



The Burning Bush - Online article archive

Protest outside Free Presbyterian Presbytery meeting in Ballymoney church, Friday 7th February 2020.

The following account of the protest and the leaflet distributed were sent to me by Mr Luke Barker, the one who mounted the protest.

Mr Barker is a graduate of the Whitefield College of the Bible Missionary Course. He is a communicant member of a Free Presbyterian church and speaks frequently at Free Presbyterian meetings.

He recently took part in a protest in Armagh Anglican Cathedral led by Rev Daniel Henderson and accompanied by Rev Paul Hanna and Rev David Creane. (See **here**)

I have no doubt that Mr Barker's protest will have aroused the hackles of some but I support him 100%!

I have been protesting against the compromising position taken by our Presbytery regarding those elders and church members who support the DUP in its sell-out of the truth of God ever since the days when the DUP entered an unholy alliance with Sinn Fein/IRA in 2007 and formed the power-sharing executive at that time.

I repeatedly sought to warn Dr Paisley that what he was doing was very wrong and to witness against all Free Presbyterians who supported him.

It is for that reason I know that Mr Barker's protest will have aroused hackles having seen all too many of them first-hand!

However, I am confident that there are fewer today amongst Free Presbyterians who would share the views of those who stood with Dr Paisley 13 years ago. Events in the political and ecclesiastical world since then have indicated that the Lord was against that 2007 ungodly coalition and many Free Presbyterians have learned from those events.

In recent days, a significant number of Presbytery members have rallied to the efforts of those who have sought to bring in a regulation requiring those who are in membership of any organisation which comes out in favour of anything contrary to the teaching of the Bible to put Christ first, as our Presbytery swore before God and the world, to do back some 32 years ago on 29th February 1988, and immediately resign from that organisation. (See to <http://www.ivanfoster.net/pdf/Dec1902.pdf>)

AN AGENDA TO CONCEAL

'Of course, a majority of Presbytery members have not acted as they should have on this matter. I would readily believe that there are many amongst that majority who have not yet recognised the true nature of the issue before the Presbytery, and were they to, they would do what is right.

The reason why many have not yet realised the sinfulness of the situation that exists within our church, whereby we have members and office-bearers supporting and involved in not only an unholy 'brotherhood' with Sinn Fein/IRA but also supporting the DUP even after it has come out as a sodomy-supporting political party by its endorsement of a sodomite as a candidate in last May's local council elections, thus the crossing of a line and an entering into open conflict with the Word of God, is the opposition mounted to any real examination of the matter.

The reason, I say, why some have yet to recognise the true nature of the situation that has arisen within our ranks is that there are some Presbytery officers, past holders of Presbytery office, as well as some who would like to be Presbytery officers, who are prepared to mislead Presbytery members, by specious and silly arguments, on the nature of the issue that some are attempting to oppose.

This being so, it is worthy of the strongest condemnation.



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Have these men no awareness of the grave wrong they are engaged in or have they forgotten what the Saviour said in Matthew 12:35-37? "A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."

RECORD

There is a much more accurate record kept of our Presbytery's proceedings than those written by the pen of the Presbytery Clerk!

That record will be reviewed one day and woe unto those who sought to hinder the efforts made to separate God's witness from the contamination brought into its ranks by those who, for whatever reason, have sought to remain associated with the DUP and its increasingly God-defying politics.

REASON FOR OUR EXISTENCE!

Protesting against wrong is what the Lord brought the Free Presbyterian Church into existence to engage in. In 1966, the Free Presbyterian Church gladly supported the protest that resulted in the imprisonment of three of its ministers and which, I believe, under God issued in a blessed time of revival power, which gave rise to the salvation to many hundreds of souls and new congregations.

The reason for that protest, as stated by Dr Alan Cairns in the "Revivalist" back then, was:

"The charge against our ministers was one of unlawful assembly. This was a charge that was never substantiated. It arose out of the events of the night of June 6, when the Presbytery of the Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster organised a protest march to the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church. We marched to demonstrate our loyalty to our Protestant faith and our inveterate opposition to the Irish Presbyterian Church's policy which ultimately involves a sell-out to Rome. Forty-eight hours' notice was given to the R.U.C. and the route for the march was sanctioned by the chiefs of police. As is well known, at Cromac Square we were murderously attacked and assaulted by a group of Republican rebels, and the police evidence is that the Protestants did not retaliate in any way, but remained orderly and law-abiding. Of course, the radio, T.V., and press all sought to give the impression that there was a clash between the two parties, but we have police evidence that our march did not stop to be involved in any breach of the peace.

