



Trinity Presbyterian Church

Gathering in the Name of the Triune God

A Southeastern Wisconsin PCA (Presbyterian Church of America) church.

Study Notes – September 27, 2015

"Of Church Councils"

1. Should there be greater assemblies of the Church beyond the local congregations? A. *For the better _____, and further _____ of the Church, there can be such assemblies, commonly called councils. It is within the Christ-given power of the elders of the particular churches, to convene such assemblies as _____ as they judge it expedient for the good of the Church (Acts 15:2,4,6).*
2. What do such assemblies and councils do? A. *They act as a higher _____ of the Church: to determine controversies of faith and cases of conscience; to give directions for the better ordering of the public worship of God and government of His Church; to receive and authoritatively settle complaints about poor administration in particular churches. (Acts 15:2,4,6,19,24,27-31; 1 Co 6:1)*
3. Is the work of Church councils normative, ie made the standard for the churches? A. *All assemblies or councils, since the Apostles' times may err, and many have erred. Therefore they are not to be made the rule of _____ or _____, but are to be used as a help in both. (Ep 2:20; Acts 17:11; 2 Co 1:24; 1 Co 2:5)*
4. What is the jurisdiction of Church councils? A. *Ministers who gather in council are not to stray from their _____ ecclesiastical sphere. They are not to meddle in partisan politics unless the situation is extraordinary, and even then they must remember their _____ and only express themselves in great humility. (Lu 12:13-14; Jn 18:36; 1 Co 5:12)*

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