

We The People
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We the People 243 Strong Foundations Weak Leaders



Good day to you. I am pretty sure you will remember the old Biblical story of building on the rock and not upon the sand. In the last part of the parable it refers to the fall of the house with weak sandy foundations and says **"and great was its fall"**. The words are so simple but then again great words and phrases are just that, profound and straightforward, yet full of wisdom. This parable refers to building our lives on solid Christian principles but it has a worldly meaning as well and just as profound. It may also be referred to as a house of cards where the structure looks impressive but it's of no substance and the slightest wind causes the house of cards to fall. Unfortunately mankind has a habit of building systems and structures which fail easily yet he convinces himself it's a solid structure. This also brings with it leaders whose guiding principles and characters are without real foundation yet we seem to follow them until it too fails. Put simply history is full of it yet **the only thing mankind learns from history is that we do not learn from history.**

My point is that the world is living in an unsustainable paradigm, socially, morally, environmentally and spiritually. We have systems built on sand and it appears we think it will last a thousand years and that we mortals might live forever. Wrong on both counts and here are examples. The Reserve bank and successive governments have manipulated interest rates to very low levels and in doing so created a rush for real estate. We are flogging off our country to anyone who wants it and now Sydney prices are the second highest per capita in the world. Our federal, state and local government debt is through the roof as our household debt climbs beyond 125% of GDP. Australian households are just able to service their debt because unemployment and interest rates are low.....for now. **Cheap debt has created the illusion of wealth** so there's that sandy foundation again. When the mining boom finished, the construction industry was manipulated to take its place and so the perfect storm has appeared on a weak foundation **where growth for the sake of it is the current mantra, even though our standard of living is falling.** Middle class Australia is being eroded and their children are significantly disadvantaged as they become tenants in their own land with little hope of realising the great Australian dream. All this is apparent on the Gold Coast driven by a State Government and local Council awash with debt.

The only sane thing to do is to reduce immigration numbers permanently to a level where Australia's population is stabilised. This may bring some pain for a short time but nothing like the pain coming if we don't pull the right levers now. I don't want my children and grandchildren to look back and say, if only you had done something. For all Tom Tate's words about 'our town' or 'his city' and the push for development, it's literally a city built on sand both metaphorically and in reality. I put it to you that the current political leadership across the board is foolish and short sighted and weak in politically and cynically playing to those in immediate need one way or the other. Sustainability is the real bench-mark although you wouldn't know that when you read the Council's planning propaganda and pretty self-serving documents. Their words won't save us or our kids as our people grapple with a falling standard of living. It doesn't have to be this way but we need intelligent and thinking leaders to address the situation and fast.

In the end a financial and social day of reckoning will occur and then and only then will people ask the tough questions. Only then will we demand true excellence in representation in all levels of government. In some cases we have charlatans in charge who care not what happens as they line their pockets and deceitfully claim the moral high ground. Dare I say it from that old tome.....**and great will be their fall.** Vote wisely my friends and build on the rock for the sake of our families.

Until next time this Kent Bayley