At length we reached the Assembly Buildings from where we proceeded to the City Hall and back along Howard Street. We marched in this circuit twice without incident, and the third time we approached the Assembly Buildings we were confronted by a rope which had been erected by the police without giving any indication whatever of their intention. They made no request that our parade should be taken along any other route, but simply barred our way on the route they had already prescribed. Our parade was kept on the move and only the action of the police brought it to a halt. The blame, therefore, for a large crowd having congregated in Howard Street, must rest fairly and squarely on the police.

*The reason for the erection of the rope was that the Moderator's procession was due to cross Howard Street. But there was no 48 hours' notice given for this procession. The police claim to have received a letter asking for facilities for crossing the road to be afforded, but they could not produce that letter in court. So they barred the way of a lawful and completely legal procession to make way for one which, in the strict sense, was illegal. Owing to the action of the police, a crowd of about one thousand had gathered as the Irish Presbyterian procession walked across Howard Street. **The people knew that the personal representative of De Valera, the I.R.A. murderer, was in that procession, and they booed.** (Emphasis ours, IF) When they saw their Church leaders (many of them were Irish Presbyterians) who were running to Rome, they booed. This has been maliciously construed as a personal attack on the Governor and his wife who were in the procession, but there is not a shred of evidence that either Lord or Lady Erskine were mentioned or referred to. The greatest proportion of the crowd were not even*



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aware of their presence. The police evidence was that there were cries of 'Traitor', 'Popehead', 'No Popery', and 'You should be ashamed of yourself'. And they could not testify that Dr. Paisley or Rev. John Wylie said any of these things. No one was injured at the General Assembly, no one was threatened. The Irish Presbyterian procession went its way unmolested. Our procession then reformed and made its way back to Ravenhill. This is the unlawful assembly we were supposed to be guilty of." ('The Revivalist': July - September 1966).

You may read a full account of those days in 1966 and subsequent days [here](#).

GROUNDS FOR A PROTEST

The protest was occasioned by the ecumenical endeavours of the Presbyterian Church, its embracing of liberal theology and its invitation to a representative of Éamon de Valera, a participant in the 1916 Easter Rebellion in Dublin and President of the Republic of Ireland. The presence of a representative of a former IRA man at the General Assembly sparked the Free Presbyterian Church in 1966 and the willingness of some to go to prison!

Surely there are grounds for a protest when Free Presbyterians elders and members show support for Sinn Fein/IRA members, who but recently were engaged in the slaughter of our kith and kin, or at least openly supporting that slaughter! The support Free Presbyterians have given this terrorist supporting organisation has brought it into power over us here in Northern Ireland.

Couple that with the fact that these same Free Presbyterians are doggedly supportive of a party, the DUP, which has espoused sodomy, and that espousal is more and more blatantly obvious. Is this not much more worthy of a protest than the presence of a representative of an old IRA man at the General Assembly of the another church?

This is sin in OUR camp and must be protested against!

In 2007 and during the power-sharing executive of those days, the DUP was responsible for the distributing of government funds to sodomite organisations. This was repeatedly denied when I sought to protest against it but finally acknowledged to be so by Peter Robinson, shortly after he took over as First Minister from Dr Ian Paisley. (See - **"A word to the distressed amongst God's flock today"**)

CHALLENGE

I personally challenge those Presbytery members who have sought to oppose any steps being taken against the Free Presbyterians elders who support the DUP's wickedness to come out publicly and explain to the Free Presbyterian Church why they act so and shelter such wrong-doing!

I am confident that the same silence which was the response of the Free Presbyterians who were pro-DUP power-sharing in 2007 whenever I challenged the actions of Dr Paisley back then, will once again be 'deafening' in response to this challenge!

Of course there was a muttering and a murmuring amongst those who hated what I was saying but the carpers were careful to open their mouths ONLY amongst their own kind and not be overheard by any that might answer them!

I can but pray that the Lord in mercy will use the actions of this young man to bring home to the body of the Free Presbyterian Church just what it is harbouring in its bosom.

"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof," Romans 13:11-4.



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"Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent," Revelation 2:4-5.

Ivan Foster.

10th February 2020.

Here is the email Mr Barker sent out with his report of his protest.

Dear Brethren,

I hope all is well with you.

Attached is the final flyer handed out a Ballymoney FPC Presbytery Meeting on the night of 7th *Jan 2020 highlighting my concerns about a number of FPC / DUP elders giving the yes vote to Alex Maskey.

Full details on the flyer.

After the flyer was handed out I held a banner with two sides.

Side 1 read: "DUP FPC an unholy alliance (and the 'touch not the unclean thing' Bible reference)".

And then the other side read: "Alex Maskey Sinn Fein IRA Hardcore Irish Republican Voted in as NI Assembly Speaker of the House by members of your Presbytery".

I hope and pray the witness is used of the Lord to encourage our FPC brethren to take a true Protestant and Separatist stand as in former years, and is used to highlight the undermining of our Protestantism in NI by some members of the FPC.

