



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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ONE SOLITARY LIFE A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

He was born in an obscure village. He worked in a carpenter's shop until He was thirty. He then became an itinerant preacher. He never held an office. He never had a family or owned a house. He didn't go to college. He had no credentials but Himself... Twenty centuries have come and gone and today He is the central figure of the human race. All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever sailed; all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that... ONE SOLITARY LIFE.

The Cornerstone of History

Why is this short summary of the life of Jesus Christ by an unknown author so true? Because He was no less than the very Son of God come to earth to live among men. His impact on this sin-blighted world has been nothing less than profound. He has been the cornerstone of history, as the calendar verifies. Moreover, Scripture asserts, “He is the image of the invisible God...for by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth...All things were created through Him and for Him... For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.” Just as was prophesied 700 years previously by the prophet Isaiah He was born at Bethlehem to fulfil the desires of God's heart and redeem lost mankind, for “God so loved the world He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life”. His mission was to seek and to save those willing to admit that they were lost in their sin and needed a Saviour. “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not understand it.” Throughout the last 2000 years this Light has continued to shine, enlightening those with faith to believe and receive Him. Countless numbers can testify how He has changed their lives through the power of His Holy Spirit dwelling in them, having been born again and experiencing the new birth, so becoming members of the Kingdom of God.

Unbelief and False Gods

Furthermore, His influence in believers has made those countries in this world where He has been followed and His teaching obeyed, much better places than those living in darkness through unbelief and false gods. Just take a look at the various cultures and see the impact that their religious beliefs have had on their way of life, their customs and on the people themselves. Even today there are tribes in New Guinea which are bound by the evil power of witch doctors who govern their lives and dictate their behaviour. Or look at India---a great nation bound by religious beliefs that have brought so much misery, poverty and death. Or consider the nations that were dominated by Communism clothed in a life-destroying ideology that rejected Christ. On the other hand, the nations that followed the Christian tradition developed both materially and spiritually. Great Britain, her empire and the USA have led the world because Christianity was the basis of their existence. But that is now in the past. These nations and others of the Western world have turned to humanism as their religion. We now live in a post-Christian country where Christian values no longer hold sway. Thanks to the theory of evolution, God has been rejected and now man is on the throne; he alone has all the answers. We fail to realise that we are essentially spiritual beings made in the image of God, and we shall never find our true selves and the real purpose of life until we again find them in Him. How desperately we need to get back to that ‘old-time religion’, the faith of our fathers---the faith that caused us to become a prosperous nation, blessed by Almighty God through His dear Son whose divine guidance enabled us to walk in the light and not in the dark.

The Angel's Message

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem that first Christmas, shepherds minding their sheep in the nearby fields were startled by an angel of the Lord with the message that began, "Be not afraid." One of the greatest enemies of mankind is fear for it erodes confidence, destroys peace and produces untold anxiety and unhappiness. The world today is fearful. People fear the future. They fear terrorism, atomic annihilation, worldwide overpopulation and famine, destruction of the environment, out-of-control crime, economic disaster, AIDS and other diseases. Yet in the midst of all these woes the angel brings "good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a **Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.**" *A Saviour!* If we humans ever needed anyone to deliver us from our sinful, selfish way of living inherited from the Fall of Man in the Garden of Eden, it is a Saviour, a second Adam to restore a right relationship to God the Creator. Whereas "the first Adam became a living being, the last Adam became a life-giving Spirit...the first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second man is the Lord from heaven." They called Him JESUS for He would save His people from their sins. He grows up then at thirty He begins His earthly ministry. He heals the sick, feeds the hungry, comforts the afflicted and offers forgiveness to all who receive Him. *Christ!* He was born the Messiah, the Anointed, the chosen One of Israel, the Christ, long foretold by the prophets of old. He is the Wonderful Counsellor of whom Isaiah prophesied---wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities. He is the prophesied Stem of Jesse, the Branch of Zechariah, the Messenger of the Covenant and the Sun of Righteousness. *The Lord!* This is the grand climax of the angel's message. *Jesus is the Lord*---not merely an emissary or a messenger or an angel---but the *Sovereign Lord Himself* has come to save mankind.

God Made Flesh

The Lord Jesus Christ is God made flesh, the everlasting Son of the Father who sent Him. He makes it abundantly clear He has divine power and authority by making such claims as these: "I am the Resurrection and the Life. If a man has faith in Me, even though he die, yet shall he live; and no one who is alive and has faith in Me shall ever die." Moreover, "I give them eternal life and they shall never perish; no one shall snatch them from My care." And: "I have come that men may have life, and may have it in all its fullness." Nevertheless, though the world was made through Him, the world "knew Him not". He came to His own people, the Jews, but they refused to receive Him. In fact, He cried out in anguish to their beloved city, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! Behold! Your house is forsaken and left desolate." Tragically that is why they have suffered persecution ever since. However, as many who truly repent to receive Him and believe in His name, He gives the power to become the children of God, His heirs and co-heirs with Christ, conformed to His image, called, justified and glorified. Hallelujah!

The Tribunal of Christ

Yet the Word of God warns us all, whether Jew or Gentile, that our eternal future depends on faith in Christ. We must all have our lives laid open before the tribunal of Christ, where each shall receive what is due to him for their conduct in the body, whether good or bad. You are dead in your trespasses and sins until Christ gives you life and He never will until you are ready to accept it. There can be no sitting on the fence---you must either come out on His side or be against Him: there is no neutrality. But the moment you decide to accept Him, He will come into your life and be your Saviour. Why not make this Christmas the time of your salvation through coming to this One Solitary Life? Only you can decide your eternal future. The choice is yours!

PRAYER

Lord God Almighty, omniscient Father of infinite grace, hallowed be Your name. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for being our Sovereign Lord and Saviour and leaving Your heavenly home to save lost, confused souls and reconcile them to the Father. We are deeply grateful for the finished work on the cross where You bought us with Your precious blood, setting us free to join the hosts of heaven in worshipping You in Spirit and in truth. As prayer warriors of the Almighty God under the lordship of the *One Solitary Life* we stand against the powers of darkness, the spiritual forces of Satan and bind them in Your name---that name which is above all other names. We thank You for the Spirit of wisdom found in Your Living Word, the Holy Bible, which reveals the truth of Christ Jesus and has power to open the hearts of everyone---government leaders, professional people, ordinary workers, parents and children. May they genuinely repent, obey Your Word and accept JESUS CHRIST as Lord and Saviour, the coming Prince of peace, to the glory of Almighty God. Amen.

Wishing you and your family a blessed Christmas season and a glorious New Year in 2010.

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.