Subject: As sout laf geword het./ When salt loses its saltiness.

English at the bottom.

Liewe vriende

Die stof in die media wil maar net nie gaan lê oor die NG Kerk se Algemene Sinode-besluit om gay lidmate, gay huwelike en gay predikante tot hul geledere toe te laat nie.

Die oorweldigende boodskap wat ons vanuit NG geledere ontvang, is een van totale verwarring. Leraars is verward, lidmate is verward, uitsprake is verward en reaksies is verward.
Hangende die huidige amptelike interne appél teen die Algemene Sinode se besluit sou dit dus nou sinvol wees om ‘n bietjie afstand te kry op die kwessie, ‘n voorlopige waardasie te doen en te praat oor die pad vorentoe.

1. Verwringing van God se Karakter:

Die Algemene Sinode se besluit kan bestempel word as ‘n ramp vir enige kerk wat homself “Christelik” noem, omdat dit nie bloot gaan om die interpretasie van die sewe toepaslike Bybeltekste oor homoseksualiteit nie. Dit gaan om VEEL meer:

1. Dit gaan oor ‘n herinterpretasie van **seksualiteit** – en die verhouding van Christus met sy bruid. Paulus noem hierdie verhouding ‘n “geheimenis”(Ef. 5: 32). Christus het nog nooit ‘n bruid**egom** gehad nie. Christus het nog nooit sy verhouding met sy bruid voorgestel as ‘n man-tot-man-verhouding nie.

Sodanige herinterpretasie verteenwoordig ‘n gruwelike verwringing van Bybelse waarheid.

2. Dit gaan oor ‘n herinterpretasie van die **gesin** – die hoeksteen van enige gesonde samelewing. In plaas van ‘n Pa en Ma met kinders, het ons nou ‘n Pa en Pa en kinders/Ma en Ma en kinders. Een van die kind se oerbegrippe en -beelde wat eerste vasgelê word, word nou drasties verwring. Dis selfs méér traumaties as die verwringing wat plaasvind in ‘n enkelouergesin (waar een ouer, om watter rede ookal, bloot afwesig is). Hier word nie ‘n “afwesige” beeld vasgelê nie, maar ‘n “teenwoordige” beeld – ‘n beeld totaal buite God se orde.

Sodanige herinterpretasie verteenwoordig ‘n gruwelike verwringing van Bybelse waarheid.

3. Dit gaan oor ‘n herinterpretasie van die **Godheid**.
   A. God openbaar Homself aan die mens as ‘n tradisionele **Vader** – ‘n liefdevolle Versorger, Voorsiener en Beskermer.
   B. God openbaar Homself in sy Heilige Gees as ‘n **Moeder** – ‘n sagte, liefdevolle Trooster en Teenwoordige.
   C. God openbaar Homself in Jesus as ‘n **Broer** – ‘n mensgeworde Verlosser, Raadsman en Vredevors.

Dmv gay huwelike verwring ons òf God se Vaderbeeld dmv ‘n vrou as vader, òf die Heilige Gees se beeld dmv ‘n man as moeder.
Sodanige herinterpretasie verteenwoordig ‘n gruwelike verwringing van Bybelse waarheid.

4. Dit gaan oor ‘n herinterpretasie van **God se Orde**.

Mans moet hul vroue liefhê soos Christus die kerk liefhet. Soos die kerk aan Christus onderdanig is, moet vroue aan hul eie mans onderdanig wees (Ef. 5:22 – 25; Kol. 3:18 – 19; 1 Pet. 3:1 – 7).
‘n Man kan dus slegs onderdanigheid van sy eie vrou verwag in dieselfde mate as wat hy haar liefhet – soos Christus die kerk liefhet. En ‘n vrou kan slegs liefde en beskerming van haar eie man verwag in dieselfde mate as waarin sy aan hom onderdanig is – soos die kerk aan Christus onderdanig is.
Selfs in heteroseksuele huwelike verg dit heelwat vernuwing van die denke om bostaande orde in plek te stel. Dikwels heers Agab- en Isébel-geeste in huwelike.
In ‘n gay huwelik: Wie is die geestelike hoof van die huis? Wie beskerm wie? Wie is onderdanig aan wie? Hoe verdraaid word Christus se verhouding tot sy bruid in so ‘n huwelik gemodelleer!
Sodanige herinterpretasie verteenwoordig ‘n gruwelike verwringing van Bybelse waarheid.

