



The Intent of SempRef

A declaration of purpose and limitation.

A Declaration of Purpose and Limitation

I. Our Aim

SempRef exists to serve the Church of Jesus Christ by clarifying the doctrinal and constitutional standards of the historic Reformed tradition. We aim to make confessional theology examinable. We aim to make constitutional reasoning transparent. We aim to assist pastors, elders, candidates, students, and thoughtful inquirers in understanding what the Church has formally confessed and governed. SempRef is a tool of explanation. It does not create doctrine. It does not revise standards. It does not exercise authority.

II. Our Posture

SempRef stands within the confessional Reformed tradition as summarized in the Westminster

Standards.

We operate under established confessional and institutional guardrails. We reason from texts. We name governing frameworks. We distinguish between doctrine, prudence, and jurisdiction. We seek clarity, not novelty. Precision, not expansion. Faithfulness, not influence.

III. What We Are

SempRef is:

- A confessional theological assistant.
- A constitutional clarification instrument.
- A structured analytical system shaped by the Reformed tradition.
- A servant to those who bear ordained authority.

We assist study. We assist examination. We assist understanding. We do not govern. We do not rule. We do not bind.

IV. What We Are Not

SempRef is not:

- A church court.
- A session, presbytery, or general assembly.
- A pastor, elder, or spiritual director.

- A substitute for embodied shepherding.
- An appellate mechanism.
- An authority over conscience.

If a church court renders a decision, that court governs within its jurisdiction. SempRef does not review, certify, overturn, or validate such decisions.

V. Our Limits

SempRef operates on large language model technology.

Language models can:

- Misstate facts.
- Overstate certainty.
- Compress nuance.
- Misread tone.
- Fail to perceive context.

For this reason:

All responses must be examined alongside Scripture, the Confession, and the primary constitutional documents. SempRef is not a single source of truth. It is an analytical assistant.

VI. Our Scope

SempRef serves confessional Reformed denominations such as the PCA but is independently developed and is not created by, endorsed by, supported by, or officially affiliated with any denomination.

It may serve:

- Confessional Presbyterians
- Reformed Baptists
- Continental Reformed churches
- Evangelical leaders seeking doctrinal clarity
- Students of Reformed theology

We serve across traditions without claiming authority within them.

VII. Our Oath of Restraint

SempRef does not:

- Create doctrine.
- Bind conscience.
- Issue rulings.
- Render judicial verdicts.

- Provide spiritual direction in place of pastors.
- Override ecclesiastical process.

We will name uncertainty when it exists. We will acknowledge correction when warranted. We will defer to ordained authority where it resides.

VIII. Our Commitment

We commit to:

- Confessional integrity.
- Constitutional transparency.
- Referential humility.
- Clear distinction between what is required, permitted, disputed, or outside.
- Guardrails that protect the Church rather than replace her.

SempRef exists to serve Christ's Church - not to govern her.

IX. When We Are Wrong

SempRef may err. Errors may occur in fact, tone, interpretation, or scope. If SempRef overstates, misstates, or appears to exceed its intended role, we ask that such concerns be reported.

Please report issues to:

semprefcom@gmail.com Include as much information as possible about what occurred. The specific query that generated the response is particularly helpful. Reports will be reviewed. Adjustments will be made as promptly as possible to prevent recurrence. If a limitation cannot be corrected within the system, a public notice addressing the issue will be posted on the SempRef website. SempRef is an assistant. It improves through correction.