

Why America Must Turn to Prayer Right Now

The campaign cycle for president of the United States kicked off in earnest on Labor Day. It has been predicted to be the most invective and bitter in personal attack as any campaign in American history. So far, after one day, the prognosticators have not been disappointed.

The themes are set, and each candidate is doubling down. For Vice President Biden, the message is: President Trump's caustic personality. For President Trump, the message is: We must restore law and order, and Biden is partnering with, and sympathetic to, violent protesters.

Mail-in ballots now put the integrity of the election in question. Local election officials are not equipped or trained to compare signatures on ballots that have not been confirmed by a notary public or presented in person. Court challenges are likely.

The election outcome may not be known for weeks after Nov. 3. It depends on whether states require that ballots must be received by election day or just postmarked. In a normal election cycle, it is not unusual for a state to take 17 days after the election to count all the absentee ballots. Normally, outstanding ballots are not sufficient to overcome the vote counts of election day. The year 2020 may set a new standard.

A recent NBC poll found that 70% of Republicans intend to vote in person. Thirty percent indicate they will vote by absentee ballot. It is just the opposite for Democrats, 30% to 70% respectively. President Trump's vote totals will substantially be known election night. Vice President Biden's total vote totals may not be known for weeks. Hopefully, activists and

supporters of both candidates will be patient until a final vote count is tabulated.

The country is a powder keg capable of exploding upon the simplest insecurity of perceived conspiracies.

In times of crisis, when the United States was in a situation where injurious elements were out of their control, elected and civic leaders prayed. Sometimes they sought God's counsel after they had tried every aspect of their own counsel. Members of the Continental Congress prayed. Delegates to the Constitutional Convention recessed to pray. Dwight D. Eisenhower prayed before D-Day. Martin Luther King Jr. prayed. George Washington, during the Revolutionary War, said that he was "*driven to his knees*" on more than one occasion because he had nowhere else to go.

Throughout history, our leaders have prayed for God's grace on our country. Today, how can we be any less humble?

I feel compelled to pray the following prayer for my country:

Father, I pray for the soul of America embodied in her spirit for freedom. In 1776, You gave us an ideal, a dream that was to be America. It started out as an aspiration. Then it became a hope. Then it became a belief manifested in reality. May we not lose confidence in its truth. As recriminations in the political process continue to exaggerate, may we not lose faith in the Great Commission or in the command to love thy neighbor as thyself. Soften our hearts. Harden our will toward benignity. Restrain us from judgment lest we be judged. Nurture the goodness within us. May the races see each other as one blood as mankind is one blood in You. Stabilize the economy. Help us to visualize the reforms necessary to pursue prosperity. Countenance us to serve the poor, the elderly and the disadvantaged. We pray for single mothers to be aided in all they need to support themselves and their children. Speak to our men and women in uniform and underlie their feelings

that we are grateful for their service. As a country, may we show gratitude for classroom teachers, health care professionals, first responders and the police who lay down their lives for us every day.

Father, we pray for our children that they may return to school, be socially complete, nurtured in their growth and held harmless from anxiety. We pray for all elected leaders that they will never forget their oath of office, particularly to defend and protect the Constitution of the United States of America.

And last, Father, we pray for the elections to be held on time, to be finalized and authoritarian in their conclusion. And may all divisions of society accept the compromise of the ballot box to bring peace to our country, keeping civil strife from escalating into civil war.

Father, we repent from our sins. We turn our face toward You. We ask You to heal our country and lead us to be one in family, aligning with Your great purpose. Deliver us from fear. Lead us away from temporal selfishness. Driven to our knees we seek You in a prayer of last resort to save your country and grant to us Your grace.

Strengthen our resolve to protect the gift that started out as an aspiration and, today, is the dream that can be America.

In Jesus' name I pray. Amen. {eoa}

This article originally appeared at .

Texas Megachurch Pastor Takes Leave, Confesses Sin of Pride

Todd Wagner is temporarily stepping down from his role as senior pastor of the Dallas, Texas, church he founded more than 20 years ago.

The reason for his sabbatical is the sin of pride.

“For the first time in 20 years,” he said from the pulpit Sunday, “I’m stepping back from what I usually do so I can do the hard work of hard work. So don’t be looking for some scandal. Don’t even think this is scandalous.”

“What is scandalous,” the preacher continued, “is when a Christian plays with, overlooks or welcomes sin, respectable or not.”

Wagner went on to thank the close friends who have held him accountable in recent months.

