

31 Days of Prayer



for America

A Call To Prayer

As your Pastor, I am joining with other Christian leaders across our land to call the congregation at Cornerstone to pray for our nation. Timothy Eldred, the President of Christian Endeavor International has written, "Across America there is a growing concern about the spiritual (and, I would add, moral) health of our nation. A day seldom passes without some indication of a breakdown in moral standards. Important principles are being neglected in America today... biblical principles that blessed our nation at its birth and kept us strong for more than 200 years. This is a matter for concern but, more importantly, it is a matter for prayer."

When God spoke to Solomon at the time of the dedication of the first Temple, God said,

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14

We are the “people” called by God’s name. But, the promise is conditional. If we:

1. Humble ourselves before God by acknowledging Him as God and acknowledging our need for Him (that He is God, and we are the sheep of His pasture - Psalm 95:6-7);
2. Pray and seek His face (if we will come before Him in prayer and worship seeking to know Him);
3. Turn from our wicked ways (repent) —

THEN He will:

1. Hear;
2. Forgive;
3. **Heal our land!**

America is in great need of healing, and the promise is given. Healing is within our grasp if we will just meet the conditions laid out for us in the Bible.

I offer this prayer guide to challenge you, the people of Cornerstone to join with other Christians across this land to pray for our nation.

For 31 days, let us be in prayer. Let us acknowledge that He is God! Let us seek His face in prayer and worship. Let us repent of our sins as a nation and of our individual sins. Let us trust God to hear, forgive, and heal our land!

Yours in His Service,
Charles H. Jensen

A Guide for Prayer

Day 1: The Prayer of Our First President

O eternal and everlasting God, I presume to present myself this morning before Thy Divine majesty, beseeching Thee to accept of my humble and hearty thanks, that it hath pleased Thy great goodness to keep and preserve me the night past from all the dangers poor mortals are subject to, and has given me sweet and pleasant sleep, whereby I find my body refreshed and comforted for performing the duties of this day, in which I beseech Thee to defend me from all perils of body and soul....

Increase my faith in the sweet promises of the gospel; give me repentance from dead works; pardon my wanderings, and direct my thoughts unto Thyself, the God of my salvation; teach me how to live in Thy fear, labor in Thy service, and ever to run in the ways of Thy commandments; make me always watchful over my heart, that neither the terrors of conscience, the loathing of holy duties, the love of sin, nor an unwillingness to depart this life, may cast me into a spiritual slumber, but daily frame me more and more into the likeness of Thy Son Jesus Christ, that living in Thy fear, and dying in Thy favor, I may in Thy appointed time attain the resurrection of the just unto eternal life. Bless my family, friends, and kindred.

--- Washington's Prayer Journal, Mt. Vernon, VA, undated

Scripture for Today: Philippians 2:5-11

Day 2: Billy Graham's Prayer for the Nation

Our Father and Our God, we praise You for Your goodness to our nation, giving us blessings far beyond what we deserve. Yet we know all is not right with America.

We deeply need a moral and spiritual renewal to help us meet the many problems we face.

Convict us of sin.

Help us to turn to You in repentance and faith.

Set our feet on the path of Your righteousness and peace.

We pray today for our nation's leaders. Give them the wisdom to know what is right, and the courage to do it.

You have said, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." May this be a new era for America, as we humble ourselves and acknowledge You alone as our Savior and Lord.

This we pray in Your holy name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Joel 2:15-17

Day 3: The Prayer of Our Third President

Almighty God, Who has given us this good land for our heritage; We humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable ministry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people, the multitude brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endow with Thy spirit of wisdom those who in Thy name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations of the earth. In time of prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in Thee to fail; all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

--- Thomas Jefferson, Washington D.C., March 4, 1801

Scripture for Today: Isaiah 55:6-11

Day 4: To America the Beautiful!

Heavenly Father, You are the real foundation of nations, raising them up to serve and care for the people dwelling in their boundaries.

I thank You for making me a citizen of this land of freedom and unlimited opportunity--- which are the result of its Christian base.

Send forth Your Spirit to this country and make it a source of wisdom and strength, order and integrity throughout the world. Amen.

