

ARE WE GUILTY OF A GREAT SIN?

THE SITUATION AS IT STANDS:

OUR GOVERNMENT HAS FORBIDDEN CORPORATE WORSHIP BY THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH. THIS HAS BEEN DONE IN RESPONSE TO A PREDICTED HEALTH CRISIS WHICH WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THE RESULT OF A VIRUS KNOWN AS COVID 19 OR CORONAVIRUS. IT IS THE ACCEPTED NARRATIVE THAT ALL SOCIAL CONTACT WILL AID THE SPREAD OF THIS HIGHLY INFECTIOUS AND DEADLY DISEASE, THEREFORE ALL SOCIAL CONTACT MUST BE MINIMISED.

THESE DECISIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN ON THE BASIS OF PROGNOSTICATIONS FROM THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY IN THE FORM OF COMPUTER MODELS WHICH PROJECTED A DISASTER OF APOCALYPTIC SCALE. IN SOCIETIES WHICH ARE OPENLY SECULAR, HUMANIST, AND SUPPOSEDLY TO BE MANAGED ALONG SCIENTIFIC LINES, WHEN A SCIENTIST SPEAKS OF THE FUTURE , THOSE WORDS ARE ACCEPTED WITH A BLIND DEVOTION THAT RELIGIOUS PROPHETS COULD ONLY DREAM OF.

THE MODELS ORIGINALLY PREDICTED TENS OF MILLIONS OF DEATHS, THIS WAS VERY QUICKLY RECALCULATED AS MILLIONS, WHICH BECAME HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS, WHICH HAS BECOME TENS OF THOUSANDS. IN AUSTRALIA AT THIS MOMENT THE NUMBER OF THE PEOPLE INFECTED IS AT MOST 0.04% OF THE POPULATION, THE CURRENT FATALITY RATE UPON INFECTION IS AT WORST 0.75% OF THAT 0.04% INFECTED. SO THE ACTUAL DEATH RATE AMONGST THE WHOLE POPULATION DUE TO COVID 19 IS AT THE MOMENT 0.0003% AT THE WORST. THESE NUMBERS ARE HONESTLY INSIGNIFICANT. SUICIDE FOR EXAMPLE, IS BY FAR A WORSE KILLER IN OUR NATION TODAY.

SO BECAUSE THE PROPHETS OF THE ORDER OF SCIENCE PRESSED THE PANIC BUTTON, AND THE PRIESTS OF THE CULT OF INFORMATION I.E. THE MEDIA, ALL IN TURN PRESSED THEIR PANIC BUTTONS, LEADING TO OUR POLITICAL LEADERS IN TURN PRACTISING RELIGIOUS OBEDIENCE TO THE STATE RELIGION OF THE DAY AND PRESSING THIER PANIC BUTTONS, OUR NATION HAS BEEN PLACED IN POLICE STATE MODE. WE ARE OF COURSE BEING ASSURED THAT THIS IS FOR OUR OWN GOOD AND THAT THINGS WOULD BE SO MUCH WORSE IF OUR GREAT AND MIGHTY GOVERNMENT IN ITS IMMEASURABLE PROVIDENTIAL WISDOM DIDN'T STEP IN TO SAVE US.

AN ALREADY DODGY ECONOMY, BUILT ON DEBT AND POINTLESS CONSUMPTION, THROUGH THE MEANS OF ISSUING BASELESS PAPER CURRENCY, HAS BEEN FLAYED AND LEFT TOTTERING ON ITS FEET LIKE A HORSE WITH A BROKEN LEG. THOSE WHO GOVERN HOPE THAT IT CAN BE PROPPED UP WITH THE ISSUE OF EVEN MORE PAPER MONEY.

IN TIMES LIKE THESE THOSE WHO POSSESS CIVIL POWER FEEL THAT THEY MUST EXERCISE THAT POWER. THE CONVICTION THAT THEY ARE ENFORCING THE WISDOM OF THOSE WHO KNOW BEST IS INTOXICATING.

