

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

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LET JUSTICE BE DONE

There's an old saying, "Crime doesn't pay". In the long run this is true: God will see to that. However, in the short term in Australia—and other Western countries too—crime does pay. That's why it is so rampant. These days criminals, especially the violent—such as murderers and rapists—serve such pathetic jail terms that the relatives of victims and society as a whole are outraged. Yet little seems to be done to rectify the situation. Soft-hearted judges and magistrates continue to err on the side of leniency towards criminals, sympathising with the "poor fellow's upbringing etc" in handing down their sentences. Consequently, a murderer who would have received the death penalty in more enlightened times, now finds himself free after serving a comparatively light sentence for his crime. Then there is the parole system which ensures that a convicted felon is released after serving only half his sentence—and, as he has no conscience, is free to commit the same crime again.

Humanist Philosophy

In times past the purpose of the justice system was to protect the public from the depredations of those who chose to live outside the law. But not now. Over the past 30-40 years atheistic philosophy has permeated the judicial system and most judges now will not accept the fact of original sin that has tainted the human race since the Fall of Man in the Garden of Eden. This viewpoint is borne of the humanistic belief that everyone is inherently good, in contradiction to the biblical concept of the basic fallen nature of man: "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). All wrongdoing is blamed on the social system. No one, it seems, is responsible for his actions. Psychiatrists and trendy sociologists blame parents, the person's environment, capitalism or whatever---but never the guilty party! Thus we continually find judges bending over backwards to justify lenient sentences. Sadly, it seems that many judges see criminals as unfortunate, helpless victims, and are owed a debt because our treatment of the underprivileged drives them to crime. Or is it their humanistic outlook that constantly strives to bring out the best in even the worst, depraved human beings in spite of what they have done? However, feeling sorry for these offenders and excusing their behaviour does nothing for either them or for society but does us all a gross disservice for which we pay dearly. For Justice is truth in action and is the basic foundation of every civilised society.

A Sick Joke

Recently the new Chief Justice of Western Australia at his welcoming ceremony stated that the community owns the justice system. If only it were true! In reality it is so far from the truth to be laughable. People shake their heads in bewilderment and frustration at what a sick joke our justice system has become. In fact, a recent media poll revealed that a whopping 98% of viewers believed that it is a failure. Sentences of eleven years for murder are still handed down. Women no longer need to leave their own homes to be raped. Children can no longer play safely in neighbourhood parks. The elderly are beaten, robbed and abused. Police officers are constantly vilified and assaulted. Prominent QCs and other defence lawyers continue to lobby for the rights of offenders and legal technicalities are frequently employed to pervert the cause of Justice. Governments continue to throw money at the system, without really changing anything. Parole boards go on releasing offenders as soon as possible only to see them re-offend. Prisons become more like luxury hotels rather than places of punishment. And the number of victims of crime continues to soar because serial offenders receive almost unending opportunities to reform, despite their continued failure to show any remorse or respect for the rights of anyone but themselves.

Justice Denied and Delayed

Our judicial system cries out for reform. Not only is justice denied it is also long delayed. Cases appear before the courts months, even years, after the crime has been committed and the perpetrator caught by the police. However, "because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil" (Eccles 8:11) It is incumbent upon governments to protect the innocent citizens of the land. Governments MUST ensure that crime does not pay. And the only way to do that is to make sure that Justice is done without delay. Punishment must fit the crime, not the criminal. The Law given to Moses by God was just and swift. For murder the penalty was death; for lesser crimes whipping was often prescribed. Today in our so-called enlightened society, however, our learned judges declare that we are too civilized for such "barbaric" punishments, overlooking the fact that wilful murderers and callous rapists act barbarously and brutally towards their victims. In their misguided zeal to overthrow the Common Law with its strong Christian foundations and replace it with contemporary values that often run contrary to those of society at large they have thrown out the baby with the bathwater. The result, according to Professor James Allan, is "an interpretive regime that places few if any constraints on the judiciary".

Blood Defiles the Land

It just won't do! Today murder is commonplace because it is not adequately punished. Yet innocent "blood defiles the land and no atonement can be made for the land for the blood that is shed on it, except by the blood of him who shed it" (Numbers 35:33) In other words, the only remedy for the innocent blood which now is a curse on our fair land is the restoration of capital punishment. Furthermore, rapists often terrorise, maim and ravage women and girls. The only fit punishment for such vile behaviour is a return to corporal punishment (the birch) followed by a substantial term of imprisonment. These penalties may appear harsh but they are essential if we are to put the brakes on the rampant lawlessness that will surely engulf us like a flood if we continue on the present softly-softly path. The sad fact, however, is that many in authority now pour scorn on the Common Law which has been devised over more than 800 years by the finest legal minds in the English speaking world and is far wiser than any modern day rulings by today's lawmakers and judges who reject the godly wisdom which for ages has given us law and order, enabling us by God's grace to live at peace.

The Ten Commandments

It is only when our justice system returns to the Hebrew-Christian laws (the Ten Commandments) that kept ours a safe society for centuries shall we see a dramatic check in the crime rate. It is only as true Justice is administered and speedily shall women and children, the aged and the vulnerable, yes, even the ordinary citizens in the wider community, be safe on the streets and in their own homes. We continue to treat vicious killers and molesters with kid gloves at our peril. It is surely time to get serious with violent crime in this country. Judges and lawmakers, wake up, forget your namby-pamby methods of law enforcement and restore true Justice before law and order break down completely and we find ourselves subject to the law of the jungle. Let Justice be done!

PRAYER

Lord God Almighty, the Great I AM and risen, glorified Lord of infinite grace and mercy, hallowed be Your majestic name. As Your children under the Lordship of Jesus Christ we worship You in Spirit and in truth. Abba Father, thank You for the finished work of Christ on the cross of Calvary, cleansing us with His holy blood and empowering us to speak out boldly for Justice in this fair land of Australia. Dear Father, we are indeed thankful that You established our national birthright over a century ago with Your Rule of Law incorporated in our Constitution and our system of Justice. Sovereign Lord, we acknowledge that Your Word has been our source of guidance in matters of Justice, ethics, morality and spiritual living. Dear Father, have mercy on our political leaders and judges for their spiritual ignorance in rejecting Your Word and wisdom as now too often they acquit the guilty and condemn the innocent. Loving God, cause these lawmakers and lawenforcers to repent and have their minds renewed by Your Holy Spirit of Truth, that they will learn to administer true Justice in our courts. We earnestly pray, O God, that Decency and Justice will be upheld in this nation and that all, both great and small, will come to a knowledge of Your saving grace. Father, it is our solemn prayer that people throughout this Great Southland of the Holy Spirit will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord and will eagerly await His promised return in glory. Even so, Maranatha, come Lord Jesus, come. Amen.

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