Gay huwelike binne die kerk doen vir God self geweld aan. Dit verkondig en versterk leuens oor God se aard en weerspreek die Skrif direk. Net soos ‘n gewelddadige pa of pal dronk ma in ‘n heteroseksuele huwelik die beeld van God vir hul kinders en die gemeenskap verwring, so verwring gay huwelike God se beeld vir kinders en die gemeenskap.

Deur hul besluit oor gays het die NGK se Algemene Sinode homself in die presiese posisie geplaas waarvolgens die NGK self in die verlede dikwels ander groepe as SEKTES gedefinieer het, nl:
‘n Sekte is ‘n groep wat ‘n grondwaarheid of grondwaarhede van die Skrif verdraai en aanhang.
Volgens die NGK se eie definisie van ‘n sekte is hy nou self een.
Is die kwessie van God se aard (soos geopenbaar in die Skrif) ‘n grondwaarheid, of is dit bloot periferiaal? Dis ‘n GRONDwaarheid!

2. Watter Realiteite lê ten Grondslag van die Algemene Sinode se Besluit?

Ten spyte van wisselende teologiese redes wat in die media voorgehou word, is daar goeie redes om te vermoed dat die eintlike redes heelwat dieper lê:

1. ‘n Arm, impotente teologie.
2. ‘n Onvermoë om sonder staatsteun te opereer of as profeet tot die staat te funksioneer.

1. ‘n Arm, impotente Teologie.

Calvinisme se TULIP-doktrine (soos uiteengesit in die Dordtse Leerreëls – NGK belydenisskrif) verteenwoordig ‘n sirkelvormige, geslote logiese sisteem of konstruk. Niks kan daaruit gelaat of daartoe bygevoeg word nie. In Engels: *A theology that forever goes round and round the same mulberry bush*.
Omdat niks daarby gevoeg kan word nie, verteenwoordig dit ‘n arm, ellendige teologie – ‘n teologie wat hoegenaamd nie voorsiening maak vir die verlossing van homoseksuele vanuit die Hemelkoningin se wurggreep nie.
[Die Bybel was nooit veronderstel om ‘n logiese konstruk te wees nie – maar DIS wat gebeur as akademici en intellektuele die Skrif beetkry!]
En omdat geen NG leraar (agv bg. impotente teologie) nog ooit gesien het hoe Jesus ‘n homoseksueel kan vrymaak nie, aanvaar hulle goedgelowig die wêreld se leuen dat gays nou maar eenmaal so gemaak en so laat staan is – maw dis geneties. Nieteenstaande die feit dat genetici ná baie jare nog

nooit die “gay geen” kon opspoor nie!
En selfs al SOU dit geneties wees, moet die vraag steeds gestel word: WAAROM het hierdie “geen” skielik vanuit die niet in hierdie bloedlyn verskyn?
En: Kan Jesus hierdie “geen” VERANDER?

Die Algemene Sinode se besluit oor gays verteenwoordig dus ‘n geloofskapitulasie: Ons Jesus kry nie gays verander nie. So kom ons omarm hulle maar.
In Engels: *If you can’t beat them, join them*.
Of eerder: *If we can’t change them, let them join us (as is)*.

2. ‘n Onvermoë om sonder Staatsteun te opereer of as Profeet tot die Staat te funksioneer.

Ongeveer 350 gelede het die NGK aan die Kaap tot stand gekom as ‘n verlengstuk van die VOC, ‘n maatskappy met ‘n winsmotief – wat op sy beurt ‘n verlengstuk van die Hollandse regering was. Kerkraadsvergaderings is gehou met die kommandeur of goewerneur as voorsitter.
En sedertdien het die NGK immer opgetree soos die staat se skoothondjie – dwarsdeur die Hollandse, Britse, Afrikaanse en huidige ANC-bewinde.

1. Toe die staat **slawerny** goedgekeur het, het die NGK slawerny goedgekeur. Predikante het slawe gekoop, besit en verkoop.
2. Toe die staat **Apartheid** goedgekeur het , het die NGK dit goedgekeur. Predikante was prominente NP-premiers, broederbonders en NP-kabinetslede.
3. Toe die staat **gay huwelike** goedkeur, het die NGK dit goedgekeur. Predikante is prominente gay-beoefenaars en –aktiviste.

