

How to Pray for America in this Time of Crisis

The time for action is now! Whether we like it or not and whether we believe it or not, America is at war. Our nation is in a battle for her soul, and we the church must defend her, love her and fight for her.

We the church must clean up the mess we have made. The responsibility for the tearing of our fabric of democracy that fills daily headlines, the evil that's become commonplace and the issues of immorality that swirl about us rests squarely on the shoulders of the church. *Yes, the church!* The evils surrounding us are not political matters; they are spiritual matters; the battle of dark versus light. Jesus Christ gave the church power over the enemy. He gave us keys to unlock the resources of heaven, and He told us He would allow what we allow. This is why now is the time for all God's people to come to the aid of their country.

Christians, wake up! Lower your knees and lift your heads to the Father. Battle for your nation in prayer. Then arise, cloaked in your blood-bought righteousness, and stand for good in a time of evil. Let your voice be heard: *This nation was founded upon God, and this nation will remain founded upon God. I declare it so in Jesus' name.*

My friend, there is nothing new under the sun. Yet if anyone had dared to share the plan to destroy America as we know it today, the prideful answer would have been, "Such atrocities will never happen here!" We are knee-deep in trouble because we have not been on our knees in prayer.

But the tide shall turn. We are no longer ignorant of Satan's schemes or powerless. We shall overcome with the forces of heaven behind us.

Satan's Evil Scheme

Instead of calling out evil or sin, the church neglected to take its place. Various factions chose either to sleep, live in denial or look for ways to approach evil without hurting anyone's feelings. We must quit justifying evil by blaming our sins on past generations and take responsibility for our actions today. We must boldly acknowledge Satan's scheme and recognize his weapons of choice: deception and fear.

The church must "be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For our fight is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, and against spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places" (Eph. 6:10-12).

Satan is using the technology we have come to love, so he believes he has humanity in his grasp. I remember when we had more personal time than we do today. New inventions were supposed to make life easier. Instead, we became busier than ever, often declaring we do not have time to pray. Have our conveniences and devices become idols?

Remember, God has "delivered us from the power of darkness and has transferred us into the kingdom of His dear Son, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins" (Col. 1:13-14). We are here for such a time as this.

Satan is a legalist, and he hears us speak and sees our self-preserving actions. There is an accuser, but we "overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death" (Rev. 12:11, KJV). God helps us to overcome and live as the people He has created us to be.

It's time to pray, read and study our Bibles again, to turn off those fear-filled words that flow across the airwaves into

our homes. The voices of propaganda have slowly stolen the Word from our hearts along with our faith to act on it. The prayer of faith that will heal the sick, and our nation is very sick.

“Millions of Americans today accept ideas and behaviors that would have horrified all previous generations,” writes David Kupelian in *The Marketing of Evil* (Republic Book Publishers, 2022). Satan adopted marketing as one of his major tools to separate us from the light that dispels the darkness. Will you listen to words of life or death? We must choose the godly path for ourselves and therefore, our nation.

Our Source of Courage

In this hour, our enemy is exposed and vulnerable, and we must take back what is ours. Followers of Jesus in ages past chose to obey God rather than man. We must do the same.

In recent decades, it appears Satan found a way to convince us to willingly comply with him, even though he was blatantly stealing, killing and destroying (see John 10:10). But God says to us, “Come out from among them and be separate” (2 Cor. 6:17a, MEV). While Satan’s scheme is boldly on display, our prayers will prepare us with the courage to boldly obey God, even when it brings criticism and accusation. This is a time in history when we must draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in this time of need on behalf of our nation (see Heb. 4:16).

Isaiah 9:6a says, “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder.” Typically, we skim over the phrase “the government shall be upon His shoulder.” Yet, dear Christians, we are the *body* of Christ. We are the church of Jesus Christ. What rests upon His shoulder also rests upon us. This means we have a responsibility to steward the government of our nation. Put aside any fear of crossing the line between church and state,

for that line was crossed when our nation was established.

An all-out war of woke culture is attacking our solidarity as one nation under God. Ted Dekker writes, "Fear is the ruler of this world. It's the fabric of all negativity, the shadow we run from, the wisdom of the world that puts us to bed at night with a hundred cautionary tales" (*The Way of Love*, Outlaw Studios, 2018). How do we overcome this spirit of fear? We refuse to be led astray by teachings that emphasize only the empty words of men. We choose to declare, "My God never gives me the spirit of fear" (see 2 Tim. 1:7). God lavishly shed His love abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit (Rom. 5), and perfect love drives out fear.

When our government decided church was not essential during the recent COVID pandemic, every Christian should have been startled into action. Instead of taking a stand for righteousness, we complied as we have complied to many pivotal demarcations of evil in our culture. Where is our courage as citizens of heaven?

