



News Release

Wednesday 5th July 2006
12noon For immediate release.

Church Society Supports Nigerian Bishops

The Council of Church Society meeting yesterday (Tuesday) noted with gratitude the recent statement from the House of Bishops of the Church of Nigeria.

The Bishops were responding to a recent reflection sent out by the Archbishop of Canterbury. They particularly called attention to the apparent underlying assumption made by the Archbishop that unity is more important than truth. It is clear from such statements as the historic creeds and the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion (part of the 'formularies') that the Church of England and the Anglican Communion assume that there are boundaries to what is and is not authentic Christianity and to the legitimate interpretation of the Bible.

The theological divisions now affecting the Anglican Communion are a result of people and churches trying to distort plain biblical teaching. The Bishops' analysis of this as a 'cancerous lump' which will kill the body is entirely correct.

It is our fervent hope that over the coming months orthodox leaders within the Anglican Communion will work to ensure that our world-wide fellowship of churches is not destroyed by false teaching, immorality, inaction and indifference.

For further information please contact:

Revd David Phillips, General Secretary (01923-235111, mobile 07801-265049)

Revd George Curry, Chairman (0191-273-4680)

Church Society exists to uphold biblical teaching and to promote and defend the character of the Church of England as a reformed and national Church.

The Nigerian statement can be found at:

www.anglican-nig.org/response_abc_june06.htm

Rowan Williams' reflections:

www.anglicancommunion.org/acns/articles/41/50/acns4161.cfm

Church Society pages on the divisions in the Communion

www.churchsociety.org/issues_new/church/communion/iss_church_communion_division.asp

Dean Wace House, 16 Rosslyn Road, Watford, Herts WD18 0NY

Tel : 01923-235111

Fax : 01923-800362

<http://www.churchsociety.org>

e-mail: admin@churchsociety.org

Charity No: 249574 A company limited by guarantee No. 213142