

In the Barn!

Barneys Newsletter



No. 35 – July 2021

GROUNDHOG DAY

Oh, It's
Groundhog COVID

'Oh, this again!'

With lockdowns back again you might be feeling Deja Vu. Groundhog Day was a 1999 Bill Murray movie where his character lived the same day over and over again. With Lockdowns starting again, it feels a lot like groundhog day. And the jokes have started, "Did a Big Load of pyjamas so I would have enough clean clothes for work this week!"

And we have fallen back into the routine of online Sunday church. Bible Studies have returned to being online. I'm renewing a monthly Zoom subscription - living in hope I won't need it longer than a month or two. The kids are home and Trudy and I are preparing the house for kids being home to do school work. Trudy has been feeling anxious about kids returning to on-line learning. Our family found it hard last time and so we have been praying that the kids will be less anxious this time around. We have better supply of toilet paper, so one less worry there.

As I've been thinking about



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One of my favourite words in the English language is supercilious. It means appearing or thinking you are superior to another person. I like it because the word sounds like 'super silly', which is how I think of the idea. The slogan, 'Diversity is our Strength' is a supercilious slogan and is incredibly divisive, which was shown to be manifestly true this week in the European Cup soccer final. Let me explain.

For those who don't know, which I suspect would be most Australians, England played Italy in the European Cup Final. My son and I caught the last part of the match. The game ended in a draw, which means that the teams had a penalty shoot out to decide the winner. In a penalty shoot-out, the teams pick five players and those players attempt to score a goal. It

is an intense moment generating a great deal of emotional pressure for spectators. That pressure on the players must be immense by comparison.

England lost the shoot out 3-2. My son and I exchanged a few words about the loss for England. I said England are notoriously bad at penalty shoot-outs. We turned off the T.V, forgot about the match and went about our day. The only thing I remembered from the game was as an advertisement from a car company carrying the slogan, 'We Drive Diversity' in the grating rainbow colours. I won't name them, but will remember them always, making sure never to buy from them.

A few days later a great deal of controversy about England's loss started appearing in my newsfeeds. Unbeknownst to me

whilst watching the game, political activists in England had hijacked the team's performances in the lead-up to the final to further their political agenda. That political agenda being Marxist communism under the guise of, 'Diversity is our Strength'. They were using the racial make-up of the team as a vindication for their beliefs.

So it came as some surprise to learn that the three English players who missed the goals were black and the ones who scored were both white. Oops! Yet neither my son nor I noticed or spoke about their skin

colour at the time. This is what these political activists who say they care about racism have created in the West - people who view everyone through their skin colour.

'Diversity is Our Strength' is an atheistic humanist slogan preaching unity whilst manufacturing disunity. This worldview says that minority groups are being unjustly oppressed by a majority, labelling the majority evil simply for being the majority. There is genuine historical justification for some of what is said, but even the context of history is being rewritten to achieve the political end. This fosters the disunity it disingenuously seeks to counter by placing people into minority groups to create feelings of victimhood within those groups. It then seeks to entrench and use that enmity to further an often unstated political agenda. It is deliberately

divisive and evil and the worldview supporting the slogan is profoundly anti-Christian.

Christianity has no place for racism. In a biblical worldview there is only one race – the human race. As Paul says to the Christians in Galatians

"For those of you who were baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ. There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male and female; since you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to the promise." (Galatians 3:27–29)

'Diversity is Our Strength' is a false statement required to generate unity in an atheistic worldview by atomising individuals through skin colour. But to the contrary of its

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stated aim - it will only ever divide people. Christian unity – true unity – is not based on manufactured identity groups pitted against one another for supremacy. Christians can disagree about politics because our unity is found in Christ's forgiveness. Christians have no place for the worldview being pushed by this dishonest slogan. The slogan is supercilious-y, and Christians will do well avoiding it!

**by Adam
Richards**

church and ministries, I have been wondering how we could be more supportive of each other. What sort of things can we do to give some spark to help us as a church support one another through this lockdown over an indeterminate time. Even as I think through all this, I can't but have the emotion - not again.

People will all react to lockdowns differently. Some people will enjoy it. Others are sad because of lost opportunities. Some are scared about catching COVID. Others will be frustrated that we have entered lockdown. Others will

be frustrated that we are not locked-down enough. There is such a range of emotions, and we will all believe our view to be the correct one.

In my Bible readings I came across this verse -

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you. Therefore don't worry about tomorrow, because tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (Matthew 6:33-34)

God calls on us not to be anxious. When anxiety creeps in, remember to turn to God and his people and rely on them.

COVID Memes

Another Saturday Night in the house and I just realised, even the trash goes out more than me.

Day 27 at home and the dog is looking at me like, "See, this is why I chew the furniture."

Remember when you were little and your underwear had the days of the week on them. That would be helpful now.

Find-A-Word

Advertisement	Final	Majority	Supercilious
Agenda	Groundhog	Online	Supremacy
Anxious	Identity	Paper	Worldview
Church	Justification	Political	
Communism	Learning	Pyjamas	
COVID	Lockdowns	Subscription	

N S N W O D K C O L S X J T P
O C T N E M E S I T R E V D A
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C D U C R F V I E H A R B C D
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PRAYER POINTS



- Pray for church, that we will be placing our hope in Christ. Pray for the talk this week on Hebrews. Pray that we heed the warning and place our reliance upon Jesus
- Pray for the Premier as she continues to think through the risks. Pray for wisdom as she seeks to balance the various community interests.