“I would call what I’ve heard my friends describing and telling me pride,” he said. “That’s the sin. And it’s really interesting, because, you know, I don’t think of myself—or I fool myself into thinking I’m not a prideful person, because I never look in the mirror and clap.”

The pastor noted he has been discussing the issue with church elders since June. The group reached a decision regarding Wagner’s temporary leave Sept. 6.

He must increase I must decrease. John 3:30 #simpleasthat

– Todd Wagner (@wordsfromwags) September 6, 2020

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President Trump Announces Possible Supreme Court Picks

President Donald Trump unveiled Wednesday afternoon his updated list of potential nominees to the U.S. Supreme Court, should there be an opening in the near future. Three conservative senators made his roster.

Trump told reporters he has added 20 people to the list he released ahead of his election in November 2016. Among those just added are Sens. Tom Cotton (R-Ark.), Ted Cruz (R-Texas) and Josh Hawley (R-Mo.).

BREAKING: President Trump announces additions to his list of potential SCOTUS nominees, including Sens. Tom Cotton, Ted Cruz, and Josh Hawley

– Daily Caller (@DailyCaller) September 9, 2020

The majority of those added to the list of potential Supreme Court nominees are currently serving as judges.

Read the rest of the story from our content partners at Faithwire here. {eoa}

Disney, Family-Friendly VidAngel Settle Lawsuit

VidAngel, the family-friendly streaming app and original content studio, announced a recent settlement in its four-year legal battle with Disney, Warner Brothers and other studios. The agreement, which allows VidAngel to now fully emerge from bankruptcy, was finalized in Utah's bankruptcy court. Judge Kevin R. Anderson presided over the bankruptcy.

Statement from VidAngel CEO Neal Harmon:

"After a long and extremely difficult legal battle in one of the biggest copyright cases in decades, we have finally come to an agreement in which VidAngel can emerge from bankruptcy and move forward as a rapidly growing company. As with any compromise, we had to make painfully difficult concessions to arrive at this agreement, as did Disney and Warner Brothers. We want to thank the team at Disney and Warner Brothers for negotiating this settlement in good faith. We also want to thank our fans and supporters, millions of people who have stood with us through thick and thin over the last four years of a battle that all too often looked lost and hopeless. Now, we can reward you for all of your support with incredible original content like *The Chosen* and *Dry Bar Comedy* and expand our mission to help you make entertainment good for your home."

Overview of Legal Settlement

-Disney and Warner Brothers have agreed to compromise and substantially discount the \$62.4 million-dollar District Court judgment against VidAngel.

-VidAngel has agreed not to decrypt, copy, stream or distribute content of Disney, Warner Brothers and their affiliates without permission from the Studios.

-VidAngel has agreed to drop its Ninth Circuit legal appeal.

-VidAngel has agreed to pay \$9.9 million over 14 years to Disney and Warner Brothers. {eoa}

About VidAngel: *VidAngel helps you make entertainment good for your home. Its top-rated original series Dry Bar Comedy and The Chosen have earned wide acclaim from critics and audiences alike. VidAngel's proprietary technology—empowering families to “skip” unwanted language, nudity, violence and other undesired content from movies and TV shows streaming on Netflix and Amazon Prime—is available on modern devices such as iOS, Android, ROKU, Apple TV and Amazon Fire TV and continues to be popular with parents and families.*

Prayer Event Becomes ‘Worship Protest’ After Seattle Barricades Christians Out

The Christian community refused to let city officials in Seattle, Washington, shut down a Labor Day worship event organized by “Hold the Line” founder Sean Feucht.

In a video posted on Twitter, Feucht said, “The city decided to barricade the entire park for our peaceful worship and prayer gathering.”

We’re calling tonight a “Worship Protest” for legal reasons.

See ya in the streets next to GasWorks Park!

Live on Facebook at 6pm!

Already so many people here next to this bulldozer. Tonight could get a little wild #LetUsWorship

– Sean Feucht (@seanfeucht) September 7, 2020

So the event became a “worship protest” and was moved into the street near Gas Works Park.

Seattle Parks and Recreation closed the area on Sept. 4, citing that the decision was “due to anticipated crowding that could impact the public health of residents.”

Feucht told CBN News that the worship protest was still powerful and “the Spirit of God moved.”

“The Lord called me to declare that this is a new Jesus People movement,” he added, saying that the restrictions imposed by politicians “are only making the church stronger.”