THINK OF IT THIS WAY, HAVE YOU EVER HAD THE THOUGHT 'IF I WAS KING FOR A DAY' AND WHILED AWAY SOME TIME IMAGINING ALL THE GOOD THINGS YOU COULD DO EXERCISING POWER ON BEHALF OF OTHERS, EVEN IF THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THE GOOD BEING DONE FOR THEM? WELL SADLY HUMAN NATURE BEING SINFUL AS IT IS , NOW IS THE TIME THAT THOSE WITH AUTHORITY FEEL JUSTIFIED IN ATTEMPTING TO LIVE OUT THOSE PLEASANT FANTASIES. SO WE SEE RULES BEING ENFORCED WITH GREAT ZEAL, FINES ISSUED, PEOPLE MANHANDLED, ELECTRONIC TRACKING OF INDIVIDUALS FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN CONTROL, AND WARNINGS OF GOVERNMENTAL PROSECUTION THAT ARE BECOMING EVER MORE SEVERE. IT APPEARS THAT THOSE THINGS THAT WE HAVE ALWAYS ASSUMED ARE OUR BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS, ARE LESS IMPORTANT THAT THE MANTRA OF 'THE GREATER GOOD' AND CAN EASILY BE SACRIFICED ON THE ALTAR OF GREATER GOOD. WE ARE OF COURSE ASSURED THAT THIS IS TEMPORARY, THAT ALL WILL BE RESTORED WHEN TIMES ARE BETTER.

AMONG THOSE THINGS THUS PUT ASIDE IS THE RIGHT OF CHURCHES CORPORATELY, AND CHRISTIANS INDIVIDUALLY, TO GATHER AND WORSHIP THE ONE TRUE LIVING GOD - CREATOR OF ALL, IN WHOM AND BY WHOM ALL THINGS HAVE THIER BEING, JUDGE OF ALL, SAVIOUR, REDEEMER, GRACIOUS KING, INFINITE, ETERNAL, GLORIOUS AND HOLY.

THE RESPONSE OF THE CHURCH;

IT HAS TAKEN SOME TIME FOR MY THOUGHTS TO CRYSTALLISE ABOUT THESE THINGS. I REALISE THAT MANY WHO ARE TRULY CHRISTIANS WILL DISAGREE WITH ME AND THE CONCLUSIONS THAT I WILL MAKE. THOUGH I PUBLISH THIS BY THE MEANS OF OUR CHURCH'S SERMONAUDIO AND FACEBOOK PLATFORMS I HAVE TO SAY THAT I DON'T SPEAK FOR ALL THE MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION. OUR FELLOWSHIP HAS KNOWN SOME LOVING DISAGREEMENT AMONGST THE CLOSEST OF CHRISTIAN FRIENDS ON THIS SUBJECT.

I SAY THAT THE RESPONSE OF THE CHURCH HAS BEEN LIMP WRISTED, COWARDLY, AND SINFUL. I CONFESS THAT I AM AS GUILTY AS ANYONE. THINK ABOUT THIS. THROUGH THE IMPOSITION OF A CRISIS THE CHURCH HAS CEASED TO FULFILL ITS PRIMARY ROLE IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD, THAT IS THE WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD. THE COMMANDMENT IS THAT WE ARE TO LOVE THE LORD OUR GOD WITH ALL OF OUR HEART, SOUL, AND MIGHT. IN MARK 12:30 JESUS EXPANDED OR CLARIFIED THIS COMMAND BY SAYING - "AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH. '"

CORPORATE WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE PRIMARY EXPRESSION OF CHRISTIAN LIFE AND THIS LOVE FOR GOD.

