



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 16: 5

May 2011

www.repentaustralia.com

GOD'S GRIM WARNING

Since the advent of 2011, Australia has witnessed two of its worst natural disasters. In January, Queensland became awash with massive floods as torrential rains overflowed its rivers and three quarters of the state was declared a disaster zone. Dozens of lives were lost as huge flows inundated towns and cities, including Brisbane. Then, to compound the disaster, category-5 cyclone Yasi roared in from the Pacific bringing further devastation right across Queensland, leaving the state reeling in the wake of these twin catastrophes. Major rains also hit the southern states causing flooding in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. Undoubtedly, the impact of the Queensland floods on the coal-producing regions will hit our resource-based economy in a big way. Moreover, uncommon falls of rain in the West flooded Carnarvon, destroying the banana and other fruit and vegetable crops. Following in the wake of all this, bushfires in the South-eastern suburbs of Perth destroyed 84 homes. Australia is certainly living up to being a land of 'flood and fire and famine'. Then, to add to the natural calamities, across the Tasman the New Zealand city of Christchurch was devastated by an earthquake that flattened countless buildings and took over 200 lives on 22 February.

Quirks of Nature or God?

Why have these disasters struck our two nations? Are they merely quirks of nature or deliberate acts of God? As for the rain deluges, the Bible states that “God saturates the thick clouds...and they swirl about, being turned by His guidance, that they may do whatever He commands them...to come whether for correction...or for mercy.” Regarding the NZ (and Japanese) earthquakes, the Scriptures prophesy that “God will shake all nations”, and that in the last days “there will be great earthquakes in various places”. It could hardly be claimed that the recent floods and earthquakes were merciful. The obvious conclusion is that these calamities have come for correction, leading to sincere repentance.

His Chosen People

The fact is that God loves us, both Aussies and Kiwis. We are among His chosen people, a people who have been blessed beyond measure because we dutifully obeyed His Word, in general kept the Ten Commandments and acknowledged Jesus Christ as Lord over these two lands. Sadly, however, things have changed. In the last 20 or so years we have repudiated our faith in the Holy One we confessed as our Lord and Master and have followed our own selfish, godless ways. We now have men taught to be self-haters, dumb and violent, addicted to booze, pornography and endless sport. Our young women are brash and aggressive and never really satisfied. Our children are the oppressors of their parents who never chastise them for fear of destroying their self-confidence. Australians and New Zealanders have all but stopped breeding, believing the world is over-populated, while Middle-Eastern migrants are having some eight children per family. We are fervent about the environment and the protection of threatened species, yet all the while slaughtering our unborn in their thousands in abortion clinics. It seems that as we now no longer receive the truth of God's Word, our spiritual light has gone out.

Time for Correction

As the litany of problems goes on, it is no wonder that God has come to the point where His patience with us is wearing thin! Along with other Western nations, we are living in a post-Christian age that constantly becomes more and more depraved. Our condition has caused the writer Jeffrey Kuhner to astutely comment: "The passing of the Christian West signifies the end not only of a worldview, but a character type---one based on honour, family, self-help, blood-and-soil patriotism, personal responsibility and a God-centred moral order. Self-indulgence and self-expression have filled the vacuum. Life is no longer about sacrifice and duty; it's about maximizing pleasure and self-fulfilment." How like ancient Israel we are! The words of the prophet Isaiah could well have been given to us here in the antipodes in the 21st century: "Ah sinful nation(s), a people laden with iniquity, a brood of evil doers, children that are corrupters; they have forsaken the Lord, they have provoked to anger the Holy One of Israel". It is time for correction; it is time to prepare for His coming.

The Old Anzac Spirit

Nevertheless, God has not given up on us---yet! Isaiah continues his message to rebellious Israel, *and to us*: "Come now, and let us reason together," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword." Come on Aussie! Come on Kiwi! It's time to rise above our apathy and the typical 'she'll be right, mate' attitude. Deep within the hearts of each of us is a desire for what is highest and best---the things that are honest, true, noble and just. Surely we are sick and tired of the immorality and violence that confront us daily on TV and the Internet, the crime that goes virtually unpunished, the growing dependence on welfare that destroys dignity and the will to work, the fear to leave our homes unguarded and the continual decline in moral values. Let the old Anzac spirit again flow in our veins as we determine to fight the good fight against the powers of darkness that have engulfed our lands.

These Uncertain Days

Further disasters may befall us. In fact, they certainly will while we continue to sin against God. Nevertheless, through His holy Word, He gives heart to those who put their faith in Him: "The instant I speak concerning a nation or a kingdom, to destroy it, if that nation against whom I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I planned to bring upon it." To all who love their country, be it Australia or New Zealand, it is not time to mourn for our people, for the calamities that will befall them but to repent and turn back to God through His Son, the Holy One whom we acknowledged as Lord of our Great Southlands in days gone by. Jesus calls to us, "Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." He is the Truth, the only way to peace, to fulfilment and to eternal life. Why don't *you* join the great throng who can confidently say, "I don't know what the future holds, but I know Who holds the future". In these uncertain days, we all need an anchor for our lives. Why not make Christ yours?

PRAYER

Lord God Almighty, gracious Father, as joint-heirs with Christ we humbly pray for the leaders and citizens of Australia and New Zealand as we consider "God's Grim Warning". Eternal God, may it help us all to be ready and prepare for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ in Whom *all* things hold together. Lord Jesus, thank You for the precious blood-covenant between us who are perfectly wedded to You by Your Holy Spirit. As our Creator, we join the hosts of heaven to love and worship You in Spirit and in truth. As our Lord and Saviour, we faithfully love, trust and obey You. As our Good Shepherd and our great High Priest, we submit to You. As our spiritual Bridegroom, our hearts are truly devoted to You, the Lover of our souls. Blessed Holy Spirit of fire, empower us to break every stronghold of evil that is destroying the moral fibre of our nations. O Sovereign Lord, release Your River of Life to flood these lands and sweep a rich harvest of lost souls into Your Kingdom to enthrone JESUS CHRIST as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, 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.

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