



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 14:8

August 2009

THE WRITING IS ON THE WALL

THE WRITING IS ON THE WALL! What a sobering omen of impending doom! In its stark simplicity it heralds a divine judgment happening in the near future. It originated when the fingers of a man's hand writing on the wall of his palace confronted King Belshazzar of Babylon in 539BC as he, a thousand of his lords, his wives and concubines celebrated a great feast, drinking wine from the gold vessels that had been plundered from Jerusalem and praising their own gods of gold and silver, bronze and iron, wood and stone. The terrifying sight scared the very wits out of the shaken monarch. Greatly alarmed, the king summoned his wise men to interpret the message on the wall. They failed, but Daniel a captive Hebrew prophet then rendered the interpretation of its ominous words, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN: *God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end. You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting. Your kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and Persians.* That very night Belshazzar was slain and his kingdom conquered by Darius the Mede. But why? Why did God deal so swiftly and so decisively with the great king of the mighty Babylonians? For this reason: he was guilty of committing three grave offences against God.

The Pride of Self-sufficiency

Firstly, though he was aware of God's power when He dealt with his predecessor Nebuchadnezzar, he refused to humble himself before God. In other words, in his arrogance and conceit he was guilty of the pride of self-sufficiency. Are we any different? Pride comes storming into our lives and we think we can get along without God. Overawed by our wonderful technological achievements---flying in man-made jet planes, driving man-made cars, watching man penetrate deeper and deeper into space and relying on man's scientific ability to cure our social and bodily ailments, we feel no dependence on God. Past generations lived closer to the soil and realised how dependent they were on God's rain, God's sun, God's good earth---and God's favour. They planted and God gave the increase. But now, in this so-called age of sophistication, we are too wise for that! Like Belshazzar of old we are drunk with our own power and too proud to humble ourselves before the God who is the source of all our blessings. Yet, like Belshazzar, we should know better. We saw the collapse of our human cleverness in two world wars and numerous others since. We now see the rapid moral decline of our society; God is rejected and man sets his own standards that are so low they could scarcely be called standards. So it is, that when a man or a nation or the whole world becomes too proud to be humble before God, then inevitably comes the writing on the wall: "You have been weighed in the balances and found wanting."

The Bible Profaned

Secondly, Belshazzar and his guests had drunk wine from the vessels captured from the Jewish temple in Jerusalem, vessels that were to be used solely for the worship of God Himself. That is, he profaned the things of God. And today we see the things of God profaned---profaned meaning to destroy their sacredness and make them secular. We see the Bible profaned. Once revered as God's holy Word and held in honour as *the* authority on the rules for living good lives, it is now mocked, ignored or rejected outright by the great majority of people in this land. We have either forgotten or overlooked the fact that the Bible has proven itself a guide and source of strength and encouragement for countless men and women of faith for over 1900 years, providing them with the principles and promises, conviction and courage to live victoriously in a world of adversity and hardship. It is high time to recognise that its manifold wisdom is inspired by God, and only by accepting its authority over our lives can we please Him and receive the blessings that He bestows through obeying it.

Life Itself Profaned

Life is sacred. It is sacred 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." We are not animals; we are Godlike creatures. Therefore human life is of great worth and must be treated as of the highest value. But is it? Some 80,000 human foetuses are destroyed in Australia every year, aborted by a society that believes a woman should be free to do whatever she likes with her body. We have rejected God's laws for sexual behaviour and indulged in all kinds of permissiveness and promiscuity, then moved from fornication and/or adultery to murder! Oh, the shame of it all! As many Australians have rejected their Creator and enthroned man in His place, they now consider euthanasia acceptable---that we are free to do as we please with our bodies, even to their disposal. Yet, though many label it "mercy killing", it is nevertheless anti-God for He alone gives life and He alone has the right to take it away. It also bears horrifying social consequences which were clearly seen in Germany when doctors advocated mercy killings in the 1920s. During Hitler's rise to power some 275,000 persons from nursing homes and hospitals were killed "mercifully". Later came the Holocaust! Today we are ripping off the sacred labels from everything that is sacred. Before long the landscape of life will be as devoid of reverence as a bitumen road is bare of grass. And the society which casts aside all that is sacred becomes common, soulless and bereft of the finest things in life, ruined and fit only for beasts.

The Worship of False Gods

Thirdly, Belshazzar was guilty of the worship of false gods. Today, modern man has turned to his own gods, turned from the very God in whose hand is his every breath and heartbeat. We now worship gods of humanism, science, sport, hedonism, sex and pagan deities. For many people, humanism has become a polite name for a vocal, aggressive and influential crusade against Christianity under the guise of social and moral advancement. Yet there is nothing new about humanism; it is the yielding to Satan's first temptation to Adam and Eve, "You shall be as gods." Having rejected the Bible and its revelation of the living God, man has enthroned himself in the Creator's place, but he is more frustrated, perplexed and tension-ridden than ever before. However, as we have made a god of man, our eyes are no longer lifted up to the sky, but are turned inward, distorting our whole world. Then there is science which many trust rather than God, due largely to Darwin's Theory of Evolution that has been taught as gospel truth for well over a century. Yet, like the other gods of our generation, science fails to satisfy the deep longings of the human soul. The more man learns academically, it seems, the less he knows about his own soul. However, we are essentially spiritual beings made to inherit eternity while our body is only for this life and will perish when we die. Furthermore, material possessions that can be gained only through the almighty dollar---by serving mammon---have also increasingly become objects of our worship.

Weighed in the Balances

Modern man is as guilty as Belshazzar. We are guilty of the pride of self-sufficiency, of not humbling ourselves before Almighty God. We are guilty of profaning those things that God holds sacred---the Bible, faith, Christian marriage, integrity, decency and goodness. We are guilty of worshipping and praising other gods---humanism, science, materialism, sport, sex and man himself---and failing to give God the honour, praise and worship which are His rightful due. Consequently, **THE WRITING IS ON THE WALL!** This modern generation has been weighed in the balances and found wanting. That was the verdict on Belshazzar, the proud, profligate monarch who flouted God. And judgment fell on him that very night. Likewise, judgment will fall on us if we do not repent and turn to God. Even now, there is still time. But the hour is late, the day is far spent and the night is almost upon us. Come back to God through His Son, *Jesus Christ*, while there is still time!

PRAYER

Almighty God, dear Heavenly Father, as Your faithful ambassadors we humbly thank You for the Living Word JESUS CHRIST whose sacrifice at Calvary has released mankind from darkness into Your glorious Kingdom of love, joy, peace and light. Thank You that He was punished so we might be forgiven; that He was made sin so we might be made righteous; that He gave His life so we might live eternally; that He bore our shame so we might share his glory; that He was wounded so we might be healed; that He was made a curse so we might enter into blessing; and that our old sinful nature was put to death in Him so the new creation might come to life in us. Hallelujah, what a Saviour! In Your name, O Father, we break every stronghold of deception, unbelief, pride and false gods and put them under the feet of Jesus. Moreover, we release Your River of Life and fountain of blood to cleanse, redeem and release a harvest of lost souls as they realise that *the writing is on the wall*, so they will repent and receive JESUS CHRIST as Lord and Saviour. Thank You, blessed Holy Spirit for directing us to do the Father's will as we lift up the name of our Living Saviour, coming King and Judge, the LORD JESUS CHRIST, giving all glory, honour and praise to the Almighty God and Creator of us all. 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.