--- (Catholic Relief Services)

Scripture for Today: Psalm 43:3-4

Day 5: A Prayer for Those Whose Face We Do Not See

May those generations whose faces we cannot yet see, whose names we may never know, say of us here that we led our beloved land into a new century with the American Dream alive for all her children; with the American promise of a more perfect union a reality for all her people; with America's bright flame of freedom spreading throughout all the world. From the height of this place and the summit of this century, let us go forth.

May God strengthen our hands for the good work ahead -- and always, always, bless our America.

--- President William Clinton, 1989

Scripture for Today: Acts 2:17-21

Day 6: A Prayer of Consecration for the U.S.

Most Holy God: Our Father in heaven; Holy Spirit; God the Son, we adore Your majesty and acknowledge Your supreme eternal dominion and authority over all of us and over our nation...

Most Holy Trinity: we put the United States of America into Your hands asking You to order and protect this land. We thank You for the great resources of this land and for the freedom which has been its heritage. Grant us peace. Have mercy on our president and all the officers of our government. Grant us a fruitful economy born of justice and charity. Have mercy on capital and industry and labor. Protect the family life of the nation. Guard the innocence of our children and protect the unborn. Have mercy on the sick, the poor, the tempted, sinners -- on all who are in need.

God of our land: we praise You and honor You and give ourselves to You. Protect us from every harm. Let us always act according to Your will and the Will of Your Divine Son, Jesus. Let us live and die honoring God in all we do and all we are. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Romans 5: 1-5

Day 7: A Prayer to Help Others

My first act as President is a prayer. I ask you to bow your heads.

Heavenly Father, we bow our heads and thank You for Your love. Accept our thanks for the peace that yields this day and the shared faith that makes its continuance likely. Make us strong to do Your work, willing to heed and hear Your will, and write on our hearts these words: "Use power to help people."

For we are given power not to advance our own purposes, nor to make a great show in the world, nor a name. There is but one just use of power, and it is to serve people. Help us to remember it, Lord.

The Lord our God be with us, as He was with our fathers; may He not leave us or forsake us; so that He may incline our hearts to Him, to walk in all His ways... that all peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God; there is no other.

--- President George Herbert Walker Bush

Scripture for Today: Psalm 111



Day 8: A Prayer for the Nation

O God in heaven, I come before You in the Name of Jesus on behalf of the leaders of this nation. First of all, in accordance with *1 Timothy 2: 1-2*, I intercede and give thanks for kings and all in authority and expect to live a quiet and peaceable life. I pray for the Word of God to be given free course and Your people to be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men (*2 Thessalonians 3: 1-2*). The heart of the king is in Your hand and You will turn it whichever way You choose (*Proverbs 21: 1*). I ask You to direct the heart and mind of our president, and all elected officials, to make decisions that will lead the country in Your ways and according to Your Word.

I thank You, Lord, in advance, for bringing change to the politics of the United States. Thank You for changing the voices of influence to speak in agreement with Your Word. I ask You to send laborers filled with the spirit of wisdom and might, to surround the leaders of this nation with godly counsel and insight. I also ask You to remove from positions of authority those who stubbornly oppose righteousness, and replace them with men and women who will follow You and Your appointed course for America.

As we enter the final hours of the last days, I ask for the spirit of faith, the workings of miracles, for signs, wonders, gifts and demonstrations of the Holy Spirit and power to be in strong operation. Let believers in America and in every land be unified to stand strong by faith in Jesus, the Anointed One and His anointing, that Your glory may be revealed in all the earth.

Thank You, Lord, that these requests come to pass. I believe I receive. Amen.

--- Kenneth Copeland

Scripture for Today: 1 Timothy 2:1-2; 2 Thessalonians 3:1-2; Proverbs 21:1

Day 9: A Prayer of Gratitude

Let us, therefore, proclaim our gratitude to Providence for manifold blessings -- let us be humbly thankful for inherited ideals -- and let us resolve to share those blessings and those ideals with our fellow human beings throughout the world.

On that day, let us gather in sanctuaries dedicated to worship and in homes blessed by family affection to express our gratitude for the glorious gifts of God; and let us earnestly and humbly pray that He will continue to guide and sustain us in the great unfinished tasks of achieving peace, justice, and understanding among all men and nations and of ending misery and suffering wherever they exist.

