

# 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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## LIFE IS FOR LIVING

Life is precious. Life is sacred. Moreover, life is for living Why? Because we humans are made in the image of God. The Bible tells us that: "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female, He created them." (Genesis 1: 27) Each one of us has been made with a purpose. We are not animals. Man has been created in the image of the Creator who "made him a little lower than the angels and crowned him with glory and honour". So, you see, because God in His love holds us in such high esteem, human life is of great worth and must be treated with the utmost respect. However, today we find that this is not so. We are living in a world that denies God and lives by values other than those espoused in His holy Word. Whereas the Bible exalts us to think on whatever is honourable and gracious, whatever is true, whatever things are noble, whatever is pure and lovely---in fact, all that is good, holy and uplifting---the world is set on thinking the opposite.

#### **Bizarre Television Programs**

If the media is any guide to the standards by which we live, we have come to the point where whatever is foul or dishonest, unjust or impure, grotesque or degenerate, violent or barbaric, sexually titivating, blasphemous or obscene---whatever deserves our condemnation---is seen as being acceptable behaviour. Programs about bizarre, deviant acts and morbidly violent crimes are regularly imprinted on the minds of viewers, young and old, dissipating those values we should regard as helpful, uplifting and beneficial to productive and victorious living. All this symbolises the terminal condition of our culture. It seems that as this sin-sick world of ours continues to rot, people are increasingly fascinated with all things pertaining to death. Consider the *Twilight* series of books and movies about a glamorous vampire who protects a beautiful woman from a wicked werewolf. The books alone have sold over a million copies translated into 38 languages and three films have earned over \$2 billion. In fact, the vampire industry is now worth over \$7 billion as we are led into a world of glamour, romance and sex mingled with blood, violence and occultism. Who can deny that millions of minds are being continually subjected to this evil, bizarre material which we are beguiled into calling 'harmless fun'?

#### Ostrich-like Attitude

Unfortunately this death culture extends itself into the community in other ways too as life loses its value to many. Probably the most devastating way this is revealed is typified by our ostrich-like attitude to the murder of some 100,000 babies in the womb each year by abortion. As a society we seem quite unperturbed that every few years we are legally slaying a complete generation of young Australians before birth because we have been deceived into believing that a woman has the right to do as she likes with her body, including the baby she carries. The bottom line is that a human life is cruelly cut off as the ultimate means of birth control. Our society has rejected God's rules for sexual behaviour so it must go one step further and break another of His rules. Thus we move from promiscuity (fornication and adultery) to murder. And a person, made in His image, is destroyed!

## Death Education and Euthanasia

Is it any wonder that we are being borne along by this death culture when an anti-life, psychological subject has crept into the schools' curriculum? This latest educational fad now encourages pupils to take a dispassionate view of suicide, euthanasia and abortion as options for departing this life. The aim of the course is to have children believe that death is to be welcomed as an escape from the burdens of living. It even opens the door to a belief in reincarnation and the promise of a better life the next time round. Is it little wonder that more and more young people are committing suicide as a means of escape from their fears, despondency and depression? Furthermore is it any wonder that more and more people are coming out in support of the practice of euthanasia, euphemistically termed 'dying with dignity'. The fact is, however, that as we have rejected our Creator we have enthroned man (ourselves) in God's place. Now we feel we are free to do as we please with our own bodies, even to disposing of them. However, it is God and He alone who has the authority to take life---"The Lord giveth, and the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord." Euthanasia, moreover, is not only anti-God but it also bears horrifying social consequences. During Hitler's rise to power in the 1920s some 275,000 inmates of nursing homes, asylums and hospitals were killed 'mercifully' because the medical profession had previously advocated mercy killings. Later came the holocaust...

## Carnally or Spiritually Minded

No matter what men may think, God is for *life*. His Word explicitly states: "I have set before you life and death---therefore choose life that you and your descendants may live." The same inspired Word also says, "To be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." It also admonishes us to "abhor what is evil and to cleave to what is good". Our secular society, however, is ever so carnally minded: we are so engrossed in satisfying our earthly nature to give any thought to the spiritual aspect of our lives. Our problem is that we have lost sight of the sacredness of life. Nevertheless, *life is sacred!* We are spiritual beings destined for a far greater future than we could ever imagine: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." However, "the natural man does not receive the things of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

### Death Is a Doorway

Jesus Christ gave His life that we might live. He paid the supreme price for our redemption from the evils that society would deceive us into accepting and the sins that we commit. In Him there is life and hope and eternal security, so much so that "neither death nor life...shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord". Death is not the end; it is only a doorway that leads to heaven or hell. We should never lose sight of this awesome and sobering thought. Whatever our destiny is depends on each of us personally. His Word assures us of this when it records the words of Jesus: "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved...the thief (the devil) comes to steal, to kill and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." The Bible makes it crystal clear that to "believe in Him whom God sent" is the only way to find LIFE.

#### PRAYER

Omniscient Creator of the heavens and the earth, hallowed be Your name. Dear Father, we join the hosts of heaven to praise You for the LORD JESUS CHRIST, our beloved Redeemer. Blessed Lord, as our great High Priest interceding for us to have wisdom to know the Father's will, we thank You that Your will is irreversible, Your power is irresistible and Your judgment is irrevocable. Moreover to the hurting, Christ Jesus is the Great Physician; to the confused, He is the Light; to the hungry and thirsty, He is the Bread and Water of Life; to the broken, He is the Balm of Gilead. Thank You, Lord, that You are shaking the earth as You reveal end-time signs of the age in numerous disasters across the globe. Holy Father, may these natural calamities help us to realise that we have rejected Your Word and failed to keep Your commandments. Help us, O God, to swallow our pride, repent of our sins and turn back to You through JESUS CHRIST, making Him both Lord and Master, eager to enthrone Him King of kings and Lord of lords in His coming Kingdom, to the glory of Almighty 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.