

For Social Justice Sunday 2008

Its not often I quote from Karl Barth, as his strong Reformed view of Sola Scriptura and his views on the otherness and communicability of God don't sit easily with my own theological views about language, culture, incarnation and revelation, but the following, which comes from his highly critical views of National Socialism in 1930s Germany gets right to the point:

No community whether family, village or state is really strong if it will not carry its weak, and even its very weakest members. They belong to it no less than the strong. The quiet work of their maintenance and care (which might seem useless on a superficial view) is perhaps more effective than common labour, culture or historical conflict in knitting it closely and securely together. On the other hand, a community which regards and treats its weak members as a hindrance . . . is on the verge of collapse."

Not much you can add to that.....

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