Daar is vele meer voorbeelde om te noem. Bostaande is egter voldoende om die NGK se onvermoë om sy profetiese roeping teenoor die staat te vervul, te illustreer. Telkens kapituleer die NGK voor die staat se sonde en nooi sodanige sonde in sy eie boesem in. Dit wil voorkom asof die NGK nie weet hoe om sonder die staat se goedkeuring te funksioneer nie.

3. Die Reaksie van die gemiddelde NG Kerkleier op die Algemene Sinode se Besluit:

Ware godsvrug is om met God saam te stem oor wat goed en kwaad is.

Maar, soos verwag is, in plaas van om soos die Leviete aan God se kant te gaan staan, skarrel verwarde NG kerkleiers koorsagtig in ‘n poging om hul lidmate te behou. Ontstelde lidmate word gepaai met “Dit sal **nooit in ONS gemeente** gebeur nie”. Of: “Kom ons kyk **wat sê die tekste regtig**”. Of: “Ons moet mekaar **verdra**”. Of: “Die kerk moet **inklusief** wees”.

Van wanneer af is die kerk INklusief?
Die kerk is per definisie EKSklusief. Die kerk is die samekoms van GELOWIGES (die *ekklesia* – uitgeroepenes). Ongelowiges moet geëvangeliseer word – nie ingesluit word nie. Heiligheid is IN, sonde is UIT. Geregtigheid is IN, ongeregtigheid is UIT.
Soortgelyk: As ‘n ongelowige of sondaar inkom, moet hy VERANDER onder Jesus se liefde en gesag – anders kan hy nie bly nie. As ‘n gay persoon inkom, moet hy VERANDER onder Jesus se liefde en gesag – anders kan hy nie bly nie. Buite die kerk is daar ‘n wye wêreld waar ongelowiges, sondaars en gays hul vleeslike begeertes na hartelus kan uitleef.

Terloops, Jesus is vandag steeds die Verlosser. Hy red mense steeds van hul gebrokenheid – ook van gaywees. Ek het dit met my eie oë gesien. Maar ek het Hom dit nog nooit via Calvinistiese teologie sien doen nie!

4. Die Kwessie van GELOOF vs. STELSELS:

Die Skrif sê: *The just shall live by FAITH*. (Hab. 2:4; Rom. 1:17; 2 Kor. 5:7; Gal. 3:11; Heb. 10:38).
Die Skrif sê NIE: *The just shall live by SYSTEMS* nie.

Die meeste Christene, meestal onwetend, plaas veel meer vertroue in STELSELS as in GOD. Vertroue in God staan bekend as GELOOF. En hoewel die meeste Christene hartroerend saamstem met Ps. 91 se inhoud, betaal feitlik almal maandeliks honderde en selfs duisende rande aan STELSELS om hul bewerige geloof in God te rugsteun. Hierdie STELSELS staan bekend as korttermyn- en mediese versekering. Hierdie STELSELS het die nare gewoonte om hul lede afhanklik van hulle te maak, en hul lede se geloof in God te ondermyn. STELSELS en GELOOF opponeer mekaar direk.

Soos feitlik alle institusiekerke het die NGK in sy 350-jarige geskiedenis in SA telkens – wanneer hy voor die keuse gestaan het om te lewe deur GELOOf of deur STELSELS – weens ongeloof die roete van STELSELS gekies. Dis presies wat ‘n institusie(kerk) is: ‘n STELSEL. Dis ligjare verwyder van die Bybelse “organisme”.
En tans plaas NG kerkleiers hul vertroue weer eens in ‘n STELSEL – in hierdie geval die NG Kerkstelsel self. Vele middeljarige en ouer predikante het oor baie jare groot beleggings in hierdie stelsel gemaak – itv opleiding, akkreditasie, verhoudinge, invloed, pensioen, ens. En die blote gedagte aan verlating van die NG Kerkstelsel vervul hul met vrees en bewing – hulle kan letterlik alles waarvoor hul hul lewe lank gewerk het, verloor.
En daarom – uit ongeloof – bly hulle weer eens eerder lojaal aan die STELSEL as aan GOD.

