



# 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: 9:7

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## WHATEVER BECAME OF TRUTH, BEAUTY AND GOODNESS?

The Greek philosopher Plato believed that the virtues of truth, beauty and goodness were necessary for happiness. History has shown this to be so. But today whatever happened to these precious qualities? Whatever has become of truth? Our society, it seems, has forsaken truth for a lie. Deception and deceit are all about us; we are constantly bombarded with falsehoods. Take the media, for example. How much of its advertising is really truthful? Watch the TV for a short time and ponder the truthfulness or otherwise of the commercials which constantly assail our senses. Or consider the news which is biased toward the left-wing viewpoint held by most editors and journalists. There is more than a smidgeon of propaganda in the news slant often presented. Then there are the politicians of today. They have become past masters of the evasive and obfuscatory.

### **Womb of Deception**

Yet none of these things should be. Honesty is fundamental to any society of worth and durability. Wherever there is deception evil lurks. From the womb of deception comes the birth of every kind of malady that afflicts our society today. Inquiries into the police in Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia over the past two decades have uncovered a web of intrigue and corruption that has flourished for years because of deception and dishonesty. Unfortunately Lord Acton's well-known axiom that "power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely" is as true today as when he first said it. The power of the press and of governments and their agencies have wrought increasing corruption and malfeasance in the lives of peoples and nations.

### **Freedom Through Truth**

Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." If people today – and leaders especially – would hold to His teachings they would speak and live the truth. They would lose much in pride, and possibly position, but they would learn the freedom that only comes through the truth. If we as individuals and as a nation are to emerge from the sinister fog of deception that is steadily engulfing us in every walk of life, truth must be restored. Honesty and integrity must become the handmaidens of our leaders, both civic and corporate, the media in its various forms and the ordinary citizens if Australia is to hold its head high among the nations of the world.

### **A Beautiful World**

We live in a world of great beauty. God has indeed created a beautiful world. Who could but acknowledge the majesty of His creation in the multitudinous variety and splendour of the trees and flowers, birds and animals, the breathtaking sunrises and sunsets, the towering mountains, flowing streams and rivers and cascading waterfalls? And there is humanity – the gurgling of a baby exulting in its mother's love; the sacrifice of a young soldier forfeiting his life on a foreign battlefield, the musical genius of Chopin or Mozart, the artistry of Constable or da Vinci; or the literary masterpieces of Shakespeare or Tolstoy. One could go on and on. But what is happening to the beautiful today? Our natural beauty is being destroyed at an alarming rate as forests are being denuded in the name of corporate greed and our rivers become cesspools of chemical poisons and garbage. And what of mankind's achievements in the arts? The beautiful creations of the past have been replaced by fakery in art, cacophony in music and pornography in literature. Today we see our parks dotted with the most grotesque examples of sculpture imaginable; modern art filling our galleries with pictures that defy description; literature that is either incomprehensible, hiding under the guise of "stream of consciousness" writing, or crude and highly immoral books and magazines: DVD, video and films generally laced with gratuitous violence, viciousness and sexual depravity; and the Internet a conveyance for perversion of the most vile kind. Not to mention the

degeneration in music which often is merely a vehicle to promote satanic themes through heavy metal rock, glorifying extreme ugliness, profanity, drugs, suicide and anarchy. Or the skeleton-like models parading the skimpiest and most vulgar fashions in modern dress. The ugly abounds. As the truth has declined so has beauty, for the two are inextricably linked. Without truth, there is no real beauty. And without either, goodness too is unattainable.

### **“God-ness”**

Goodness stems from “God-ness” Take God away and goodness goes too. The old beliefs in right and wrong have been steadily eroded over the past 40 years. Humanistic values based on “If it feels good it must be right” have undermined the old traditional values founded on the Bible. No longer are children in state schools taught the immutable rights and wrongs laid down by God in His Holy Word. Consequently they are being tossed about like corks on the sea of life with neither rudder to guide nor anchor to hold them in times of trial and tempest. What is good for both the individual and society at large is a question seldom asked. The cry of “rights now”, the hallmark of a selfish society, is heard above any such call for what is good and right. On the other hand goodness entails a refinement of heart and mind that helps distinguish between truth and error, virtue and vice, the noble and the base. That is what we so desperately need today.

### **Future Well-Being**

Truth, beauty and goodness – these three are basic to our future well-being. The time has come to stop the rot that began when we listened to the secular revolutionaries who, in spurning the faith of our fathers, have led us down the garden path into a moral vacuum devoid of those things that would make us an honourable society. We would do well to heed the words of that great 18<sup>th</sup> century English statesman, Edmund Burke: “Religion consecrates the state. The state is metaphysically sacred because willed by God. It is socially sacred because it is endowed by religion with moral legitimacy. When the state is united with religion it is both sanctioned by morality and gives sanction to morality throughout society.” Of course he was referring to Christianity and it is certain that unless we return post haste to the Christian virtues that are so basic to truth, beauty and goodness we shall plunge further into the mire that threatens our very survival as a civilized nation. To put it bluntly, let us get back to God by believing His Word and accepting His Son who died, was buried and resurrected as our Saviour – for He will deliver us from the web of deception, ugliness and evil that is fast engulfing us.

### **PRAYER**

God Almighty, Father of infinite grace, mercy, truth, beauty, goodness, joy and peace, on bended knees with repentant hearts and all lowliness of mind we trust and worship You in spirit and in truth. Faithful Father of Glory, as children of the cross, we thank You for giving us Your all, JESUS CHRIST, who died, was buried, then resurrected and is now seated on Your right hand as our Lord, Saviour and Great High Priest interceding for the sons and daughters of God to be filled to all the fullness of God in this age of lies and deception. Holy Father of Life, as warriors of the Most High God, clothed in Your full armour and yielded to Your Holy Spirit of truth, we lift our hearts in praise and thanksgiving for Christ’s triumphant royal banner over our lives in His finished work on the cross when He conquered Satan, the father of lies, deception, doubt, pride, fear, terror, lawlessness and death in human hearts and minds. In Jesus’ name we thank You that we too have the victory over him.

Sovereign Lord, forgive us for our lack of faith and complacency for not dispensing Your grace and truth in our daily walk with You; for faith in Christ is the key that unlocks the golden doors into the tabernacle of divine truth which is Your foundation of all knowledge and wisdom that cements families, societies and nations under His divine lordship. Lord God, forgive us for departing from the Spirit of truth in Your Living Word, which promises that in the conversion of sinners none should perish but all shall enter into Your kingdom through the saving grace of Christ in these perilous times. Reign in us sovereign Lord so that Your Spirit of truth, beauty and goodness is enhanced in our daily fellowship with You, that we may know the infinite love and mercy of Christ which surpasses knowledge and that, in obedience to Your Holy Word, we may be filled with all the fullness of God. Spirit of the Living God, strengthen us in faith to understand that we who are in Christ, sanctified by His blood and in communion with Him daily are complete in Him in Whom dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. Blessed Holy Spirit, give our leaders grace to obey and participate in the purposes of God that Your Will be done on earth. May we too respond faithfully to our Lord’s commands to set the captives free, heal the sick and enrol the lost into Your kingdom of righteousness, holiness, justice and truth. Even so, come Lord Jesus, come. We ask all this in the supreme and majestic name of Jesus Christ to God’s glory 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