--- President John F. Kennedy, Thanksgiving Day, 1963

Scripture for Today: Psalm 113

Day 10: Almighty God, Bless Our Nation

Almighty God, bless our nation and make it true to the ideas of freedom and justice and brotherhood, for these have made it great.

Guard us from war, from fire and wind, and most of all from compromise, fear, and confusion.

Be close to our president and our statesmen; give them vision and courage, as they ponder decisions affecting peace and the future of the nation and the world.

Make me more deeply aware of my heritage; realizing not only my rights but also my duties and responsibilities as a citizen.

Make this great land and all its people know clearly Your will, that they may fulfill the destiny ordained for us in the salvation of the nations, and the restoring of all things in Christ. Amen!

Scripture for Today: Colossians 3:2-6

Day 11: A Prayer for Wise Governance

Heavenly Father, we give thanks for the democracy alive in our country and for the freedom to worship You.

Help the elected government and all in positions of power and authority to govern wisely and for the common good of all. Amen.

--- Harvey Barnes

Scripture for Today: Romans 13: 1-7

Day 12: A Prayer for Our President

O Jesus, in Your Holy Name, I lift up our president to You. I know that our leader's heart should be in Your Hand, so I ask You to guide the head of our nation in the way You would have him go. Lord, sometimes the attitudes and actions of our president are not in keeping with Your word. Let our president understand Your devotion to Israel and the sanctity of marriage and Your abhorrence of abortion.

I pray that You would surround our president with wise counsel — men and women of **moral integrity** who place Your agenda and Your word above all other agendas, and the true good of this great nation above their own, and whose motives are for that which is right and pleasing to You. I pray that our president will listen to their wise counsel and seek to lead our nation in a way which is pleasing to You.

I give You thanks for our president according to Your Word, and ask You to work in and through him that he might lead us to live godly and honest lives. I pray that his life will be dedicated to You above all other pursuits. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Hebrews 13:6-8

Day 13: A Prayer for Our Legislators

Dear Heavenly Father, I come to You in the mighty name of Jesus, thanking You and praising You for our great nation. I thank You for the plan You gave to our forefathers by which to govern our nation and for the division of powers so that our destiny does not rest in the hands of one person.

In praying for those in authority, I, therefore, lift up our congress and senate to You. I pray that by Your Holy Power, our legislative bodies would make laws that are just.

Father, I ask You to give them wisdom to make decisions that would strengthen and prosper our nation. I desire that they would make right decisions concerning the politics, the social welfare, and the economics of our country. I pray that they will be motivated by Your Hand and not their own personal concerns. Amen.

Scripture for Today: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

Day 14: A Prayer for Decisions in Time of Crisis

O Lord, I humbly pray that You direct the leaders of this great nation now in this time of crisis. Grant them wisdom and understanding, and help them to respond quickly and effectively to this situation. Direct them that they may do what is right in Your sight. May they follow Your Divine Will to lead our nation on the paths of peace and safety.

Unite all response agencies in an organized and harmonious fashion to bring quick and effective resolve to the demands of any crisis. Empower us as United States citizens to do our own part, financially, physically, emotionally, and spiritually to support all who are affected by tragedy.

O Lord, I pray that You encourage and strengthen our nation. Surround us with Your Love and Mercy! Bring peace and comfort to all those who are suffering as a result of crisis. In Jesus' Holy Name. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 7:1-5

Day 15: A Prayer for a Better Economic Future

O God, I pray in the Name of Your Son, Jesus, for our country's economy. I know that even more than a strong military, a strong economy helps keep a nation powerful.

Father, I ask that You would raise up people of skill and wisdom who will affect our financial future. Give them inspired ideas and a voice with the powers that be. Cause congress to vote aright in these and all other matters. Give them foresight so that provision might be made for our nation's future, not just its present.