5. Die Kwessie van Ontkenning:

Omdat lojaliteit aan die STELSEL eerder as aan GOD verkies word, moet sodanige kerkleier ‘n uitweg in sy eie kop vind om sy optrede te regverdig.
Tans vind die meeste NG kerkleiers hierdie ontsnaproete in die eeue-oue leuen van ONTKENNING:
“Gay-praktyk is nie verkeerd nie en berokken niemand skade nie.”
En in hul koppe maak hulle die logiese skuif om gay-praktyk Bybels te begin regverdig. Net soos met Apartheid. En slawerny.
En een leuen bou op die vorige. ‘n Vesting van die verstand kom tot stand – met verblindende misleiding en die gepaardgaande gruwels tot gevolg.

Hierdie verskynsel is niks nuuts nie. Die Rooms-Katolieke kerk het eeue gelede reeds dieselfde paadjie begin bewandel.
Ek huil in my hart oor waaraan die gevangenes binne hierdie stelsels voortaan blootgestel gaan word – en die verwoesting wat dit in hul lewens gaan veroorsaak.

6. Waarheen nou?

Daar is ongelukkig net een roete:
Gaan uit Babilon uit! (Jer. 50:8; 51:6, 45; 2 Kor. 6:17; Op. 18:4).
Gaan uit Sodom uit! (Gen. 19:12)

Vlug vir jou lewe! (Gen. 19:17).
As God se oordeel haar tref, en jou binne-in vind, gaan dit JOU ook tref! (Gen. 19:17: Op. 18:4).

Enkele lidmate wat reeds vóór die Algemene Sinodebesluit hul eie koppe oor gay-kwessies uitgesorteer het, het reeds uit die NGK bedank. Diegene wie se koppe nog nie uitgesorteer is nie, sit tans verward rond en bedel raad hier en daar. Vir vele is dit nie meer lekker in die NGK nie. Maar hulle weet nie waarheen anders nie.

Talle vestig hul hoop op die tans hangende appél. Indien dit slaag, kan hulle mos maar ongestoord aanbly! Die appél gaan eers in 2017 aangehoor word. En dit gee NG kerkleiers 2 jaar kans om lidmate se koppe te swaai en “sag te maak” om die NG kerk se gay-agenda te aanvaar. Wil jy jouself werklik aan hierdie indoktrinasie onderwerp?
Maar selfs al slaag die appél wel, is ek bevrees sal dit bloot ‘n tydelike stuiting van die sonde wees. Gays en hul misleide meelopers sal nooit ophou agiteer nie. Dis bloot ‘n kwessie van tyd voordat die besluit permanent word.
As die appél faal, voorsien ek dat tienduisende lidmate oor die daaropvolgende jaar of twee, sodra hulle daarin geslaag het om hul eie koppe uit te sorteer, uit die NGK gaan bedank.

Los die NGK (asook die ander institusiekerke wat in hul voetspore gaan volg) vir die gays. Daar bestaan reeds vele ander gay klubs in SA waar gays hul gaywees uitleef. In die NGK gaan hulle bloot dieselfde doen – dan net met ‘n Jesus-sousie bo-oor. Onder hul misleide leierskap gaan hulle opreg die leuen glo dat hulle gered is en die Here dien.
As sout laf geword het, hoe kry ‘n mens dit weer sout? Dit is niks meer werd nie. Dit word buitekant weggegooi, en die mense vertrap dit. (Mat. 5:13).

Dis nie sonde om die institusiekerk te verlaat nie. Dis wel gevaarlik vir jou geloofslewe om buite *fellowship* te wees.
Stig ‘n huiskerk met ‘n klompie medegelowige vriende in jou sitkamer.
‘n Bietjie raad:

1. Moenie ‘n verkleinde NGK of Bybelstudie begin nie.
2. Moenie vir mense begin indoktrineer met jou troeteldoktrines nie.
3. Bly weg van die Hebreeuse Wortels-beweging af. Hulle is gevaarlik en misleidend.
4. Bly by die Skrif. En leer om self die Heilige Gees se Stem te hoor. Hy is ons enigste Leermeester.
5. Bly bid totdat die Heilige Gees jou antwoord oor watter rigting jou huiskerkie moet inslaan.
6. Neem self verantwoordelikheid vir jou geestelike lewe. Die institusiekerk het jou vir dekades geprogrammeer om passief te wees.