IT IS TRUE THAT WE ARE ALSO COMMANDED TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBOUR AS OURSELVES AND MANY WOULD USE THIS AS A REASON NOT TO MEET. I.E. WE ARE LOVING OUR NEIGHBOUR BY NOT SPREADING DISEASE. BUT DON'T WE HAVE A DUTY AS CHRISTIANS IN THE LOVING OF OUR NEIGHBOURS TO BE CONVINCING THEM THAT ETERNITY BECKONS, THAT ALL MUST APPEAR

BEFORE GOD, TO PREACH AS ISAIAH WAS COMMANDED TO PREACH 'THAT ALL FLESH IS GRASS' ETC. WHAT ARE WE TELLING THEM AS WE MEEKLY SUBMIT TO OUR GOVERNMENT COMMANDING US NOT TO WORSHIP. ARE THE THINGS WE SAY WE BELIEVE REAL, OR JUST ABSTRACT CONCEPTS? OUR ACTIONS AT THIS MOMENT ARE NOT SAYING WE ARE DIFFERENT TO THE WORLD BECAUSE WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF GOD AND CITIZENS OF THE HEAVENLY KINGDOM, OUR ACTIONS ARE SAYING THAT GOD CAN BE PLACED BEHIND OR AFTER SOMETHING ELSE THAT CAN BE PLACED BEFORE US [SEE EXODUS 20:3].

WE HAVE ALLOWED THE CIVIL MAGISTRATE TO REGULATE THAT WHICH ONLY GOD REGULATES - HIS PEOPLE'S WORSHIP, IRONICALLY IN THE NAME OF THE GREATER GOOD. FURTHERMORE WE HAVE ALLOWED THIS REGULATION TO FALL OVER WHAT IS SUPPOSEDLY THE PEAK OF THE CHRISTIAN CALENDAR [IF THERE IS SUCH A THING] - EASTER!

AND HOW WILLING ARE WE TO HIDE BEHIND CLEVER ARGUMENTS THAT PACIFY OUR CONSCIENCES? FOR EXAMPLE;

1. THE RESTRICTIONS FALL ON EVERYONE THEREFORE IT IS FAIR
2. THIS IS ONLY A REASONABLE RESPONSE TO A TEMPORARY CRISIS
3. EVERYTHING WE DO CAN BE WORSHIP NOT JUST A CHURCH MEETING
4. WE CAN STILL DO CHRISTIAN THINGS ONLINE

I ANSWER THESE AS FOLLOWS;

1. THE RESTRICTIONS FALL ON EVERYONE THEREFORE IT IS FAIR; WHAT HAS THIS TO DO WITH ANYTHING? WE'RE NOT COMMANDED TO OBEY GOD ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, WHEN ITS FAIR. GOD HAS COMMANDED US TO WORSHIP HIM. WHERE AND WHEN DID HE GIVE AN EXCEPTION ON THE BASIS OF FAIRNESS, WHAT WAS DANIEL DOING PRAYING IN BABYLON IF THE KINGS LAW WAS FAIR BECAUSE IT APPLIED TO ALL?

2. THIS IS ONLY A REASONABLE RESPONSE TO A TEMPORARY CRISIS; THERE IS NOTHING TO INDICATE THAT THIS IS A GENUINE CRISIS AT ALL, THE NUMBERS SIMPLY DON'T SUPPORT THE ACTIONS BEING TAKEN. WHAT NEW CRISIS WILL BE USED TO BRING US TO HEEL NEXT TIME. DO YOU HONESTLY BELIEVE WE ARE SUPPOSED TO WORSHIP AND NOT WORSHIP ACCORDING TO GOVERNMENTAL WHIM WHENEVER THEY DECIDE THE ISSUE IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH. A PRECEDENT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND WE HAVE ACCEPTED IT WITH BARELY A WHIMPER.

3. EVERYTHING WE DO CAN BE WORSHIP NOT JUST A CHURCH MEETING; THIS IS OF COURSE TRUE, BUT WHERE DO WE FIND IN SCRIPTURE THE IDEA THAT THEREFORE WE NEED NOT EXPLICITLY, CORPORATELY WORSHIP OUR GOD? DOING OUR WORK, AND MANY OTHER THINGS TO THE GLORY OF GOD IS TRULY WORSHIPFUL, BUT IT IS NOT PREACHING THE GOSPEL, IT IS NOT CONFESSING OUR SINS, IT IS NOT SITTING UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE WORD OF GOD, IT IS NOT PUBLICLY IDENTIFYING WITH THE BODY OF

CHRIST, IT IS NOT GATHERING IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD THROUGH HIS ORDAINED MEANS TO RECEIVE ALL THAT HE HAS PROMISED US. I COULD GO ON BUT I THINK ENOUGH HAS BEEN SAID.