Father, as the people continue to finance the spread of Your Word and help the poor all over the world, I pray that You would continue to prosper us more and more so that we may continue to assist others less fortunate, in this country and across the globe. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 3

Day 16: A Prayer for Peace from Our 16th President

Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet if God wills that it continues... until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid another drawn with the sword... so still it must be said that the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and for his orphans, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and a lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

--- President Abraham Lincoln, 2nd Inaugural Address, March 4, 1865

Scripture for Today: Leviticus 26:1-13

Day 17: A Prayer for the Supreme Court Justices

O Lord, I bring our Supreme Court justices before You. Knowing that they are appointed by man, I pray that You will influence the selection of each new replacement. Guide them to choose people who will judge **morally** in every matter brought before them.

As our justices make their decisions, I pray that their decrees are **in accord with Your Will and Your Word**, not that of man. Help them set a standard of justice and balance for the judicial office at large, not only on a national level, but for every adjudicator in our nation. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Luke 18: 1-8

Day 18: A Prayer for a Moral Nation

O Heavenly Father, I know that the spirit of worldliness can creep into the Body of Christ very subtly, and before we know it, we can so easily be led astray. I pray You send Your Holy Spirit upon us, so that a moral, Christian voice can be heard and heeded by our leaders and the media. Cause us, as Christians, to become the standard-bearers to such a degree that we can profoundly affect the morality of this nation.

Turn our people's hearts to You. Open our eyes that we may see the error of our ways. Gather all Christians, Catholic and Protestant, together so that we form a united front against the wickedness and snares of the devil. Disarm the evildoers, leaving them powerless and not in control of our great nation. Inspire our media — television, newscasters, reporters, filmmakers, and celebrities — to live and to promote a Biblically moral social order through morally righteous reporting, entertainment and fashion. Be our strength when we are tempted to succumb to worldly things and ways. Help us to lead our lives all for the greater honor and glory of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit both as individuals and as a nation. Amen.

Scripture for Today: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

Day 19: A Prayer for Racial Harmony

Dear Father, I realize that racial enmity came as a result of the Fall. Truly, we do not even know the ethnicity of Adam, except that he was Your creation, a child of God. It is from his seed that all humanity proceeded.

I pray that there would be such a move of Your Spirit in our nation that our oneness in Jesus Christ would positively influence relations between races. I desire that this begin in the Body of Christ and spread throughout every community in our country. May it affect every ethnic group and cross every racial barrier. I pray that when we look at those from another culture, we won't see them as people of another color, but that we will see them through the eyes of love as You see them -- as people created in Your own image. Remind us all of the Golden Rule.

Let us embrace one another as brothers and sisters and as members of the one Body of Christ. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Galatians 3:26-29

Day 20: A Prayer for Protection

Most High God, I come to You in the Name of Jesus, asking for divine protection for the people of this country. I pray for the safety of every man, woman, and child. Keep us from harm's way and provide protection from plans of destruction that our enemies have plotted. Stop their plans before they are evoked.

Give wisdom, understanding and discernment to those who provide us protection. Help us to be watchful and alert to signs of wrongdoing. Please provide insight to national and local authorities on ways to guard, defend, and insure the safety of all American citizens both home and abroad. Help us to unite with government leaders and law enforcement personnel in making this country a safe place in which to live, work, and play. Allow Americans to enjoy our freedom without fear. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 110

Day 21: A Prayer for Protection from Terrorism

Father, I pray You will prevent the destructive forces of terrorism directed against our nation. Provide protection from evil attacks and stop the aggressors that attempt to bring destruction to our nation and its people. May Your Hand of protection keep us safe.

I stand against the spirit of fear that accompanies the cowardice acts of terrorism. Replace our fear with trust in You. May knowledge of terrorist-planned attacks be revealed to those who provide our national and international security. Help those in power to act swiftly to avert all danger, protecting American lives and property.

Lord, provide strength, courage, and wisdom to our protectors. Give wisdom and insight to our government and everyone involved in the elimination of terrorism. Provide instruction in the development of effective and efficient anti-terrorist strategies that will give us an advantage against our aggressors, allowing this country to remain safe and secure.

I also pray that You enter the hearts of the instigators of terrorism, so they recognize the evil of their ways, and repent and denounce their cowardice acts of destruction against humanity. Without repentance, may they reap the consequences of their actions through Your Divine Justice.

May the fear of our retaliation be greater than their hatred of democracy. Guide us in efforts to seek out and eradicate these merchants of death. Reveal to us the names of those responsible and in allegiance with terrorist organizations.

