I am writing to appeal against any decision that the Anglican Church of Australia may make in allowing ministers to provide a blessing for the marriages between two people of the same sex.

We cannot provide a blessing for something that is going against God's word. If we do then we will change the church forever and make a drastic effect for all churchgoers. Even though the government may have made the decision to allow it, it is against God's word. God is the ultimate power.

## In Romans it says it quite clearly

Romans 1:21-27 <sup>21</sup>For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup>Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup>and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles. <sup>24</sup>Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. <sup>25</sup>They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator-who is forever praised. Amen. <sup>26</sup>Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. <sup>27</sup>In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error.

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This is not said with hate but with love. Jesus has said that God would love to have everyone go to eternal life in heaven rather than hell. But if they continue to sin and do not accept Jesus as their leader and the person who gave up his life for them, then they will go to hell. This means that all of us have to look at our beliefs and our relationship with God

• "I struggle with same-sex attractions, but when I struggle I look to the cross and see Jesus hanging there it makes me want to fight. If

- Jesus sacrificed His life for me to go to Heaven, then I can sacrifice this sinful lifestyle for Him."
- "God's judgment on homosexual and lesbian relationships is not because he is a killjoy, but because he is opposed to what kills joy." John Piper"

<u>https://biblereasons.com/homosexuality/</u> above quotes from here.

## Revelations 1:26 +

26For this reason God gave them over to dishonourable passions. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. 27Likewise, the men abandoned natural relations with women and burned with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error. 28Furthermore, since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, He gave them up to a deprayed mind, to do what ought not to be done....

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## **Cross References**

Leviticus 18:22

You must not lie with a man as with a woman; that is an abomination.

Leviticus 20:13

If a man lies with a man as with a woman, they have both committed an abomination. They must surely be put to death; their blood is upon them.

1 Corinthians 6:9

Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who submit to or perform homosexual acts,

Jude 1:7

In like manner, Sodom and Gomorrah and the cities around them, who indulged in sexual immorality and pursued strange flesh, are on display as an example of those who sustain the punishment of eternal fire.

## **Treasury of Scripture**

And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet.

Romans 1:23,24

And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four footed beasts, and creeping things...

Basically if the Anglican Church allows gay and lesbian marriages to be blessed in the Anglican Church then a barrier is being established between God and the church. This barrier will affect every parishioner and priest in the church whether they believe it or not.

This barrier means that the way to eternal heaven is cut off and members of the Anglican Church will not be able to get into heaven due to the actions of its leaders. If they fight the issue and stop it, then I believe that God will bless the church and all parishioners will be able to get to heaven if they do not support the concept of "shameful acts" and declare Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

The comment by a person struggling with homosexuality was good in that we as a church need to pray for the work of the Holy Spirit to assist them to understand how the devil is influencing them and to ask for the help of the Holy Spirit to defeat the work of the devil.

Revelations 22:17-19 is a final verse to be considered –

17The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" Let the one who hears say, "Come!" And let the one who is thirsty come, and the one who desires the water of life drink freely. 18I testify to everyone who hears the words of prophecy in this book: If anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. 19And if anyone takes away from the words of this book of prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book....

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If we are going to continue as God's church we must stop this action and also look at who is practicing this action as preachers or members in our church. We need to pray for them.

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