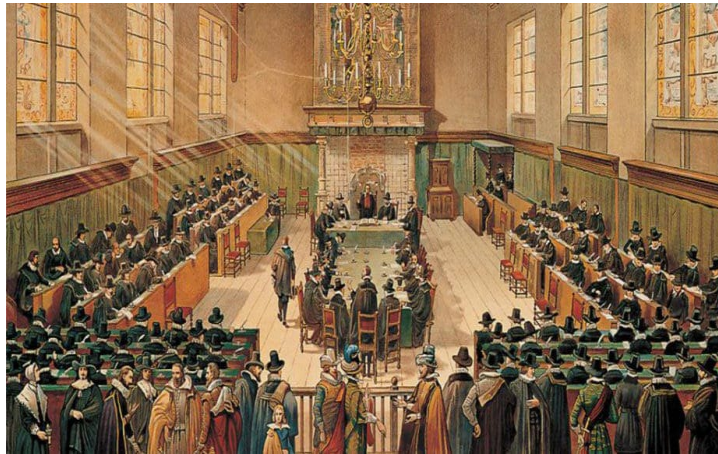


Lion and Lamb Apologetics'

The Synod of Dordt Condemned Arminianism as Heresy

C. MATTHEW MCMAHON, PHD, THD

1



Dordt stated that in reaction to the Arminian and Remonstrant Articles and Opinions, that Arminius and the Remonstrants, “summon back from hell the Pelagian error.”¹ They said that Arminianism:

- “deceive(s) the simple,”²
- “is an invention of the human brain,”³
- is a “pernicious error,”⁴
- “smacks of Pelagius,”⁵
- “runs counter to the entire Scripture,”⁶
- is “gross error,”⁷
- “militate(s) against the experience of the saints and is contrary to Scripture,”⁸

¹ Synod of Dordt, Canon 2 Article 3 in the Rejection of Errors.

² Synod of Dordt, Canon 1 Article 1 in the Rejection of Errors.

³ Synod of Dordt, Canon 1 Article 2 in the Rejection of Errors.

⁴ Synod of Dordt, Canon 1 Article 3 in the Rejection of Errors.

⁵ Synod of Dordt, Canon 1 Article 4 in the Rejection of Errors.

⁶ Synod of Dordt, Canon 1 Article 5 in the Rejection of Errors, and Synod of Dordt, Canon 3 Article 4 in the Rejection of Errors.

⁷ Synod of Dordt, Canon 1 Article 6 in the Rejection of Errors.

⁸ Synod of Dordt, Canon 2 Article 1 in the Rejection of Errors.

Lion and Lamb Apologetics'

- “contradict(s) Scripture,”⁹
- “attempt(s) to give the people the deadly poison of Pelagianism,”¹⁰
- “contradict(s) the apostle” and “contradict(s) the Savior,”¹¹
- “is an insult to the wisdom of God,”¹²
- “is opposed to the plain testimonies of Scripture,”¹³
- “is a teaching that is entirely Pelagian and contrary to the whole of Scripture.”¹⁴
- Christians should know that “the early church already condemned this doctrine long ago in the Pelagians,”¹⁵
- “is obviously Pelagian,”¹⁶
- and “nullifies the very grace of justification and regeneration.”¹⁷

The orthodox professors, theologians, and ministers of Holland and England sought incessantly to suppress the teaching of the Arminians and to prohibit the exercise of that faith which they were firm in condemning as *heretical*. This they were able to do quite effectively by the convening of the Synod of Dort. Arminianism, for these reasons, has always been viewed as not only error, but *heresy*.

© The Center for Reformed Theology and Apologetics, May 8, 2020. Retrieved October 31, 2024.
<https://crta.org/the-synod-of-dordt-condemned-arminianism>

NOTE: This post is in compliance with the Fair Use clause of the US Copyright Act of 1976 (17 U.S. Code § 107). The US Supreme Court has issued several major decisions clarifying and reaffirming the fair use doctrine since the 1980s, most recently in the 2021 decision *Google LLC v. Oracle America, Inc.*

⁹ Synod of Dort, Canon 2 Article 4 in the Rejection of Errors.

¹⁰ Synod of Dort, Canon 2 Article 6 in the Rejection of Errors.

¹¹ Synod of Dort, Canon 2 Article 7 in the Rejection of Errors.

¹² Synod of Dort, Canon 3 Article 1 in the Rejection of Errors.

¹³ Synod of Dort, Canon 4 Article 4 in the Rejection of Errors.

¹⁴ Synod of Dort, Canon 3 Article 7 in the Rejection of Errors.

¹⁵ Synod of Dort, Canon 3 Article 9 in the Rejection of Errors.

¹⁶ Synod of Dort, Canon 5 Article 2 in the Rejection of Errors.

¹⁷ Synod of Dort, Canon 5 Article 3 in the Rejection of Errors.