Enable our military to become swift, powerful, and accurate in any action of retaliation. Help them keep the innocent safe as they stop these evil people.

Lord, help us to understand lifestyle changes that might be necessary to ensure our protection. Grant patience and tolerance to us in adapting to the safety precautions and measures that we might experience. Enable us to realize that the cost of inconvenience is a small price to pay for the safety of our families. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 105:1-7

Day 22: A Prayer for America

God of our Fathers, Shepherd of Thy people, Lord of free men's souls, bless Thou our nation with a valiant, Godly spirit, with a vision to see, with the courage to try, with the power to achieve, that, marching behind Thee, Thy people shall not perish.

God, bless our America!

Hear our prayer for our united peoples, grant guidance to our leaders, protection to our children, and teach each of us Thy way of life in good will and peace. Amen.

--- Cardinal Francis Spellman

Scripture for Today: Psalm 23

Day 23: A Prayer for Our International Relationships

O my Jesus, I pray for the international relations of my nation, because our global influence has allowed us into other countries to spread Your Holy Word in the past. I pray that those You raise up would give favor and offer safety to all those who proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ in their respective nations.

Raise up wise men and women to fill our diplomatic corps, persons of skill, morals, and understanding in foreign affairs and in the affairs of state. Grant safety to our embassy personnel in every foreign land so they will be able to maintain good relations in their posts, and so that even our enemies will be at peace with them.

I ask that Your Hand would be with our diplomats to such a degree that even the most fanatical of our enemies would fear attacking our embassies and their personnel. Rather, Lord, let our enemies begin to see the United States as an ensign of peace to the world and realize that living in peace is preferable to living in fear and bondage and persecution.

Send Your Holy Spirit to alert our personnel of any potential attacks, and give them the power to quell them before they happen. Keep them always in the safety of Your strong Arms. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Matthew 28:16-20

Day 24: Prayer for Civil Authority

Lord Jesus Christ, King of the universe, look with mercy on those who rule over us.

Grant to our president and the administration the grace to know and to do Your will. Let them serve in truth and righteousness.

Inspire our congressmen and congresswomen with the courage to make laws for the good of all rather than the few.

Give our judges your Spirit of wisdom and understanding that they may discern the truth and impartially administer the law.

And let all the people pitch in to make our way of government continue to work. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 108

Day 25: Pray that God Will Touch Our Nation

Most Precious Lord Jesus, Gentle and Wonderful God, Truly Awesome and Ever-present Holy Spirit, I love You. Please bless this nation in which I live. Please pour out Your Spirit upon this nation's people and upon its leaders. Our nation has had times of trial and times of blessing.

At this moment, we are facing grave dangers and trials we have not seen in generations. Because of this dark hour in our nation's history, I seek Your Touch upon this nation and its citizens. Touch the heart of every man, woman, and child who lives within our borders. O Lord, open our hearts to You and to Your Love. O Lord, open our hearts to You and to Your Will for our people. Protect us from the looming darkness that threatens us. Protect us from the evil that lurks about both from within and from without. Protect our people. Protect our leaders. Inspire in all of us, the desire to do Your Will and only Your Will. Keep us on our knees before Your Cross.

May Your Touch open the floodgates of our creative spirit, our imagination, our inventiveness, our growth, and our unlimited hope for the future. Inspire in us a heart to turn from every corruption. Inspire in us a heart to turn from every temptation. Inspire in us a heart to do and live only Your Will each day. All these things I humbly pray in the Name of my most Blessed Lord Jesus Christ, my Mighty God, and my Ever-present Holy Spirit upon Whom I can surely rely. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 33:12-22

Day 26: Grant Us Your Salvation

Show us Your mercy, O Lord;
And grant us Your salvation.
Clothe Your ministers with righteousness;
Let Your people sing with joy.
Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
For only in You can we live in safety.
Lord, keep this nation under Your care;
And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
Let Your way be known upon earth;
Your saving health among all nations.
Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
Create in us clean hearts, O God;
And sustain us by Your Holy Spirit.

