

Shakers E-News - Homosexual activist targets AOG church
Date: Fri, 11 Nov 2005

"ASSEMBLIES OF GOD IN GAY TALKS "
by Lyndon Barnett - Sydney Star Observer 9/8/05

"IN A LANDMARK MOVE, HOMOSEXUALITY IS ON THE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION WITH THE PENTACOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF GOD."

Well, that is the 'SPIN' headline from the homosexual newspaper, SSO, in Sydney, and the intention of the instigator of this little charade, Anthony Venn-Brown. According to Venn Brown, the AOG National Executive has agreed to meet with him this month (November).

Anthony Venn-Brown was an AOG pastor, a leader of Youth Alive in Sydney and was also married with children, before surrendering to his homosexual 'inclinations' some 13 years ago. According to a review of his book, this decision was taken following a 'meeting' with a young man at a Youth Alive rally (??). In other words he surrendered to the 'lusts of the flesh', left his family and has lived as a practicing homosexual ever since.

Venn-Brown is now an activist - a persuasive smooth-talker who likes to think he has had a 'new revelation' that homosexuality is no longer a sin - thus implying that he knows better than GOD and the vast majority of Christians and Biblical scholars.

Venn-Brown states "It is my aim through intelligent and respectful dialogue to change the misconceptions within the AOG regarding homosexuality. Whilst it's rare to hear gays or lesbians castigated from the pulpit, I am challenging the traditional church doctrines," (See attached full article)

SSO reports that, "He hopes the meeting will **lead to the establishment of a committee** consisting of some executive members of the AOG, a psychologist, a theologian and himself." [emphasis added]

This is not something the AOG church has instigated. It is quite clear that it is Venn-Brown who is trying to get the AOG church to put homosexuality "on the agenda" and to re-think its Biblically-based position. It is clearly presumptuous to suggest that because church leaders are prepared to have a meeting with a 'sinner', that the particular sin is put on some agenda for change.

Nevertheless, this is a VERY important opportunity for the AOG Church in Australia to re-state its unequivocal Biblical position.

It is also an opportunity for AOG pastors and members to communicate with their State and National leaders, encouraging them to hold to their well-established Biblical principle that any sexual activity outside a marriage between a man and a woman is indeed sin - that marriage is categorically a God-ordained institution exclusively between a man and a woman, that any sexual intimacy between people of the same sex is totally contrary to God's design for human relationships and that it is dangerous to think that one can endorse any sexual sin and remain a Christian.

Jesus, Peter and Paul clearly state in the Scriptures that an unrepentant sinner will not enter the kingdom of heaven. This is not a matter of 'judgement' - it is stating the facts as written in God's Word.

I am sure the leadership of the AOG Church do not need to be reminded of these facts BUT the encouragement to stand firm at this time will indeed be appreciated, I'm sure. Please pray for God's wisdom and guidance for the AOG leadership as they deal with this issue.

Please remember, **there is no reason to assume God has changed His mind**, so there is no reason for us to change our minds or for the AOG church to change theirs.

The common arguments used by activists to suggest that churches change their policy on homosexuality are totally invalid...

* There is still NO evidence that anyone is born homosexual - not that it would change things even if they were. In fact there is overwhelming evidence that people can revert to heterosexuality (the way they were born) even following a lengthy period as a homosexual or lesbian.

* The idea that these are "loving relationships", not understood in Biblical times, is not only wrong, it also suggests that Jesus does not 'understand all of His creation' and that He does not know the future.

* There is no evidence that the 'theology' is wrong, or that the language is wrong or that "historical and cultural contexts need to be explored".

See our web site for more true information about homosexuality.

Attached is a list of AOG addresses