

A NATION ADRIFT

Jeffrey H. Coors

America is changing before our eyes. The freedoms men fought and died for are being frittered away by a government intent on encroaching on every aspect of our lives. It has been gradual. The Republicans enjoyed growing the government while they were in control the previous eight years. Some federal departments, like Education and Energy, which were deemed unnecessary and considered for elimination in the Reagan years, have been greatly expanded.

The excessive size and inefficiency of government, which even Democrat Bill Clinton worked to curb, has not even been a topic of discussion in Washington for years.

And now socialized healthcare has become law, even against the will of the majority of Americans. One sixth of our national economy will be managed for us by a new group of bureaucrats. These pretend to know what is best for us better than we ourselves know. "European envy" is afoot among the U.S. governing elite. They envy other nations and want America to be like them.

Israel's judge and prophet, Samuel, warned Israel not to follow other nations and their earthly kings, but they refused to heed his godly wisdom. The people got their king and sold themselves into his service. Seeds of destruction were planted when they chose to rely on man rather than God. America was at its strongest when it stood apart from other nations. Now, like Israel, we are choosing to sell ourselves into slavery to a new kind of earthly king—the federal government. "In God We Trust" is being replaced by "In Government We Trust."

In this time we must consider Jeremiah 29. When looking at this chapter we would hope that God would quicken verse 11 which so many have relied on: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." But God wants us to read the entire chapter and note the context. Jeremiah was writing to the Jewish exiles in Babylon—those captured by King Nebuchadnezzar and enslaved to him in a foreign land. It is as if the Lord is saying, "You [America] have enslaved yourselves to a king of your choosing [the federal bureaucracy]. Just like Israel you are no longer free people."

But redeeming direction also came from the Lord, as we see starting in verse 5: "Build homes, and plan to stay. Plant gardens, and eat the food they produce. Marry and have children. Then find spouses for them so that you will have many grandchildren. Multiply! Do not dwindle away! And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare."

First, God has permitted and sent us into this statist slavery. Our rebellion as a nation has resulted in our present judgment. God is trying to get our attention, but are we listening to Him or only to our own proud selves?

Second, we should not be resigned to an awful fate, but we should continue to bless our families, provide well for them, and plan for generations to come.

Third, we should pray for the peace and prosperity of this land. Its welfare does determine our welfare.

God is not saying we should stop fighting and praying for justice and righteousness. Nor would He discourage efforts to legally reverse the dependence we have put on our federal government. Above all else He would have us trust Him, obey Him and give Him all honor. And, in our current state of statist slavery, we should especially pray and work for the peace, prosperity, and welfare of this nation.

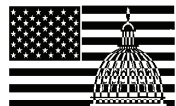
—Jeffrey H. Coors serves on the IFA Board of Directors and is Executive Chairman, Retired of the Board of Graphic Packaging International, Inc.

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Pray to the Lord for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare." —Jeremiah 29:7 NLT

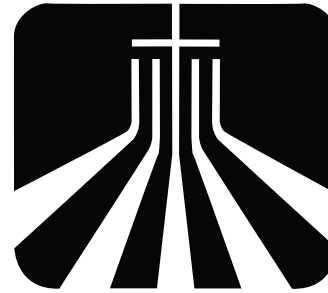
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CHURCH PRAY!

INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

PRAYER FOR MAY 6, 2010 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Franklin Graham – 2010 Honorary Chair

Lord – We are thankful for the abundant blessings You have bestowed on America. Our forefathers looked to You as Protector, Provider, and the Promise of hope. But we have wandered far from that firm foundation. May we repent for turning our backs on Your faithfulness.

We pray that this great nation will be restored by Your forgiveness. From bondage, You grant freedom. Through Your own sacrifice, You offer salvation. From the state of despair, You offer peace. From the bounties of Heaven, You have blessed—not because of our goodness—but by Your grace.

You have given us freedom to worship You in spirit and in truth as Your holy Word instructs. May our lives honor You in word and deed. May our nation acknowledge that all good things come from the Father above.

President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed that our nation should set apart a day for national prayer to confess our sins and transgressions in sorrow, "yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon... announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord."

"We have vainly imagined in the deceitfulness of our own hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own... we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God who made us! It behoves us then... to confess our national sins and to pray for clemency and forgiveness."

Help us to pray earnestly for our president and leaders who govern, that they will humble themselves and seek Your guidance so that everything we do will shine the light of Your glory in a darkened world.

May our prayers as a people and a nation be heard and blessed for such a time as this. We make this plea in faith, believing in the mighty name of Jesus our Lord. Amen

"The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him" —Nabum 1:7

MAY 2010 PRAYER FOCUS

Sunday, May 2, 2010

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER – Thursday is the 59th National Day of Prayer. Pray for good participation by churches and Christians in your area and state. Pray that the NDP Task Force and all coordinating Thursday events in your area and state be strengthened and anointed.

Sunday, May 9, 2010

MOTHER'S DAY – Offer thanksgiving and pray for grandmothers and mothers in your church and area. Pray for mothers suffering separation and loss through widowhood, military service, miscarriage, untimely death, divorce, or "prodigal" rebellion.

Sunday, May 16, 2010

JOB CREATION – Offer thanksgiving for improving economic indicators. Pray that the Lord will grant wisdom for private sector job creation to employers in your state. Pray that He will lead the unemployed to sustaining work, food, housing, and medical care.

Sunday, May 23, 2010

GLOBAL DAY OF PRAYER / PRAYER FOR CREATION CARE – Join with millions today during the global day of prayer. (www.gdopusa.com) Pray for spiritual awakening, good government, religious freedom, and moves of redemption to sweep the earth. Tuesday is a Day of Prayer for Creation Care. (www.creationcare.org) Pray for good stewardship and conservation of the earth's resources. Pray for all suffering natural disasters, drought, food shortages, lack of water, and severe weather.

Sunday, May 30, 2010

HOMELAND SECURITY – Pray for Secretary Janet Napolitano and all working in intelligence and security agencies. Pray that U.S. borders, transportation systems, ports, nuclear and other energy facilities, and water supplies be properly protected. Pray that terrorist networks, cells, and planned attacks be exposed and thwarted, and that operatives are brought to justice.