Huiskerke verteenwoordig ‘n totaal nuwe denkraamwerk oor kerkwees. Sorg dat jy dit begryp voordat jy begin – anders gaan jy jou vingers lelik verbrand en jou lede baie seerkry.
Op ons webblad www.trumpetcall.co.za onder “downloads” is gratis materiaal wat jou op die regte pad kan stuur.

Die Koninkryk van die Hemele is nie afhanklik van institusiekerke nie. Institusiekerke is trouens nie eens Bybels nie. Die Koninkryk kan inderdaad uitstekend funksioneer sonder hulle! Soos in China: Loshande die grootste nasionale kerk op aarde. Miljoene Chinese Christene funksioneer uitstekend in vervolgde huiskerke!
Persoonlik is ek opgewonde oor waaraan die Vader uit hierdie gemors geboorte gaan gee!
Dwarsdeur die Skrif werk Hy altyd met ‘n oorblyfsel. En hierdie gaan geen uitsondering wees nie. Soos in die tyd van Esra en Nehemia gaan Hy weer tempel- en muurbouers oprig. Hy gaan apostels en profete oprig wat die nodige vaardighede het om die fondament van Christus met die nodige bedrewenheid te lê. En vaardige bouers wie se bouwerk met vuur getoets sal word, en dit sal deurstaan. Die toekomstige heerlikheid gaan groter wees as die vorige!
Sorg dat JY deel van die oorblyfsel is, en nie saam met die massas deur sonde verswelg word nie!
Jou mense sal die ou puinhope herbou, die fondamente herstel wat al geslagte lank bestaan. Jy sal bekend staan as 'n volk wat sy afgebreekte mure herbou, wat sy strate herstel sodat daar weer mense kan woon. (Jes. 58:12).

7. ‘n Vroeë Waarskuwing aan huidige Predikante, Pastore en Kerkleiers:

Persoonlik sien ek geen manier waarop enige ander institusiekerk met die huidige SA wetgewing op die lange duur die lot van die NGK gaan vryspring nie. Die kerk regoor SA het dit oor homself gebring toe hy (destyds via SACLA) vir kardinaal Wilfred Napier **van die Roomse Kerk** (!) as sy verteenwoordiger aangewys het by die tersaaklike hofsaak oor gay huwelike. Nou betaal ons die prys vir daardie politieke korrektheid en onnoselheid.
My broer, as jy met God saamstem dat die beoefening van gay leefstyl sonde verteenwoordig en God se beeld in mense verwring, kom dan so spoedig moontlik uit die institusie uit. Hoe langer jy bly, hoe meer beleggings gaan jy in die institusie maak, en hoe moeiliker gaan dit uiteindelik raak om te ontsnap.
Nee, ek weet ook nie waarheen nie. En nee, ek weet ook nie hoe jy jou rekeninge gaan betaal nie. Of wie vir jou gaan sorg as jy oud word nie.
Wat ek wel weet, is dat die geloofsprong nou minder moeilik gaan wees as in die toekoms.
Dis nou tyd vir GELOOF! En om self te begin doen wat ons vir so lank al preek.

Eben Swart

Dear Saints

In the media, the dust would just not settle on the Dutch Reformed Church’s General Synod ruling to allow gay members, gay marriages and gay ministers to their ranks.

The overwhelming message beamed at us from DRC ranks is one of utter confusion. Ministers are confused, members are confused, declarations are confused and reactions are confused.
In the light of the pending official appeal against the General Synod’s decision it would therefore make sense now to take a couple of paces backwards, to make a preliminary assessment, and to speak about the road ahead.

1. Misrepresentation of God’s Character:

The General Synod’s decision may be deemed a disaster for any church which would call itself “Christian”, since the issue is not merely limited to the

interpretation of the seven relevant Bible verses regarding homosexuality. It concerns MUCH more:

1. It concerns a reinterpretation of **sexuality** – and the relationship of Jesus to His bride. Paul calls this relationship a "mystery"(Eph. 5:32). Christ has never had a bride**groom**. Christ has never depicted his relationship with his bride as a man-to-man relationship.

Such reinterpretation represents an abominable misrepresentation of Biblical truth.