We began to doubt when we listened to those who discredited our founders, God-fearing men who risked their lives to form a more perfect union. Instead, we listened to acclaimed Bible professors who told us the gifts of the Spirit are no longer for today. As a nation we questioned if the gospel is still for us today. Did these teachings open the door for the great deception now prevalent in our nation? When did we buy into the sinister plan that government knows better than God? When did we begin trusting science more than God? Propaganda from our televisions has only intensified as the years rolled by. God sent messengers to warn us, but no one believed them. Now, we pay the price, for surely "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall" (Prov. 16:18).

Nevertheless, as citizens of heaven, we cannot forget: "the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; He will save us" (Isa. 33:22). God involves us in His

plan, and we are here to pray, “Your Kingdom come; Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven” (Matt. 6:10). Prayer prepares us for action, for we are the body of Christ. God intended His people to take our responsibility seriously and be good stewards of this nation. Unfortunately, for too long we as the church chose the easy path and remained silent, just as Adam did. We must change that.

As I began writing *Prayers That Avail Much for America*, searching the Scriptures and researching our nation’s history, my passion for America to return to God intensified. History is heritage—never to be hidden under hard dates and cold facts. History is about people—their struggles, their victories, their love for God and their dependence on Him. History is our story, born out of the centuries when people lived and worked hard to make a good life.

I read with new eyes about the people who risked their lives to come to America from around the world. Many died in their journey, while others lived to write about being shot or kidnapped, witnessing babies torn from their mothers’ arms, houses burned and property lost. They grew their own food, canned and preserved it for long months when the earth lay silent. I was one of them.

Why were all these sacrifices worth the price of life and limb? We, the people of America, pursued God and the liberty He brings. My heart burns within me as I look at how we have compromised our stand for truth and righteousness.

America’s Plan of Action

There was a time God looked for a man who would stand in the gap on behalf of Israel so He would not have to destroy the land. He found no one (see Ezek. 22:30). Let that not be the case in our nation today. Let us answer the call to pray for America!

It is time to report for prayer duty. Keep your prayer armor

on and pray for those who are conditioned to believe the nonsense they hear in mainstream media. There are two intercessors who cannot fail: The Holy Spirit, who is present to help us pray when we don't know what to pray (Rom. 8:26); and Jesus, who is seated at the right hand of God (Rom. 8:34). Ephesians 2:6 says we are seated together with Him in the heavenly places. Jesus gave us authority to tread on all the power of the devil, and nothing shall by any means harm us (Luke 10:19). Had we believed our God, we would never have given up our liberty when we did. We would never have fed the spirit of fear by listening to voices of doom and gloom.

How shall we take action today? How do we turn the tide of our nation's crisis?

Pray!

We are an army of intercessors. May each one of us get busy—touching heaven for the sake of earth.

We must turn to the Word of God, which is “full of energy, and it pierces more sharply than a two-edged sword. It will even penetrate to the very core of our being where soul and spirit, bone and marrow meet. It interprets and reveals the true thoughts and secret motives of our hearts. There is not one person who can hide their thoughts from God, for nothing that we do remains a secret, and nothing created is concealed, but everything is exposed and defenseless before his eyes, to whom we must render an account” (Heb. 4:12b-13, TPT).

It is time to turn fears, anxieties and worries into confident, effective prayers. It is time to move from “we the people” to “be the people.” We are not a nation waiting to be born; we are people who have been born again by the Spirit of God. Now is the time to pray until God's will is done in our nation, and the whole earth will know that He is God!

We begin with a personal commitment to pray for America, and then we act on 1 Timothy 2:1-7, calling for the destiny of the

United States to be fulfilled. We have been entrusted with the power that raised Jesus from the dead, and we are here to rebuild the walls of salvation for our nation. United in prayer, we will see the salvation of God in the land of the living.

Many Christians have been praying for the media and are seeing results. Perhaps some of you are called to intercede for the education system, for the economy or for families.

Effective prayer for our nation begins and ends when we choose to humble ourselves before God. Note the conditional here: "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 Chron. 7:14).

We have His promise, and we hold it tightly. The days are evil, but we are a determined people who serve a God who is much greater than evil.

When I look back over the years, I recall what the Lord has taught me about intercessory prayer during times of crisis: Don't focus on the problem, but the solution. Don't speak the crisis, speak the answer. How many times have you met with a group only to find everyone talking about a problem or crisis? No, friends, that's not God's way. Talk about the wondrous works of God! Talk about Psalm 91, Matthew 9 and Acts 10:38. That is what we shall see for our nation—more than anything else.

I pray we are provoked to pray without ceasing. Let's pray and act.

America shall be saved!

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