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Replies

Martin VanderWal

Thanks, Terry! The paragraphs that stands out to me is the one beginning with the words "Prior to this new legislation", and the paragraph that follows.

The difference laid out by Stuart is the difference that we've been informed of by two ministers in the RPC. What were the words? "A new direction" "A new denomination" There were other, similar words.

There are two problems then. I signed up to a different denomination. I didn't know back then that the denomination I was joining was going to become old and die, and that I would be forced into a new denomination that operates so differently than the old, where law threatens gospel. What would I have done then had I known that the denomination I was joining was going to be replaced by something completely different?

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Replies

The second problem is that I was informed of this after the fact. This was not discussed on the floor of Classis. No motion was made and supported to put it on the floor. No committee of Classis ever presented it as their advice: to change the whole denomination. Instead we were told that there is nothing new. The standards were the old standards. The church polity was the old polity. The decisions had their basis in the creeds as always known and understood. Had we known that the denomination was going to be remade after someone's image and likeness, I think there would certainly have been more vigorous debate. I would like to think that such a motion would have failed. Is it not the height of presumptuous arrogance and hierarchical tyranny that a major assembly of a Reformed denomination decide to change the course of all its member churches? What happened to autonomy? Is rule by elders in the local congregation part of this new denomination?

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Replies

I want the old RPC back. I want to live solely out of the gospel and its freedom to serve the Lord. I want the freedom to pursue a good Christian school for my church not because there is a whip at my back or the threat of death by sword. I want to pursue a good Christian school for my church because, in the language of Galatians 5:23, "against such there is no law."

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