2. It concerns a reinterpretation of the **family** – the cornerstone of any healthy society. Instead of a Father and Mother with children, we now have a Father and Father with children/Mother and Mother with children. One of a child's primally inculcated concepts and images is now drastically misrepresented. This would be even more traumatic than the misrepresentation that occurs in a single parent family (where one parent, for whichever valid reason, is simply missing). Now not even an "absent" concept gets inculcated, but a seriously warped "present" concept – a concept which directly opposes God's order.

Such reinterpretation represents an abominable misrepresentation of Biblical truth.

3. It concerns a reinterpretation of the **Godhead**.
   A. God reveals Himself to mankind as a traditional **Father** – a loving Caretaker, Provider and Protector.
   B. God reveals Himself in his Holy Spirit as a **Mother** – a soft, loving Comforter and Ever-present One.
   C. God reveals Himself in Jesus as a **Brother** – a human Saviour, Counselor and Prince of Peace.

Gay marriages utterly misrepresent either God's image as a Father (by means of a woman as father), or misrepresent the Holy Spirit's image (by means of a man as mother).

Such reinterpretation represents an abominable misrepresentation of Biblical truth.

4. It concerns a reinterpretation of **God's Order**.

Husbands should love their wives as Christ loves the church. As the church submits to Christ, wives should submit to their husbands (Eph. 5:22 – 25; Col. 3:18 – 19; 1 Pet. 3:1 – 7).

A husband can therefore only anticipate submission from his wife to the same degree that he loves her – as Christ loves the Church. And a wife can therefore only anticipate love and protection from her husband to the same degree that she submits to him – as the church submits to Christ.

Even in heterosexual marriages a considerable amount of renewal of the mind is required to establish the above-mentioned order. Ahab and Jezebel spirits are often present in marriages.

In a gay marriage: Who is the spiritual head of the home? Who protects whom? And who submits to whom? How utterly twisted do such marriages model Christ's relationship towards His bride!

Such reinterpretation represents an abominable misrepresentation of Biblical truth.

Gay marriages within the church brutalize God himself. They proclaim and reinforce lies about God's nature and directly contradict Scripture. Even as a violent father or a continually drunk mother in a heterosexual marriage twist God's image unto their children and society, gay marriages misrepresent God's image unto children and society.

By means of their decision concerning gays the DRC's General Synod has put itself in the very same position whereby the DRC has in the past often defined other groups as SECTS or CULTS, i.e:

A sect or cult is a group who twists a fundamental Biblical truth or truths and adheres to it.

In accordance with its own definition of a sect or cult, the DRC itself has now become one itself.

Would the issue of God's nature (as revealed in Scripture) be a fundamental Biblical truth, or would it be merely peripheral? It is a FUNDAMENTAL truth!

2. Which Realities underpin the General Synod's Decision?

In spite of varying theological answers submitted to the media, there is good reason to believe that the real causes simmer somewhat deeper:

1. A poor, impotent theology.
2. An incompetence to operate without government backing, or to act as a prophet unto the state.

1. A poor, impotent Theology.

Calvinism's TULIP doctrine (as expounded in the Canons of Dordt – DRC confession of faith) represents a circular, closed logical system or construct. Nothing can be omitted form it, or added to it – a theology that forever goes round and round the same mulberry bush. Since nothing can be added to it, it represents a poor, beggarly theology – a theology that does not at all allow for the redemption of homosexuals from the stranglehold of the Queen of Heaven.

[The Bible was never meant to be a logical construct – but THIS is what results when academics and intellectuals get hold of it!]

And since no DRC minister has ever witnessed the redemption of a homosexual by Jesus (as a result of the said impotent theology), they gullibly believe the world's lie that gays have been created gay – i.e., it is genetic. Notwithstanding the fact that geneticists after many years are still unable to locate the "gay gene"!

And even it it WERE genetic, the question should still be asked: WHY did this "gene" suddenly drop into this bloodline out of thin air? And: Can Jesus CHANGE this "gene"?

The General Synod's decision concerning gays thus represents a capitulation of faith: Our Calvinist Jesus cannot change gays. So let's then rather embrace them.

If you can't beat them, join them.

Or rather: *If we can't change them, let them join us (as is)*.