--- Book of Common Prayer 1979

Scripture for Today: John 14: 1-6

Day 27: Oh God of the Nations

God of ages, in Your sight nations rise and fall,
and pass through times of peril. Now when our
land is troubled, be near to judge and save.

May leaders be led by Your wisdom; may they
search Your will and see it clearly.

Where we have turned from Your way, help us to
reverse our ways and repent.

Give us Your light and Your truth to guide us;
through Jesus Christ, Who is Lord of this world,
and our Savior. Amen.

--- Presbyterian Church USA

Scripture for Today: 1 Samuel 2: 1-2

Day 28: A Celebration of Our Freedom

Lord God Almighty, in Whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant we beseech Thee, that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain our liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

--- Book of Common Prayer 1979

Scripture for Today: Galatians 5:1-14



Day 29: A Prayer for Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness

We beseech You, almighty God, to shed Your grace on this noble experiment in ordered liberty, which began with the confident assertion of inalienable rights bestowed upon us by You: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Thus, do we praise You for the gift of **life**. Grant us the courage to defend it, life, without which no other rights are secure. We ask Your benediction on those waiting to be born, that they may be welcomed and protected. Strengthen our sick and our elders waiting to see Your Holy Face at life's end, that they may be accompanied by true compassion and cherished with the dignity due those who are infirm and fragile.

We praise and thank You for the gift of **liberty**. May this land of the free never lack those brave enough to defend our basic freedoms. Renew in all our people a profound respect for religious liberty: the first, most cherished freedom bequeathed upon us at our Founding. May our liberty be in harmony with truth; freedom ordered in goodness and justice. Help us live our freedom in faith, hope, and love. Make us ever-grateful for those who, for over two centuries, have given their lives in freedom's defense; we commend their noble souls to Your eternal care, as even now we beg the protection of Your mighty arm upon our men and women in uniform.

We praise and thank You for granting us the life and the liberty by which we can **pursue happiness**. Show us anew that happiness is found only in respecting the laws of nature and of nature's God. Empower us with Your grace so that we might resist the temptation to replace the moral law with idols of our own making, or to remake those institutions You have given us for the nurturing of life and community.

May we welcome those who yearn to breathe free and to pursue happiness in this land of freedom, adding their gifts to those whose families have lived here for centuries.

We praise and thank You for the American genius of government of the people, by the people and for the people. O God of wisdom, justice, and might, we ask Your guidance for those who govern us and those who seek to govern us: our president, vice president, congress, the supreme court, and all those, who seek to serve the common good by seeking public office. Make them all worthy to serve You by serving our country. Help them remember that the only just government is the government that serves its citizens rather than itself. With Your grace, may all Americans choose wisely as we consider the future course of public policy.

And, finally, Lord, we beseech Your benediction on all of us who depart from here this evening, and on all those, in every land, who yearn to conduct our lives in freedom and justice. We beg You to remember, as we pledge to remember, those who are not free; those who suffer for freedom's cause; those who are poor, out of work, needy, sick, or alone; those who are persecuted for their religious convictions, those still ravaged by war.

And, most of all, God Almighty, we thank You for the great gift of our beloved country.

For we are indeed "one nation under God," and "in God we trust."

So, dear God, bless America. You Who live and reign forever and ever.

Amen!

--- Cardinal Timothy Dolan, The DNC 2012

Scripture for Today: James 3:17-18

Day 30: Peace Among the Nations

O Almighty God,
the Father of all humanity,
turn, we pray, the hearts of all peoples and
their rulers,
that by the power of Your Holy Spirit
peace may be established among the nations
on the foundation of justice, righteousness and
truth;
through Him Who was lifted up on the cross
to draw all people to Himself,
Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

--- William Temple (1881-1944)

Scripture for Today: Philippians 1:9-11

Day 31: A Benediction for America

If I had a prayer for you today, among those that have all been uttered, it is that one we're so familiar with: "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace...." And God bless you all.

--- President George Herbert Walker Bush, from a speech to the American people, February 6, 1986

As we have been assured, neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, can separate us from God's love. May He bless the souls of the departed. May He comfort our own. And may He always guide our country.

--- President George Walker Bush, from his address to the nation, September 14, 2001, after the World Trade Center attacks

Scripture for Today: Ephesians 3: 14-21



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