



REPENT AUSTRALIA

“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

2 Chronicles 7:14

VOLUME 8:3

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REAPING THE WHIRLWIND

Late last year two carloads of youths stopped when a young man was thumbing a lift near a popular Perth beach nightspot and promptly beat him to death without rhyme or reason. Early this year three 15-year-old boys played “quokka hockey” with the unique local fauna on Rottnest Island callously killing seven of the little animals. Then a week later in a quiet suburban street a teenage party got out of control and some fifty police officers in riot gear were required to herd the drunken bottle and brick-throwing youths down the street like a pack of feral animals. These of course are not particularly rare events these days – similar acts of callous indifference to the rights of others, be they human or animal, are being repeated in numerous places across Australia at regular intervals. Boozy, drug affected, belligerent youths are now emerging in ever increasing numbers in the towns and cities of Australia. One only has to catch a train at night or even in daylight or walk through a city mall these days to be confronted by surly, foul-mouth teenagers. The big question is: Why? What has happened to many of our young people? Where have we gone wrong? As it so happens we really don’t have to look very far for the main causes

Shades of Grey

It happened something like this. Dr Benjamin Spock said we should not smack our children when they misbehaved because their little personalities would be warped and we might damage their self-esteem. We naturally thought an expert must know what he is talking about and we said OK. Then the authorities decided to heed his advice and banned corporal punishment in schools and principals debarred teachers from even touching a child in case they were sued. And we said nothing in protest. Then Lionel Murphy enacted the Family Law Act and divorce became as easy as falling off a log. Consequently now more than a third of marriages end in divorce and countless children are spending some or all of their formative years in one-parent families with all the trauma and deprivation that entails. No one argued with him. Then the academics decided that all moral issues were not matters of black and white but had to be seen in various shades of grey. So young minds were turned to mush when it came to separating right from wrong. They soon came to believe that “if it feels good it must be right”. And we went along with them. Then someone said let us allow our daughters to have abortions and don’t tell their parents; surely that is just their right of choice. Most of us said nothing. Then some school administrator said, since boys will be boys and will do it anyway let us give our sons all the condoms that they want so they can have as much fun as they desire. Again very few disagreed. Then someone said let us print magazines with pictures of nude women and call it wholesome appreciation of the female body. Nobody objected.

Just Entertainment

Then the entertainment industry said let us make TV shows and movies that promote profanity, violence and illicit sex. And let us record music that encourages rape, drugs, murder, suicide and satanic themes. We said it is just entertainment and can do no harm. Then our leaders decided to make our laws more upbeat. They appointed humanistic judges who adopted a softly-softly approach to crime. “Punishment” amounted to little more than a salutary slap across the wrist. Who objected? Now we are asking why our

youth have no conscience, why they don't know right from wrong and why it doesn't bother them to kill strangers, bash up old people and swagger about the streets as drunken, brawling jobboes.

Sow the Wind

We are reaping what we have sown. In the 8th century BC the prophet Hosea denounced ancient Israel's corruption, pride and idolatry and issued a stern warning: "For they sow the wind, and they reap the whirlwind." (Hosea 8:7) We too will reap the whirlwind. What we must recognize is that our modern approach to child-rearing is not producing well-balanced, disciplined young adults but an insecure, discourteous, blow-you-jack, up-your-nose generation that is only reacting to the sadly misguided way they have been taught by word and example and feels helpless in the face of family disintegration, nuclear annihilation and meaningless existence. Why is this so?

Bitter Harvest

The blunt answer is that we have lost our Christian heritage. Ever since we turned our backs on the biblical values that give us all, both young and old, respect for others and a realization of our responsibilities as well as our rights, together with meaning to life and hope for the future, we have been on a slippery slope leading us downhill as a nation. Be not deceived; God is not mocked. Our bitter harvest is full to overflowing. **Australia, wake up!** Our worship of the gods of humanism and materialism is an affront to the Holy God whom we have forsaken. Like Esau of old we have sold our birthright for a mess of worthless pottage. Yet all is not lost. Across this great land tens of thousands of young people are finding the God whom many of their peers have never known and are having their lives turned upside down, or rather, the right way up. Empowered by the Holy Spirit of God they delight in praise and worship of their Creator and Saviour and in that power have forsaken drugs, promiscuous sex and anti-social behaviour. By accepting **Jesus Christ** as their Saviour they have been born again into the Kingdom of God. They have discovered what it means to be baptized with the Holy Spirit and they are fired up for the Lord. Yet they were no different from others of their peers wandering aimlessly through life. But by acknowledging their need to change and truly repenting of their sins they are now new creatures in Christ. Without doubt **Jesus** is the answer to the massive problems we now face with our youth. It's time we did something about it, is it not?

PRAYER

Almighty Creator Spirit, Father of all grace, God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, have mercy on us. We thank You for the power of the blood of Jesus to endow us with the precious gift of eternal life. Through **Jesus Christ**, our Lord and Saviour, we humbly confess our sins to You. Forgive us, O Lord, for disobeying Your Word and grieving Your Holy Spirit. We have rejected the truth of Your Word and called it pluralism. We have worshipped other gods and called it multiculturalism. We have endorsed perversion and called it an alternative lifestyle. We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare. We have killed the unborn and called it choice. We have failed to discipline our children and called it building self-esteem. We have abused power and called it democracy. We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression. We have ridiculed the values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment. Blessed Holy Spirit, search our hearts today, purge and sanctify us of every sin with the powerful blood of Jesus and set us free to know Christ who is the embodiment and substance of infinite, immutable truth. Creator Spirit of all excellence, enlighten the eyes of our understanding and renew our minds to comprehend the length, breadth, height and depth of the love of Christ and to know the richness and fullness of God through His Living Word. Sovereign Lord, we call upon Your omnipotent Spirit to light a fire of revival that will blaze throughout the length and breadth of this land and sweep the lost into Your glorious kingdom in a mighty, irresistible, cleansing flood. Holy Father, we commit all this into Your hands in Jesus' majestic name. Amen.

R.A: Led by our Lord Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit to glorify God with the Brotherhood of Man and in love and faithfulness to bring glory and honour to His Holy Name. Amen.

[REJOICE & SHARE IN FAITH THIS MESSAGE IN PRAYER WITH OTHERS & BE BLESSED TO BE ONE IN CHRIST JESUS!]