Every blessing, and I hope all is well with you.

Luke.

* Please note: This is a typographical error. Should be Feb. (IF)

Below is the leaflet that was distributed by Mr Barker at his protest.

ALEX MASKEY

Sinn Féin MLA



- **Die Hard Irish Republican.**
- Lifelong activist.
- Campaigns for an Irish Unity referendum.
- Wants to see the Province of Northern Ireland, which he refers to as a 'putrid little statelet', absorbed into the Irish Republic - a United Ireland.
- Works tirelessly for Sinn Féin, a political party that is pro abortion, pro sodomy, and pro united Ireland.
- **Unrepentant Former IRA Commander.**
- Today, he does not officially endorse violence, but when challenged, refuses to condemn past Irish Republican terrorist attacks upon the innocent (such as the 1993 Shankill bombings).

**THIS MAN IS AN ENEMY OF PROTESTANTISM
AND AN ENEMY OF THE GOSPEL**

**And yet voted into a position of power in the
Northern Ireland Assembly on the 11th January 2020
by members of your Presbytery!**

NI Assembly Vote 11th January 2020 for Alex Maskey as new Speaker of the House
51 'Yes' Vote, 32 'No':

Free Presbyterian Elders who gave Maskey the 'YES' vote:



Mr Mervyn Storey DUP (Ballymoney FPC)



Mr Thomas Buchanan DUP (Castleberg FPC)

Other Free Presbyterians who voted 'Yes':

Mr Edwin Poots DUP (Hillsborough FPC)

Mr Christopher Stalford DUP (Martyrs Memorial FPC)

Mr Gordon Dunne DUP (Martyrs Memorial FPC)

Mr Paul Givan DUP (Lisburn FPC)

Are these men performing their Christian and Protestant duty by voting a hardcore Irish Republican and unrepentant terrorist into a position of power?

Alex Maskey seeks the destruction of our Protestant nation, and the absorption of Northern Ireland into a secular / Roman Catholic Irish State.

There are those in Presbytery who actively protest against false religion and moral evils, and yet others who vote it in. Is the Free Presbyterian Church a trumpet that makes an uncertain sound? Do we work to promote, preserve and protect the Protestant cause, or do we undermine it?

Dr. Charles Woodbridge (American Presbyterian, stood for fundamentalism, against New Evangelicalism, separatist, critical of Billy Graham) identified the slide into apostasy by defining five downward steps: "(1) **Toleration of Error**. It [then follows] the downward path of (2) **Accommodation to error**, (3) **Cooperation with error**, (4) **Contamination by error**, and [then] (5) ultimate **Capitulation to error**." For professing Protestants to actively lend their support to immoral men and immoral organizations, and further the cause of anti Protestant Irish Republicanism is gross error. It undermines our Protestant cause and heritage. Brethren, the first step to apostasy is toleration of error! It could even be argued, that we have become so used to this error that we now even accommodate it...Step 2!

"Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?
Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened."
(1 Corinthians 5:6-7)

"If revival is being withheld from us it is because some idol remains still enthroned."
(Jonathan Goforth)

"Neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure."
(1 Timothy 5:22)

"Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil."
(Exodus 23:2)

"Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men."
(Matthew 5:13)

"A dog barks when his master is attacked.
I would be a coward if I saw that God's truth is attacked and yet remain silent."
(John Calvin)

"The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness."
(Proverbs 16:31)

"Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?"
(Galatians 4:16)

LINKS:

NI Assembly full report: (<http://aims.niassembly.gov.uk/officialreport/report.aspx?&eveDate=2020%2F01%2F11&docID=290745>)
Alex Maskey Former IRA Commander: (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alex_Maskey)
(8/6/02) Unrepentant: When asked on BBC radio he **would not condemn** the 1993 Shankill bombings (10 killed including 2 children): (<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/a-scrapper-in-more-ways-than-one-who-talks-the-talk-of-inclusiveness-1.1059989>)
(6/2/18) Referred to NI as a "**putrid little statelet**" His twitter comment: "Unfortunately it took **more** than the CRA to secure rights in the putrid little statelet NI." 'more' refers to the rights achieved by the use of Terrorism in NI.
(<https://www.breakingnews.ie/ireland/row-after-sinn-fein-mp-brands-northern-ireland-putrid-little-statelet-826689.html>)
Previous scandal of DUP Free Presbyterian Elders approving the running of an openly sodomite DUP candidate. Lord Maurice Morrow, East Derry MP Gregory Campbell and West Tyrone MLA Thomas Buchanan
(<http://www.irishnews.com/news/northernirelandnews/2019/05/20/news/schism-between-dup-and-free-presbyterian-church-over-gay-councillor-signals-politics-secular-direction-of-travel-1623228/>)