



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 11:10

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OUR PROTECTIVE GOD

Recently a 250kmh tornado carved a path of destruction 2km long and 200m wide through houses at Leschenault north of Bunbury WA, overturning cars, tossing around boats on trailers, sending sheds hurtling through the air, shredding trees and snapping off light poles like toothpicks. Eight houses were destroyed and dozens more damaged. Remarkably no one was killed and only two people needed hospital treatment! Obviously the protective hand of God was at work. But why should we be surprised at that? It certainly wasn't the first time He chose to intervene to protect His people. In fact, history bears proof of His divine hand of mercy over our nation and our forbears. For, in fact, all who belong to Christ "are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise", so that those "who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham". Consider these examples from the past.

The Spanish Armada

In 1588 the Spanish Armada posed a great threat to England which, had she fallen, would have completely rewritten the course of Western history. Yet it failed. Why? It is generally regarded that three great miracles occurred at that critical time. The first was the storm that battered the fleet when it set sail from the Tagus River on 20 May 1588, causing so much damage that the entire fleet had to put into Corunna for a refit. By delaying the whole operation for two months it gave England time to make final preparations to meet the invasion. The second miracle occurred when unfavourable tides prevented barges carrying Spanish troops from leaving Dunkirk to join the Armada. In the early hours of 8 August English fire ships scattered the mighty Spanish fleet which fled to the North Sea, straggling around the British Isles where some 65 vessels (half the fleet) were wrecked along the Scottish and Irish coasts. A medal was struck to commemorate the victory bearing the inscription: *God blew and they were scattered*. It was the third miracle of a protective God.

The Angels of Mons

Two remarkable heavenly interventions occurred during World War I. The first took place in late August 1914 when serious defeat faced the beleaguered British forces at Mons in Belgium. It was realised back in Britain that God alone could help. Churches were crowded as the whole nation prayed. Suddenly, at the front, firing on both sides stopped and an eerie silence fell. Peering over their barrier, the astonished British saw four or five white-robed figures facing the enemy with outstretched hands as if to say, "Stop! This far and no further!" The next moment the Germans were retreating in great confusion. On another occasion, just when matters seemed hopeless for the British troops, having lost numbers of men and guns and in danger of being surrounded by the Germans, the enemy fire suddenly stopped and a great silence ensued. Then the sky opened with a bright shining light and "luminous beings" appeared and seemed to float between the opposing forces. Unable to get their horses to go forward the apparently victorious German force suddenly retreated in much disorder. Later, in 1918, only a few days after King George V had again called the nation to pray, God again miraculously intervened. Heavy casualties were being sustained by British and Commonwealth troops as they fought desperate actions against a powerful German onslaught. At the town of Bethune, the Germans saw what they thought was a brigade of cavalry dressed in white advancing toward them and directed their fire at them. However, the white-clad figures came on in perfect formation. At their head was a fine figure of a man whose hair shone in an aura around his head and at his side was a great sword. A great fear fell upon the soldiers at the terrifying sight and they turned and fled from this daunting white cavalry with its awesome leader.

Miracle of Dunkirk

Twenty-two years later the British Army was again in mortal peril. Trapped at the French port of Dunkirk with the German forces closing in fast, their fate seemed to be sealed. However, at the request of King George VI, a national day of prayer was held on 26 May 1940. Then came the miracles. The first was a great storm of unprecedented fury that broke over Flanders two days later, grounding the Luftwaffe squadrons and allowing the British troops to reach the coast on foot in the violence of the storm. The second miracle was an extraordinary calm that settled on the English Channel during the days following when a flotilla of ships plied back and forth ferrying the 337,000 Allied troops to the safety of England. But the danger was far from over. In preparation for a planned seaborne invasion of Britain, the Luftwaffe launched an all-out assault to gain mastery of the skies. But in the ensuing Battle of Britain, against overwhelming odds, the Few (fighter pilots of the RAF) destroyed Germany's plans once and for all. Fortunately, at the peak of the battle, King George had called for a National Day of Prayer on 8 September---and the battle was virtually won by mid-September.

Brooklyn Heights

Long before the miraculous escape from Dunkirk a similar event occurred in North America in the early months of the American Revolution. Though on a smaller scale, it had similar far-reaching consequences. God used the weather in a surprising way to propel onto the world stage a powerful new nation---the United States. In August 1776, 32,000 British troops surrounded George Washington's 8,000 soldiers on Long Island and routed them in the open fields below Brooklyn Heights. All seemed lost for the Americans but then God intervened. Washington decided to escape by ferrying his entire company, supplies and livestock across the river. But without divine help from a favourable wind, the Revolutionary War would have ended there and then in disaster for the Americans. As darkness gave way to early morning light many of them were still on Long Island. Yet again the elements intervened---in the form of a dense pea-soup fog which remained until all of Washington's troops had crossed the river to safety. And lived to fight another day.

Invasion in 1942

There can be no doubt that God saved Australia from invasion in 1942 when the Japanese unaccountably chose not to attack her almost defenceless northern shores but instead plunged into the virtually impenetrable jungles of New Guinea, where she was ultimately defeated. In May 1942 any ambitions to invade Australia were crushed at the Battle of the Coral Sea. A month later at the crucial Battle of Midway the US Navy's aircraft carriers, which providentially had not been at Pearl Harbor when it was attacked on 7 December 1941, turned the war in the Pacific in the Allies' favour when they destroyed the cream of Japan's navy. Glory to God!

Complacent and Materialistic

Who can doubt that God has protected His people through the ages? When Christian nations honour Him sincerely in a spirit of reverence and humility, He will protect them. His Word instructs us "to call upon Him in the day of trouble, and He will deliver us". Sadly, however, our so-called Christian nations have steadily turned further and further away from God. We are complacent and materialistic as unbelief, apathy and immorality have been woven into our national fabric. Worse, there is even a lack of shame in our national conduct. If we continue as we are going, God will eventually say "enough!" Yes, there is a day of reckoning coming! Yet even now, at this late stage, God's desire is for repentance, not judgment. For many, however, it seems He will only get their attention through severe national punishment. They simply will not pay attention to a message of warning until their world comes crashing down upon them. What about you? Are you right with God?

PRAYER

Almighty God, omnipotent Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, all glory, honour and power be to Your holy name. Sovereign Lord, as Your ambassadors clothed in the blood of Jesus and sealed by the Holy Spirit we offer You our praise and worship. Abba Father, we praise You for being the Fountain of Life which created the universe and all that is in it. We thank You for the finished work of Christ on the Cross in defeating the deceptive schemes of Satan. We thank You, too, for the new and living Faith bestowed on Your people who are not blinded by a variety of "faiths" clouding their spiritual vision. As our Good Shepherd, Lord Jesus, continue to shield us from all the fiery darts of the evil one so we can rejoice in the victory You give us over all our enemies. Holy Father, protect Your faithful servants in the midst of violence, wars, famines and global disasters of many kinds as they preach Your Word of saving grace to the lost, heal the broken-hearted and proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord. Dear Lord, we also pray for our leaders to repent, turn back to God and have their faith renewed. Finally, we pray also for our nation to turn and confess that Jesus Christ is the Lord of this Great Southland of the Holy Spirit and coming King of kings and Lord of lords. Amen.

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

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