2. An Incompetence to operate without Government Backing, or to act as a Prophet unto the State.

More or less 350 years ago the DRC was established at Cape Town as an extension of the DEIC, a company with a profit motive – who, in turn, acted as an extension of the Dutch government. Church Board meetings were conducted with the commander or governor as the chairman.

And since then the DRC has forever acted like the government's lapdog – right through the Dutch, British, Afrikaans and current ANC governments.

1. When the state endorsed **slavery**, so did the DRC. Ministers bought, owned, and sold slaves.
2. When the state endorsed **Apartheid**, so did the DRC. Ministers were prominent NP premiers, broederbonders and members of the NP cabinet.
3. When the state endorsed **gay marriages**, so did the DRC. Ministers are prominent gay practitioners and activists.

Many more examples could be presented. The above should suffice to illustrate the DRC's incapacity to fulfill its prophetic role unto the state. The DRC repeatedly capitulated before the state's sin – and then invited the same sin into its own bosom. It would seem as if the DRC has no clue how to function without the state's assent.

3. The Reaction of the average DRC Leader to the General Synod's Decision:

True godliness is to agree with God about what is good and what is evil.

But, as was to be expected, instead of doing like the Levites – and huddling on God's side – confused DRC leaders feverishly scrambled in order to retain their members. Upset members are appeased with "This shall **never happen in OUR congregation**". Or: "Let's have a look at what those verses **really say**". Or: "We have to **bear with** one another". Or: "The church should be **inclusive**".

Since when is the church INclusive?
The church, by its very definition, is EXclusive. The church is the gathering of BELIEVERS (the *ekklesia* – called out ones). Unbelievers should be evangelized – not included. Holiness is IN, sin is OUT. Righteousness is IN, unrighteousness is OUT.
Similarly: If an unbeliever or sinner enters, he must CHANGE in the face of Jesus' love and authority – else he cannot stay. If a gay person enters, he must CHANGE in the face of Jesus' love and authority – else he cannot stay. Outside of the church there is a wide, wide world where unbelievers, sinners and gays may relish in their fleshly desires.

By the way: Jesus is still the Saviour – even today. He still saves people from their brokenness – even from being gay. I've seen it with my own eyes. But I have never witnessed Him do it via Calvinistic theology!

4. The Issue of FAITH vs. SYSTEMS:

Scripture says: *The just shall live by FAITH*. (Hab. 2:4; Rom. 1:17; 2 Cor. 5:7; Gal. 3:11; Heb. 10:38)
Scripture never says: *The just shall live by SYSTEMS*.

Most Christians, mostly unknowingly, put much more trust in SYSTEMS than in GOD. Trust in God is known as FAITH. And although most Christians emphatically agree with the content of Ps. 91, almost all of us make monthly payments of hundreds and even thousands of rands to SYSTEMS – to back up our feeble faith in God. These SYSTEMS are known as short term & medical insurance. These SYSTEMS have the nasty habit of making their members dependent upon them, and to undermine their members' faith in God. SYSTEMS and FAITH directly oppose one another.

Due to unbelief the DRC – similarly to most institutional churches – throughout its 350 year history in SA has chosen the avenue of SYSTEMS whenever it stood before the choice to live by FAITH rather than SYSTEMS. This is exactly what an institution(al church) is: A SYSTEM – and light years removed from the Biblical "organism".

And now DRC leaders have once again put their trust in a SYSTEM – in this instance the very DRC system itself. Through the years, many middle aged and older ministers have made vast investments in this system – in terms of education, accreditation, relationships, influence, pension, etc. And the mere thought of leaving this DRC system fills them with fear and trembling – they could literally lose everything they've ever worked for.
And hence – due to unbelief – they once again pledge loyalty to a SYSTEM rather than to GOD.

5. The Issue of Denial:

Since loyalty to the SYSTEM rather than to GOD is preferred, such a church leader needs to find an escape route in his own mind to justify his actions. Currently most DRC leaders find this escape route in the age-old lie of DENIAL:
"Gay practice is not wrong and does nobody any harm."
And they commit the logical mind shift to justify gay practice with the Bible. Just as they did with slavery. And with Apartheid.
And one lie builds on top of the previous. A stronghold of the mind establishes itself – with mind-blinding deception and accompanying abominations.

This phenomenon is not new. Roman Catholics have walked the same avenue centuries ago.
In my heart of hearts I weep for the atrocities that the prisoners of these systems are going to be exposed to in the future – and the devastation it shall cause in their lives.

