



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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THE TODAY SOCIETY

Never before have the people of this nation lived just for today as they do now. Never before have we as a nation been so less mindful of the consequences of our actions for the future. So many of us are living today as though there is no tomorrow. There seems to be an ever-growing kamikaze attitude to life that tomorrow may never come. A what-the-heck attitude driven by a spirit of indiscretion is pervading our society, as though nothing really matters, that everything is meaningless – a chasing after the wind.

Financial Millstones

Take money, for instance. The advent of the credit card and Internet finance has opened up a vast treasure house of "today" consumption. Get it today, pay later (if ever). We are swamping ourselves in debt. Bankruptcy, once seen as highly ignominious, is prevalent and often chosen as a means to escape paying debts. Homes, cars, TVs, computers, fridges, boats and even holidays are bought on credit without any real consideration of the financial millstone that buyers are tying round their own necks. We would do well to heed the counsel of Scripture: "Owe no one anything except to love one another" and "the borrower is servant to the lender."

Selling Off Our Assets

Our nation, too, is caught up in the same malady. The national debt continues to mount – now over \$330 billion – despite efforts by the government to hold it in check. Unwisely, however, they are selling off our assets at an alarming rate so that in the not-too-distant future we will be completely foreign owned. Over the last few years governments have sold off a whole raft of public utilities and enterprises such as water, sewerage, shipping, airport, hospitals, prisons, power supplies, Telstra, tourist resorts, defence maintenance, coastal patrols, railways, ferries, buses, satellites, ports, oil, gas, minerals and even workers' superannuation schemes. Whereas once we had the highest standard of living in the world, we are now 33rd and dropping further. Just how long can we keep this up? Not surprisingly our politicians continue to feed from the public trough with huge salary increases and perks that turn the rest of us green with envy, apparently unaware that the good ship *Australia* is sinking fast beneath the waves of international debt. We must acknowledge that in God's Kingdom there is no debt; but He expects us to act justly, love mercy and to walk humbly with Him.

Have It Now

Then there is the matter of sexual relations. Once upon a time the code of ethical behaviour decreed that young couples refrain from sex until they married. It was all a matter of self-control. But now everyone must have it **NOW**. Consider the demands for rights. Protesters march down the streets of our cities shouting, "What do we want?" "We want our rights." "When do we want them?" "**NOW!**" Not only must we have instant coffee but instant everything else as well. The "have it now" philosophy that is so prevalent today breeds nothing good. It flies in the face of all the traditional values. What is worth having is worth waiting for. Yet the impermanence of existence with its diabolical threats of international terrorism, nuclear war, AIDS, environmental devastation and escalating crime coupled with unemployment and family breakdown have undermined the stability of life and the very meaning of

existence But why? Why is life seen as so uncertain? It was not so in the past. Past generations enjoyed a trusting and dependent **faith** in God that anchored their souls to reality, purpose and hope for the future. Where is that faith now? It still exists It is still real It is there for the asking In fact **“faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”** Moreover **“whoever calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved”** (See Romans 10) - and that does happen instantly!

Sowing and Reaping

The Bible tells us **“a man reaps what he sows.** The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit **from the Spirit will reap eternal life”** (Gal 6:7,8). Having our physical natures satisfied without considering the ultimate end is nothing less than self-gratification. On the other hand to recognize our responsibilities and subordinate our “rights” to them will bring blessing, not only to ourselves but to others as well. This, of course, requires a complete turnaround from the prevailing have-it-now mood of society, which is swallowing the great lie that whatever feels good must be right. In particular young people have been deceived into seeking happiness by throwing off self-control and plunging into an orgy of self-gratification of their natural desires.

End of the Age

Whether people realise it or not the world is fast approaching the end of the age **Jesus Christ is coming again.** His followers know it The Bible teaches it. The powers of darkness realise it and are feverishly spreading a vile campaign of lies, deception and hatred because they know the time is short. A bright new dawn lies ahead for those who wisely prepare for it. It is not a time to yield to the all-pervading “today” mood. **The future will be what we make of today.** May we recognize that the seeds we plant today will be the harvest of tomorrow and **sow the virtues of faith, honesty, courage, self-control, discipline and persistence that will yield hope and happiness,** not despair and sorrow in the exciting days ahead. But first and foremost by **accepting Christ, the One who enables us to come through this life triumphant, having fought the good fight,** finished the race and kept the faith in spite of all the pressures of the world to live for today without any concern for our eternal destiny, we will hear Him say, **“Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of the Lord.”** (Matt 25:21).

OUR PRAYER

Loving Father, Almighty God of the universe; Eternal Creator and Source of all miracles and provisions – spiritual, material, social and financial, we humbly come into Your presence, to join the hosts of heaven in love, praise and worship to thank You for **Who You are.** Abba Father, we thank You too for bringing us eternal life through the death, burial and resurrection of **Jesus Christ,** our Saviour and in seating Your born-again children in heavenly places in Him. On the other hand, Father, forgive us for not taking the Spirit of Your Living Word, **JESUS CHRIST,** more seriously. Sovereign Lord, we ask You to restore hope and peace, to our **today** society through **JESUS CHRIST,** the Prince of Peace who broke the power of sin and death and established a kingdom whereby peace will one day be restored to the earth.

Lord Jesus, we thank You, that through the shedding of Your blood, You reconcile **all** things to God, so we ask You through the power of Your Holy Spirit to ignite in each of us a new urgency, to increase our appetite for Your Word of Life, **JESUS CHRIST.** May we grow to full maturity through our knowledge of Him; that we might be participants in preaching the Good News of Christ’s amazing grace to meet the needs of the lost. Omniscient Father, raise up a worshipping army and a warring priesthood to glorify the name of **Jesus,** our coming **King of Glory** as we bring all the problems besetting our **today** society to You ‘for Your yoke is easy and Your burden is light.’ In the name of **Jesus** we yield to Your Omnipotent Spirit to help demolish all spiritual strongholds of darkness: unbelief, disobedience, unforgiveness, fear, pride, deception, compromise, corruption, debt, witchcraft and false gods. Omnipotent Spirit of truth and comfort, release Your River of Life across our barren land to bring Christ’s life and healing power to the sick, the deaf, the blind, the lame and the lost into Your kingdom of Life and Peace. We prayerfully ask all this in the name of our Lord and Saviour, **JESUS CHRIST.** Amen.

R.A: Led by our Lord Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit to glorify God with the Brotherhood of Man and in love and faithfulness to bring the honour due to His Holy Name. Amen.

[REJOICE & SHARE IN FAITH THIS MESSAGE IN PRAYER WITH OTHERS & BE BLESSED TO BE ONE IN CHRIST JESUS]