CHRIST'S DIVISIVE GOSPEL IN A NATION

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The true Gospel is divisive, yet it is better for everyone, including non-believers, to have the true Gospel as ascendant in a nation than any other idea.

The doctrine of Christ is a divisive thing. The Bible does not call for half-heartedness, nor of appearement to various things, but calls all to follow Christ. That is the harsh truth. It seems that in Australian society, many religious people seek to appear "at one" with the world, and avoid as much as possible "extremism", even when that might mean something quite sensible (e.g. not drinking alcohol). Many professing Christ gladly sin along with their sinful companions.

Christianity is about doing the right thing, regardless of what the world thinks.

"And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom *his* lord shall make ruler over his household, to give *them their* portion of meat in due season? Blessed *is* that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath." (Luke 12:42–44).

Note that there is a place of great blessing for Christians. But many true Christians and good movements have fallen into decay: "But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for *him*, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers." (Luke 12:45, 46).

Jesus said, "I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled? But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished! Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division" (Luke 12:48–51).

The way of Christ is a strait (narrow, strict) way. The Gospel of Christ is not about giving people freedom, licence and peace to sin. The Christian Gospel coming in a nation is not about having greater liberty to do anything, or greater toleration of all ideas, or greater freedom of speech and activity, but is about having people who are willing to yield to Christ, and put the Bible first.

It seems that many are afraid of a Christianity that would force everyone to convert at the end of a machine gun, or of a Christianity that would force people into intellectual slavery, etc. But this is not the way of the true Gospel, though it is the way of some forms of false Christianity.

The truth is that a non-Christian, as long as he is willing to be a good citizen, is going to have everything better for him in a Christian country than in any other circumstance.

The division that a Christian will have from evil, is the same thing as the unity that the Christians will have together. In fact, the world is in a divided, selfish state, and nations and people are divided against each other without the Gospel. What the

Gospel does is brings in a solution to the wrong division based on pride and other sin. Christianity is therefore a division from selfishness and all that is bad. Even the world's goodnesses are rotten to the core. There must be a stand for the Bible no matter what, which is the basis of Christian division from the world, and Christ unity with the Lord. Therefore, going all for the Bible is good, and a nation filled with that idea is blessed.