Why You Should Pray for Your President
HaDavar
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What to Do Now that the Presidential Election is Over
1 Timothy 2:1-3

In 1776 the Constitutional Convention of the United States was on the verge of failure; the issue: should smaller states have the same representation as larger states? 81 year old Benjamin Franklin offered a suggestion; he was convinced Scripture was right when it states: “Except the LORD build the house they labor in vain that build it” (Psalm 127:1); he called for prayer and the motion passed and Congress reached a compromise; it is called “the electoral college;” Donald Trump did not win the popular vote, but won by the electoral college

It was prayer that formed our Constitution and it is prayer that will save our nation (1 Timothy 2:1-3); there are four different words for prayer in our text: “supplications” (deomai), to pray with passion; “prayers” (proseuchomai), to express a wish toward; “intercessions” (extusis), to pray on behalf of others; “thanksgivings”(eucharista), to express gratitude.

Pray for Partnership

We are called to pray “for kings and all who are in authority…” (2:2a)

Without question this has been one of the strangest and most contentious elections of our lifetime; neither candidate was popular or viewed as trustworthy; it has been an ugly and divisive race; whether your candidate won or not, you are to pray for your president; this is the right thing to do.

We have a nation divided like no other time in our nation since the days of the Civil War; Jesus warned about “a house divided against itself will not stand” (Matthew 12:25), we must pray for America to truly be the United States of America.
Prayer assures us that Trump is God’s choice for our nation at this time... God is the One “who removes kings and raises up kings” (Daniel 2:21); governing authorities are “God’s ministers” (Romans 13:4); we are told “to pray for kings and all who are in authority” (1 Timothy 2:1-2); this was written at the when Nero was on the throne of the vast Roman Empire; the Lord told Jeremiah to tell the captives in Babylon to “seek the peace... and pray to the LORD for it...” (Jeremiah 29:7).

You may not like the direction this new administration is headed; Solomon wrote: “The king’s heart is in the hand of the LORD, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes” (Proverbs 21:1); the Sovereign God can turn the heart of any king at any time and in any direction; God turned the heart of pagan Cyrus to allow the Jews to return from Babylonian captivity to rebuild their temple and referred to him as “My shepherd” (Isaiah 44:28); Charles Spurgeon: “Prayer is the slender nerve that moves the omnipotent muscle of God.”

Prayer acknowledges your desire for Trump’s success... If you did not vote for Trump, it is only natural to wish him to fail; to wish our president to fail is to wish our nation to fail; it is easy to assail those with whom we disagree.

It is blessed to wish one well and sinful to wish one evil; love “thinks no evil” and “hopes all things” (1 Corinthians 13:5,7).

Prayer assists Trump in his tasks... Few presidents have faced a more daunting challenge than what Trump will face; our national debt is over 20 trillion dollars and our nation’s personal debt is twice that much; ISIS is on the move in 32 countries; the world is in turmoil from the Middle East, to Russia, China, North Korea, and Europe is 10 years from collapsing from Muslim immigration; Christianity is on the decline and a socialist-Marxism is taking over our educational and political systems; however, “The king’s heart is in the hand of the LORD, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes” (Proverbs 21:1).

Pray for Peace
We are to pray for those in authority that “we may live a quiet and peaceable life…” (v. 2b); there has only been 286 years of peace over 4,000 years of history.

*People who start wars are rebelling against God (Psalm 2:1-3)*... “The earth is the LORD’s and all its fullness” (Psalm 24:1); evil rulers think the earth belongs to them and they wage war to control it.

There will never be a time when those in authority will not need the guidance of God; only God can tell a nation the right time to do the right thing; to do the right thing at the wrong time is as bad as doing the wrong thing at the right time; in international affairs there is a clock; the hands of that clock are not always seen by man, but God sees them; when the hands announce the right time the clock will strike and those in authority had better be listening; God will attune our ears if we but ask--- and it is particularly important He attune the ears of our nation’s leaders.

*People who start wars are relishing in their own desires (James 4:1)*... Two men who helped instigate the Civil War were Robert Toombs, a senator from Georgia, a slave owner, and founding father of the Confederacy; the other was Wendell Phillips, a senator from Massachusetts who argued that the US Constitution did not call for slavery; both men argued for succession from the Union based on the issue of slavery -- one for and one against; 620,000 Americans were killed while both Toombs and Phillips were in good health long after the ending of things at Appomattox Court House, Virginia; people who start wars put other people’s lives at risk, but not their own.

In 1672 the people of Holland prayed to be spared from the enemy approaching their country on the high seas; God sent a hurricane and destroyed their ships.

**Pray for Purity**

We are to pray for those in authority that we may live a “life in all godliness and reverence” (2:2c).
The relationship between Church and government... Both pastors and governing authorities are called “God’s ministers” (2 Timothy 2:24-26; Romans 13:4); God through the Church determines morality and through the government enforces morality; Confucius said: “If a ruler himself is upright, all will go well without orders; but if he himself is not upright, even though he gives orders, they will not be obeyed.”

The repudiation of biblical morals by those in authority... In the 1960’s we have seen a moral decline in our nation from the Haight-Ashbury, Woodstock, Hippie crowd that introduced a free-love, drug addicted culture; then came legalized abortion, pornography; God was removed from our public schools, and moral relativism became the standard for morality in our universities; socialism has taken over our government which is totally incompatible with Judeo-Christian values; to believe in God and His Word is to be bigoted, intolerant, and unenlightened; even our presidents from John Kennedy down to Barack Obama have shown disrespect for the moral laws of God; Donald Trump to take office after being featured on the cover of Playboy Magazine (March 1990); Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush are the exceptions to not disgracing the Oval Office.

The recognition that Jesus’s way is the only hope for America... Donald Trump has been rubbing shoulders with Evangelical leaders; pray that their witness rubs off and God changes his heart to make him a godly president “for such a time as this.”

The requirement of God to repent for national healing... “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 sins and heal their land” (2 Chronicles 7:14).

There was a document written by Daniel Webster that was sealed in a jar and buried under the cornerstone of the north gate of our nation’s Capitol which was dedicated by President Millard Fillmore in 1851; those words are relevant to our nation today.

In the words of Robert South: “To God be rendered and ascribed, as is most due, all praise, might, majesty, and dominion, both now and forever. Amen!” And the
words, in part, of Daniel Webster on that buried parchment under the cornerstone of our nation’s Capitol are: “God save the United States of America!”