

Monday, June 17, 2019

Miss Sara Doezeema protested the decisions of Synod 2018 in Articles 62 (2018 Acts pgs. 61-83) and 67 (pgs 85-86). These decisions regarded the Connie Meyer appeal. Miss Doezeema submitted three grounds for her protest.

1. Her first ground is that Synod 2018 was inconsistent in its language.
2. Her second ground is that Synod 2018 did not expose the fundamental error.
3. Her third ground is that Synod 2018 was not distinctive.

Synod did not sustain the protest of Miss Sara Doezeema with regard to any of her three grounds.

Mr. Wes Koops protested the decision of Synod 2018 in Article 62 B.1. Mr. Koops protested the second use of the word “and” in this statement in Article 62 B.1.b.1).c).(5).(d): “Properly expressing the relationship between obedience as the necessary way of the covenant and the experience of covenant fellowship is: We experience fellowship with God through faith (instrument), on the basis of what Christ has done (ground), and in the way of our obedience (way of conduct or manner of living).” (pg 74 Acts of Synod 2018). Mr. Koops contends that the word “and,” makes ‘in the way of our obedience’ an addition to the work of Christ and the gift of faith.

Synod did not sustain the protest of Mr. Koops. There were two grounds for this decision:

- a. Mr. Koops misstates, and therefore misrepresents, Synod 2018 when he writes: “If fellowship is by faith, Christ, and our obedience, then obedience functions along with faith and Christ’s work to bring us into fellowship with God.” Synod did not say that fellowship is “by” our obedience.
- b. Synod 2018 did not make our works “an element of faith” in the sense that our works are either the means/instrument or the basis of our fellowship with God. The statement of Synod that Mr. Koops misrepresents makes this clear. It distinguishes between the instrument, the ground, and the way of conduct in which we experience fellowship.

Synod voted for members of its standing committees and finished its work at around 2:00 p.m.