



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 13:5

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A LOST GENERATION

Never before has a new generation had so much but so little at the same time. The current generation of young people has money to burn and untold freedom. Their every whim is catered for by a commercial world bowing and scraping at their feet. Nevertheless it is a spiritually deprived, lost generation. The heart of the problem is the so-called youth culture, a style of life for the young based on cleverly disguised deception. Youth culture is an ego culture, centring around "I". It is a sub-culture composed of peer pressure, drink, drugs, popularity, hero worship of satanic rock music and its morally sick artists, and rebellion against the traditional values and standards of acceptable behaviour. Where does it begin? Ironically, its origins are in the home, through parents who fail to instil into them loving but firm discipline, believing that a child's self-esteem will be devastated if he is chastened for his wrongdoing. Consequently, he fails to learn self-discipline and is ill-equipped to develop into mature adulthood with all its duties and responsibilities. In the home, too, there are the subverting influences of television, videos and the internet---forceful, permissive and compelling on immature minds. Over the years adults and children alike have been brainwashed by a constant portrayal of promiscuity and abnormal family strife---sexual abuse of women, child "wisdom" and incompetent fathers.

Reared as Untouchables

Then, too, there is the influence of the school, often riddled with indoctrination of students into a left-wing, humanist/socialistic view of life. By replacing moral character development and instruction in good solid teaching in the basics of education with trendy topics, optional curricula and a pragmatic approach to learning, schools are sowing seeds of meaninglessness and hopelessness into young hearts and minds. Consequently, many young people are growing up in a fantasy world. They are taught little of the real virtues---love, faith, courtesy, self-discipline, industriousness, obedience and purity--- which they often deride and ridicule. No wonder anti-social behaviour is rising dramatically. Murders, bashings, aggravated sexual assaults, hoon on the roads killing people, out-of-control youths gate-crashing parties causing mayhem, streets awash with drugs and education systems in virtual chaos are becoming part and parcel of every day life today. It is clear that far too many young people have been reared as untouchables due to the banning of corporal punishment and are getting away with zero accountability in the school system and unleashing this untouchable status on society when they leave school. No wonder people are afraid to walk city streets or travel by train at night.

Highway to Hell

It should not be. But we have failed our young people and like Esau of old we have sold our precious heritage for a mess of godless pottage. We have forsaken our God and His ways for our materialistic pleasures. We have failed to implant a solid faith in the hearts of our youth. Both by errors of omission and commission, by abandoning the faith of our fathers and by poor example and instruction, we have fallen short of what is our basic responsibility to train up our children in the correct way they should live. In fact, many young people are on a highway to hell, their lives bereft of godly values and bound for human misery and spiritual death. Caught between a secularist, materialistic world and the fear of the world coming to an end either through nuclear annihilation or devastating global warming and its prophesied disastrous consequences, our youth by and large are lost, ignorant of how to find meaning and purpose for their lives. Unless they are delivered from this destructive youth culture they will remain lost---lost to real happiness, lost to themselves, and lost to God. Nevertheless, all is not lost. Jesus said, "I have come that they might have life, and that more abundantly."

Need for Reflection

No matter how deeply our youth are enmeshed in an unreal world of fantasy, meaninglessness and despair, there is still *hope*. The Bible tells us why Jesus left His heavenly home to come to earth: "*To seek and to save the lost*". The well-known story He told of the Prodigal Son clearly illustrates God the Father's love and concern for each one of us, young or old, and of the rejoicing over just one sinner who repents and turns back to Him. Like so many of our young people today the prodigal had wandered far from the godly way of living that was once generally accepted in the past when decency prevailed. He found himself in a foreign land (and that is just what sinful living is), feeding and eating with the pigs and with people who lived like pigs. And it was there he began to take stock of his situation. He reflected. He reflected on the blessings he had enjoyed at home and realised how thankless he had been for all that he had received. In fact, it is only when we, not only our young people, all stop and reflect on our mistakes and the many blessings that we have enjoyed through the bountiful goodness of God that there begins to be hope for us. Reflection is the first step on the ladder which leads a sinner back to God. We need to come to a realisation that we were made to live in a way pleasing to Him; and if we aren't, we shall never find life's true meaning nor His purpose and plan for us. For surely, by His grace, God has an individual plan for us all, each and everyone one.

Fulfilment of this Unique Life

Three thousand years ago King David the psalmist was inspired to write, "For You have formed my inner parts; You have covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You for I am wonderfully made; marvellous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You. When I was made in secret, and skilfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they were all written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them." (Psalm 139: 13-16) However, until we are aware that God has indeed created us for His purposes, that we are being called to love and faithfully serve Him, we shall never find true fulfilment of this unique life for which we were placed on earth. Moreover, if we refuse to believe His Word and His will for our lives, flout His laws and go our own merry way we place our souls in great danger. In fact, all we have to do is to either despise or ignore God and His salvation and we place our souls in great jeopardy. Just fold your arms and drift along as the current of life sweeps you onward, like the boat carried down a swift river to a great waterfall, you too will be lost. Don't let this happen to you. In this happy-go-lucky land where sun, sand, surf, sport, success and sin have become our gods, both young and old of us should reflect on our eternal future.

Where Are You?

In the Garden of Eden, following their disobedience to God by eating of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, Adam and Eve heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, so they hid themselves from His presence among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?" And that is the very question He is asking today: *Where are you?* Just like Adam and Eve, God made each of us to have fellowship with Him. But so many of us are hiding among the thousands of distractions of our self-centred materialistic lives and avoid Him and His searching gaze, completely overlooking the fact that He loved us so much to send His own beloved Son to die on the Cross for our salvation to give us eternal life. That goes for every one of us, the lost generation of youth and the older generations who have failed to impart this glorious message on to their children. But it is not too late!

PRAYER

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, how majestic is Your name in all the earth. Omniscient Father of all grace and mercy, as blood-bought ambassadors under the lordship of JESUS CHRIST, we come with contrite hearts to love and thank You for all our daily blessings to us. Thank You, too, for appointing the Lord Jesus as the Executor of Your Will to accomplish Your divine purposes on earth. We acknowledge that Your revealed will to man is spelt out in the inspired holy Scriptures; and that, in the New Testament, we have the New Covenant promises that we can become ONE with God as we yield ourselves to You, loving and keeping Your Word. Moreover, we thank You, Lord, for Your indwelling Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth so that we may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work; to give us the grace to walk by faith in obedience to You; to empower us with miracle-working power; to give us victory over sin and all the forces of darkness in the heavenly realms; and to reproduce in us the exact image of Jesus. Finally, Omnipotent Father, help us to administer supernatural gifts of the Spirit to this lost generation of youth, so they will repent and confess that JESUS CHRIST IS LORD of this Great Southland of the Holy Spirit, to the glory of God. Amen.

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

REJOICE IN COVENANT PRAYERS FULLY IN THE HOLY SPIRIT DAILY FOR AUSTRALIA'S REVIVAL.