**THE FIVE ARTICLES OF THE REMONSTRANTS[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**ARTICLE 1**

We believe that God by an eternal and immutable decree has in Jesus Christ his Son determined before the foundation of the world to save out of the fallen, human race those in Christ, for Christ's sake, and through Christ who by the grace of the Holy Spirit shall believe in this His Son Jesus Christ and persevere in this faith and obedience of faith to the end; and on the other hand to leave the incorrigible and unbelieving in sin and under wrath and condemn (them) as alienate from Christ - according to the word of the Holy Gospel in John 3:36, "He that believeth in the Son hath everlasting life, and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him" and also other passages from the Scriptures.

**ARTICLE 2**

We believe that in agreement with this, Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world, died for all men and for every man, so that he merited reconciliation and forgiveness of sins for all through the death of the cross; yet, so that no one actually enjoys the forgiveness of sins except the believer - also according to the word of the Gospel of John 3:16, "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life". And in the first epistle of John 2:2, "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

**ARTICLE 3**

We believe that man does not have saving faith of himself nor by his power of his own free will, since he, in the state of apostasy and sin, cannot of and through himself think, will or do any good which is truly good (such as is especially saving faith); but that it is necessary that he be regenerated by God, in Christ, through His Holy Spirit, and renewed in understanding, affections and will, and all powers, in order that may rightly understand, meditate upon, will, and perform that which is truly good, according to the word of Christ in John 15:5, "Without me you can do nothing".

**ARTICLE 4**

We believe that this grace of God is the commencement, progression, and completion of all good, also, in so far that the regenerate man cannot, apart from this prevenient or assisting awakening, consequent and co-operating grace, think, will or do the good or resist any temptations to evil, so that all good works or activities which can be conceived must be ascribed to the grace of God in Christ. But with respect to the mode of this grace, it is not irresistible, since it is written concerning many that they resisted the Holy Spirit, in Acts 7 and elsewhere in many places.

**ARTICLE 5**

We believe that those who are incorporated into Jesus Christ and thereby become partakers of his life-giving Spirit have abundant strength to strive against Satan, sin, the world and their own flesh and to obtain the victory; it being well understood (that this is) through the assistance of the grace of the Holy Spirit, and that Jesus Christ assists them through His Spirit in all temptations, extends the hand, and - if only they are prepared for warfare and desire His help and are not negligent - keeps them standing, so that by no cunning or power of Satan can they be led astray or plucked out of Christ's hands, according to the word of Christ, John 10, "no one shall pluck them out of my hands". But whether they can through negligence fall away from the first principle of their life in Christ, again embrace the present world, depart from the pure doctrine once given to them, lose the good conscience, and neglect grace, must first be more carefully determined from the Holy Scriptures before we shall be able to teach this with the full persuasion of our heart.

1. The Remonstrants were the followers of Arminius [↑](#footnote-ref-1)