

# KINGTON BAPTIST CHURCH ONLINE NOTICE BOARD - 3

APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup>

## **OUR DEEPENING NATIONAL CRISIS**

---

The health of the Prime Minister has become deeply serious. More serious than regular news and official government reports admit. Just as our national crisis is more serious than government officials admit. We are in an unparalleled national and global calamity.

As Christian people our first response is to pray that the Lord will show mercy to the sick and dying, their families and dependents. And to pray for all who nurse or care for them.

We are also bound to recognise that this deep national calamity is a clear call to the nation to repent. Each deepening of the crisis emphasises the seriousness of that call.

It is our Christian calling and duty to pray that our nation will understand what God is saying through these distressing events.

It is our Christian calling to pray that our nation will not reject what God is saying to us.

And it's our Christian calling to pray that in His grace and mercy God will give us a heart and mind to repent. Not only that we will understand what He is telling us but respond to what He is telling us. People are talking about an 'exit strategy'. They mean how we'll return to where we were before this crisis – to recover our commerce and trade and wealth; with little or no thought of anything deeper.

That is not the 'exit strategy' God requires. He calls for us to repent: to stop, turn and begin as a nation to live as God demands of us: *the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.* (Micah 6.8)

*The LORD says, 'Turn to me now, while there is time! Give me your hearts. Come with fasting, weeping, and mourning. Not with only an outward show of repentance, but in your hearts'. Return to the LORD your God, he is gracious and merciful. He is slow to anger and filled with kindness, quick to relent from punishing you. And who knows? He may even yet relieve you, and send his blessing instead of this terrible curse.* (Joel 2.12-14)

If you're not sure how to pray, pray the Lord's Prayer from your heart.