6. Where to from here?

Unfortunately there is only one route:
Flee from Babylon! (Jer. 50:8; 51:6, 45; 2 Cor. 6:17; Rev. 18:4).
Flee from Sodom! (Gen. 19:12).
Run for your life! (Gen. 19:17).
When God's judgment befalls her, and finds you inside her, it will come down on YOU too! (Gen. 19:17: Rev. 18:4).

Some individuals – who have sorted out their own minds on the gay issues even before the General Synod's decision – have already resigned from the DRC. Those who have not yet sorted out their own minds are running around, begging advice here and there. Many don't enjoy church any more. But they don't know where else to go.

Many put their trust in the pending appeal. If it would succeed, they could simply stay on! The appeal will only be heard in 2017. And this allows DRC leaders 2 years to soften up and swing members' opinions towards accepting the DRC's gay agenda. Do you really want to submit yourself to this kind of indoctrination?
But even if the appeal would succeed, I am afraid that it would be a mere temporary arrest of sin. Gays and their deceived sympathisers will never stop agitating. The permanence of the current decision is a mere matter of time.
If the appeal would fail, I foresee that tens of thousands of members will resign from the DRC in the year or two to come, as soon as they've sorted out their own minds on the matter.

Please leave the DRC (and all the other institutional churches that will follow in their footsteps) to the gays. In SA, many other gay clubs already exist

where gays do their gay thing. In the DRC they will simply do so with a “Jesus sauce” dressing. Under their deceived leadership they will sincerely believe that they are saved and serving the Lord.
When salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. (Mat. 5:13)

It is no sin to leave the institutional church. But it is dangerous for your faith to venture outside of **fellowship**.
Start a house church in your lounge with some fellow believers and friends.
Some advice:

1. Don’t start a miniature DRC – or Bible study.
2. Don’t start to indoctrinate people with your pet doctrines.
3. Stay away from the Hebrew Roots movement. They are deceptive and dangerous.
4. Stay in the Bible. Learn to hear the Holy Spirit for yourself. He is our only Teacher.
5. Remain in prayer until the Holy Spirit shows you which direction your house church should take.
6. Take responsibility for your own spiritual life. For decades the institutional church has programmed you unto passivity.

House Churches represent a wholly new mindset of how to be a church. Be sure to grasp this mindset before you start – else you will burn your own fingers and cause much hurt to your members.
On our website www.trumpetcall.co.za under “downloads” you will find free materials which should put you on the proper track.

The Kingdom of Heaven is not dependent upon institutional churches. In fact, institutional churches aren’t even Biblical. The Kingdom can indeed function excellently without them! Like in China – by far the largest national church on the face of the earth. Millions of Chinese Christians operate excellently via persecuted house churches!
Personally, I am excited about what the Father is going to birth out of this mess!
All through Scripture God works with a remnant. And this time will be no exception. As in the time of Ezra and Nehemiah He shall once again raise up temple and wall builders. He shall also raise up apostles and prophets who possess the necessary skills to lay the foundation of Christ properly. And skilled builders whose building shall be tested with fire, and shall not burn. The future glory shall be greater than the former!
Be sure to be a part of the remnant – so you shall not be engulfed in sin along with the masses!
Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings. (Is. 58:12).

7. An early warning unto current Ministers, Pastors and Church Leaders:

In the long run, I personally don’t see any avenue by which any other institutional church, in the light of the current SA legislation, shall be able to escape the same fate as that of the DRC. The church in SA has brought it over herself when she (via SACLA at that time) had appointed cardinal Wilfred Napier **of the Roman Catholic Church** (!) as her representative at the relevant court case concerning gay marriages. We are now paying the price for the political correctness and folly of those times.
My brother, if you agree with God that the practice of the gay lifestyle represents sin and that it warps God’s image in people, then leave the institution asap. The longer you stay, the more investments you are going to make in the institution, and the more difficult it will eventually become to escape.
No, I don’t know where to. And no, neither do I know how you will settle your bills. Or who will look after you when you grow old.
What I do know, is that a leap of faith now will be easier than a leap of faith in the future.
NOW is the time for FAITH! And to start practicing what we have preached for so long.

Eben Swart

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