exercise of Discipline and oversight.
3. Meetings of the Presbytery. The Presbytery is a wider court and is to deal with matters that are referred to it, and to those matters that fall within its responsibility. It is to deal with matters promptly, following the requirements of the Word of God, and all matters are to be dealt with until concluded. The Presbytery is to meet at least once a year unless it is necessary to meet more often.
4. Formal relations with the Presbytery are not to be made a prerequisite of assistance from the Presbytery.
5. Applications to Presbytery: Applicants are to be informed of the qualifications for the Ministry and Eldership set out in the Scripture and the Doctrinal Stance required of them. Application is by simple correspondence and interview.
6. The Presbytery is not to have ecumenical relations with those that do not recognise the Church of Rome to be the Church of the Antichrist and/or that have ecumenical relations with such churches, and/or individuals that have relations with the Church of Rome. This does not preclude private interaction with individuals who are part of the Church of Rome.
7. Roman Catholic Baptism. The Presbytery does not recognise the validity of Roman Catholic Baptism.

Document History

Edition

Original

First Revision

Approved at the meeting commencing:

Twelfth of March 2014.

Fifteenth of July 2022.