4. WE CAN STILL DO CHRISTIAN THINGS ONLINE;
YES WE CAN, BUT FOR ALL THE REASONS STATED ABOVE, ONLINE INTERACTION IS NOT CHRISTIAN WORSHIP! IT IS A VERY POOR SUBSTITUTE FOR THE SAME. CHRISTIANITY MUST BE UNDERSTOOD AS BEING EQUALLY A CORPORATE AND INDIVIDUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THROUGH CHRIST. WHEN EITHER IS LACKING THE TEMPLE RELATIONSHIP WE HAVE WITH GOD BY THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS WEAKENED.

TO RETURN TO THE QUESTION THAT IS MY TITLE;

ARE WE GUILTY OF A GREAT SIN?

MY ANSWER IS YES WE ARE. I KEEP HEARING THE QUESTION IS THIS GOD'S JUDGEMENT OF THE SINS OF OUR NATIONS? IN A WAY YES OF COURSE. EVERY DISASTER IN THIS PRESENT EVIL AGE IS A FORETASTE AND WARNING OF THAT WHICH TO THE WORLD WILL BE THE GREAT DISASTER, THE RETURN OF OUR LORD, AND EVERY DISASTER BRINGING DEATH IS BRINGING AND PROCLAIMING GOD'S JUDGEMENT FOR SIN.

BUT HOW ABOUT THIS FOR A QUESTION, IS THIS DROUGHT OF THE WORD OF GOD THROUGH THE WITHDRAWAL OF PUBLIC WORSHIP FROM THE PEOPLE OF GOD A JUDGEMENT ON HIS CHURCH? ARE WE, THOUGH NOT NECESSARILY BEING DAMNED, BEING HANDED OVER TO OUR SINS TO TEACH US WHAT GOD DEMANDS OF US, AND TO TEACH US WHAT IS THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT?

I SAY YES. I BELIEVE SCRIPTURE SAYS YES. ARE WE NOT TOLD THAT JUDGEMENT BEGINS AT THE HOUSE OF GOD? IT IS BEING SHOWN TO US EVER SO CLEARLY THAT WE DO NOT FEAR GOD ABOVE MAN. WE ARE BEING SHAMED AND DISCIPLINED BY THE HAND OF OUR ALMIGHTY FATHER.

SO WHAT MUST WE DO? WE MUST DO THE THINGS COMMANDED OF US BY GOD. WE MUST CAST OFF THE FEAR OF MAN. WE MUST AS THE CHURCH BE PREPARED TO BE BURNED [METAPHORICALLY AND PERHAPS LITERALLY]. DO WE LONG FOR REVIVAL? IF THE ANSWER IS YES, WELL THEN I HAVE TO ASK YOU ANOTHER QUESTION - WHAT CONDITIONS HAVE YOU SET FOR IT? MUST IT COME THE EASY WAY, WITHOUT COST? I'M CERTAIN THAT REVIVAL WILL NOT COME WHILE OUR ACTIONS ARE SAYING THAT CHRISTIANITY IS NOT SO IMPORTANT, THAT WE ARE AVERAGE CITIZENS OF THE WORLD JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE. THAT THE WORLD CAN TURN ON OR OFF THE CORPORATE WORSHIP OF GOD AT WILL.

OUR GREAT SIN IS THE FEAR OF MAN OVER GOD AND SO WE ARE SUBMITTING TO THE WORLD NOT GOD.

THERE ARE OTHER SINS TO BE SURE, BUT RIGHT NOW IN THE MIDST OF THIS CRISIS WE ARE GUILTY OF A GREAT SIN.