## RISE UP

## The Voice from the Pavement - Peter Adamis

Is it not strange and weird to hear of certain shenanigans occurring in a community within the South Eastern Corridor of Melbourne? One would think that such shenanigans belonged to a bygone era of the Great Depression. In those days the bosses took off their coats and rolled up their sleeves to take on the little man and the elderly. It was time when these bully boys brought along their minions to help back them up.

But even in those days of the great hardship, the helpless and the weak could always find solace and support within the grounds of the Church. In those days, the local Parish priest could always be looked upon for support. The parish priest was the neutral person whom you could go to and speak your peace without any reprimand.

Alas those days appear to be gone and replaced with members of the cloth who are reluctant to stand up for what is right. Yes we have a new breed of Parish priests who are more interested in furthering their personal ambitions against those who they profess to look after. It's not about saving souls or bringing back to the fold recalcitrant members who have strayed. They involve themselves in matters which have nothing to do with the higher order of their faith and in doing so bring up themselves a great disservice.

What a shame, what a pity and above all what sightless creatures they have become. They hide under their black frocks and extend their hands to be kissed to those who are the true believers. There is a time of reckoning and those who fail to see the light will surely fall into the abyss.

Whispers come and go just like the wind blows in and out the leaves of autumn. If you are lucky and you open wide your ears, you will hear the whispers amongst the rustle of the leaves, whispers that bring no good tidings but news that were prophesied some years ago. Watch, listen and learn it was said, but no one listened to the words of wisdom for their minds were intoxicated with the spoils of war and in no mood to heed them. Save the community from such external influences and bring back the lofty ideals of the past where the community worked hand in hand to build the great works that stand as a monument to that bygone era.

What are the whispers, tell me they all ask. Are they secret or can you share them with us. Nay I cannot said the prophet for I may be spreading malicious gossip which could only do harm. Tell us said the community and we shall be the judge if what you say is good or bad. Verily I say unto you said the prophet, I hear of bad tidings happening in the community, such tidings in the past have brought havoc and despair to our community. Tell us and we shall seek guidance from our Parish priest the community says. Again verily I say to you, do not seek false Gods and witnesses to give you advice. Seek your own counsel and that of God, for God alone knows what wickedness lies within their hearts.

I fear much for your community the prophet says, doom will not come upon you suddenly, but it will come for you like the grey wolf that hunts in the morning or like the black bird that seeks out its prey and swoops upon it. There are troubling times ahead and be prepared for those who do not see will soon have their eyes opened, but it will be too late.

Therefore seek solace within yourselves and ask the god almighty to give you the strength to overcome such ambiguities and hypocrites that live among you. Watch out for the wolves in sheep clothing, the crooked money lenders, the captains of the host, the scribes that write their letters with poison and the false prophets. Watch that all that you have built does not come down around you and that you become the casualties of war.

Those who find joy and passion in the misery of others, those who revel at the misfortune of the weak and downtrodden and those who bear down upon those who dare speak the truth; I say to you that your time will come. You cannot sustain your dictatorial and brutish methods on those you profess to lead. For you are not the chosen one and are not a leader to lead those who deserve better.

Rise up those among you who dwell in the shadows, hiding from the false prophets and dictatorial leadership. Rise up those who profess to believe in the rights of man and all that is good of man. Do not sit on the fence you little man but come out and do the right thing. You will all be remembered for the good things in life should you take up the spear and fight against those who wish to enslave you.

Rally behind those who wish to bring about the downfall of the dictators and false prophets. For if you don't support them the whispers will grow stronger and continue to say that: There are bullies in the community intent on hitting the little man, there will be the money merchants pretending to make more for the community when there is less, the evil scribe will continue with his poison quill and wreck havoc on people of good standing, the false prophets will continue to lure their victims to the altar.

Do not be afraid and have in your God. Have faith in the truth and in yourself. Do not let the evils plans of other to entrap you but go on your way with a clear hear heart and maintain the moral high ground. Life is to be enjoyed, go and enjoy it. Forget the evils of the past, be thankful for what you have, seek ye not praise for your works as others will praise you if you have done good. Peter Adamis



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