



Church of Perth Intercessory Team

"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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HEART TO HEART

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JESUS, AUSTRALIA'S SAVIOUR

God has blessed Australia for many generations, keeping this nation from the troubles that have plagued many other lands. When we honour Him, He also honours us. Acknowledging His lordship and thanking Him for His blessings have brought us prosperity, peace and security.

However, we have become a prodigal land. We have squandered much of our God-given inheritance on ungodly living. There is such widespread disillusionment that many of us no longer believe we live in the Lucky Country. We have become a society desperately searching for something to fill the aching void inside ourselves. It would seem that many of us are seeking in the wrong places and that would only serve to increase the sense of emptiness.

We have rejected the tested wisdom of ages contained in God's Holy Word, choosing instead to follow our own subjective lusts and desires. We have sown seeds of fornication and promiscuity and have reaped a whirlwind of broken people, damaged relationships, and confused youth. We have scattered the seeds of pornography in the name of free speech and have reaped the harvest of sexual deviancy and rape.

We have rejected the Ten Commandments and as a result, violent crime is rampant and people live in fear. We have sacrificed thousands of unborn babies on the altar of convenience and materialism. As a result, we have a selfish, greedy society with an increasing disregard for the sanctity of life and the rights of others. We have become a nation of idolaters, creating for ourselves gods of pleasure, money and pride that cannot fully satisfy.

The Holy Bible tells us that we are created for friendship with God. However, our rebellion separates us from Him since a holy God cannot dwell in the presence of filth and sin. Therefore, until the Spirit of God takes His rightful place in our lives, we will continue to experience the aching void, the feeling that something is amiss. Jesus said, "I came that you may have life to the full."

If Australia's greatest need were information, God would have sent us an educator. If our greatest need were technology, He would have sent us a scientist. If our greatest need were money, He would have sent

us an economist. Since our greatest need is forgiveness and reconciliation with God, He sent us a Saviour, JESUS CHRIST.

It is time for our nation to repent and be reconciled to God. Repentance means a complete turning away from rebellion against the ways of God. It involves the turning to God in humility acknowledging His standard of righteousness. It involves a total surrender of our independence to Him. When we rebel against God seeking to find our independence and freedom, we find ourselves enslaved to the destructive patterns of behaviour that results from our rebellion.

In what is perhaps the greatest irony of all, true freedom is found in submission to God. When we make Jesus LORD of our lives, we are set free from the shackles of our past. We will be set free to love other people. We will be free from our insecurities and fear. We have a hope and a future.

Before they entered into the Promised Land, Joshua put to the people rescued from slavery in Egypt, "Choose now this day whom you would serve. As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." Today, we too must decide. If secular humanism is right - that there is no God, that life is a matter of random chance, that there is no absolute standard of morality - then follow it to its ultimate destructive end. If Jesus is LORD, then follow Him and uphold His standard of righteousness against wickedness. Then, God will heal and bless our nation.

Our Prayer.

Loving Father, we thank You for giving Jesus Christ that all who believe and obey Him shall not perish but have eternal life. You will accomplish Your will and draw every nation to Yourself. At the close of history, all peoples will bow before You, either in loving submission or in fear and trembling. Today, if Australia is an enemy of Jesus Christ, we are on the wrong side of history. We pray for righteous government, prosperity, peace and health. We pray that You will enable our government and civic leaders to lead us in Your righteousness. Help them to see the spiritual causes of Australia's corporeal problems. Help our leaders do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with You.

Help them to realise the need for national repentance and obedience to Your Word. We thank You that Your Word is powerful and able to transform people and even whole nations. LORD Jesus, Light of the World, shine and fill this Great Southland with Your glory. Lord of mercy and grace, replace our troubles with Your peace. Replace our despair with Your hope. Replace our hatred with Your love. Cause our nation move from darkness into Your light. We ask all these in Jesus' mighty name.

Amen.

C O P I T - Led by our LORD JESUS CHRIST by the power of the HOLY SPIRIT to glorify GOD THE FATHER with the Brotherhood of Humanity, in love and faithfulness to bring glory to our Eternal Father in Jesus' Name. Amen and Glory.