

They said you may differ as to whether the pope has authority but a general council of the Christian church, that is God's decision. So protestantism is not merely against the authority of the pope but it is a turning against the idea that a group of christian leaders have the say or authority in christian doctrine. That is to say we all recognize that in the providence of God, the first four ecumenical councils made decisions of tremendous importance for the christian church but we recognize those decisions not because there is a groups of people making them but because we feel that they are in accordance with the Word of God, and we feel that the Word of God is the one authority. We feel that when people have argued and discuss the matters in the Word of God and in the providence of God they have been enabled to work out clear ways of presenting them in the language of our particular period as to what was contained in the word as to vital matters

question

In fact it is explicitly stated in the Westminster Confession that councils may err and have erred from the beginning, that is explicitly statedd Now I am afraid we will not be able to finish our discussion of the council.....