



## INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA THE INFORMER

A biblical, prophetic look at current events for those who have a heart to pray for our nation.

### On Watch in Washington

October 26, 2011

#### **“SUPER COMMITTEE” CHARGED TO “CUT BIG”**

The Government Accounting Office (GAO) says that 1 trillion dollars in savings is NOT sufficient for economic stability. The GAO, an independent auditing arm, report released Monday said the federal government’s fiscal outlook has improved, largely because of a hard-fought deal passed by Congress in early August that raised the debt ceiling and set out to identify ways to trim the debt by at least \$2.1 trillion.

The hard news is that “even this level of deficit reduction is not sufficient to ensure sustainability,” says the report.

The aging U.S. population has strained entitlement programs such as Medicare and Social Security, lawmakers must do more to shore up the nation’s long-term budget while also being careful not to further weaken the current economy.

A Bank of America Merrill Lynch report released Friday also predicts the United States likely will suffer another downgrade from a major credit rating agency by the end of this year on concerns over the deficit.

Standard & Poor’s in August dropped the U.S. credit rating from AAA to AA+, questioning the ability of leaders in Washington to seriously deal with the nation’s debt crisis.

The credit rating agencies have strongly suggested that further rating cuts are likely if Congress does not come up with a credible long-run plan to cut the deficit.

The bipartisan super committee was born out of this summer’s bitter debt ceiling deal, which imposed more than \$900 billion in discretionary spending limits for the next decade. As part of the compromise, the deficit panel was tasked to identify by Thanksgiving another \$1.5 trillion in savings or new tax revenue. Failure would trigger \$1.2 trillion in automatic spending cuts that would affect a wide range of domestic programs and the Pentagon.

The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, a bipartisan group that advocates for fiscal responsibility, says in a report released Friday that the deficit panel must find savings “two or three times as much” in order to set the country “on a path to sustainable fiscal growth.”

“Small ideas have no ability to inspire,” said Al Simpson, co-chairman of the CRFB’s Fiscal Commission.

The two big roadblocks facing the super committee are how to tackle entitlement and tax reforms. Democrats have resisted significant cuts to Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security and other entitlement programs, while Republicans have been steadfast in their opposition to any tax increases.

The super committee, will hold a public hearing today (Wednesday), with Congressional Budget Office Director Doug Elmendorf scheduled to testify. (Source: [Washington Times](#))

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**Ask the Lord to give His wisdom to those who have been set in positions of authority to find cuts in our budget to allow for financial integrity in our economic structure. Ask the Lord to give creative solutions to the problems that need to be addressed and solved. Ask the Lord to help the committee to overcome political prejudice to find the needed solutions.**

*"And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ- to the glory and praise of God."*  
(Philippians 1:9-11)

### **COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL FROM IRAQ BY END OF YEAR**

Obama announced Friday that all U.S. forces will be withdrawn from Iraq by the end of 2011, saying the troops "will definitely be home for the holidays."

The announcement, in the White House briefing room, came after Obama completed a secure video conference with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki. The discussion apparently finalized negotiations that have dragged on for months over what, if any, military presence the U.S. would maintain in Iraq beyond a December 31 withdrawal deadline set in 2008. Obama said the two are now in "full agreement" over how to move forward, and that no U.S. troops will remain.

Capitol Hill sources indicated Friday that, while the troops will come home, the standard presence of Marines will be kept to guard the U.S. Embassy there.

Even with stern warnings from Washington not to "miscalculate" as American troops begin their pullout from Iraq, Iran will be tempted to foment turmoil in the region, mainly as a diversion to its own internal problems, analysts say.

American troops leave behind a volatile Iraq [vulnerable to Iranian influence](#). Iraq's Kurdish minority have already carved out a semi-autonomous region in the oil-rich north and Tehran may encourage the south, where the population shares Iran's Shiite Islam. That would leave the Sunnis in control of a truncated state in the middle. (Contributors: Capitol Hill Prayer Partners, White House, [Jerusalem Post](#))

**Pray for the safety of all of these troops who will be in the process of this rapid drawdown. May each one be honored for the service he or she has rendered during time in Iraq.**

*"For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." (Psalm 91:11)*

### **PALESTINIANS PUSH UN MEMBERSHIP NOVEMBER 11**

Palestinian diplomats are trying to muster support for a U.N. Security Council vote in New York on Nov. 11 on their bid for membership in the global body, a senior Palestinian official said Thursday. U.N. diplomats said earlier this week that a Security Council committee considering the membership bid would deliver a report on that day, and that ambassadors would then decide on the next steps. Any member of the Security Council can request a vote on the Palestinian request, but a resolution recommending membership requires a minimum of nine "yes" votes and no veto by one of the council's five permanent members, Britain, China, France, Russia and the U.S. Washington, Israel's closest ally, has already pledged to use its veto if Palestinian membership gets the support of nine or more council members.

Once the 15-member Security Council recommends a country's membership its application must be approved by a two-thirds vote in the 193-member General Assembly.

Elections to replace five nonpermanent members of the Security Council on Friday [a normal rotation cycle] could create a grouping even less likely to approve the Palestinians' bid, if it rolls over into the new year. Winners will take their posts Jan. 1. Strong Palestinian backers Brazil and Lebanon, along with Nigeria and Gabon, will be leaving the council at the same time. Guatemala, running unopposed for the lone Latin America seat, has never recognized a Palestinian state. Neither has Slovenia, one of three candidates for the East European seat being vacated by Bosnia. The rest of the candidates have all recognized a Palestinian state: Togo, Mauritania, Morocco, Azerbaijan, Hungary, Pakistan and Kyrgystan

"The addition of Guatemala and the subtraction of Brazil would make it a bit more difficult" to get statehood approved, if the vote is held over, said Warren Hoge, senior adviser for external relations at the International Peace Institute, a New York think tank. (Contributor: [Associated Press](#))

**Pray that the leaders of the world grasp the potential destruction that will occur if the nations of the world attempt to usurp the will of God by disregarding His divine will. Pray that the U.S. delegation stand firm in its stance on not giving way to the PA attempt at legitimization as an independent state.**

*"Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with you, which frames mischief by a law? They gather themselves together against the soul of the righteous and condemn the innocent blood. But the Lord is our defense; and our God is the rock of our refuge." (Psalm 94:19-22)*

### **11-11-11 GLOBAL DAY OF PRAYER**

The Global Day of Worship (GDW) is a call for a unified, global worship movement to see the name of Jesus Christ lifted up throughout the earth. It will be a day that will unify many denominations within the body of Christ while embracing and celebrating the differences in our expressions of love for Jesus Christ. Through a unified, celebration and adoration of the name of Jesus, the world will see that we are His disciples.

Join us on November 11, 2011 - from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in each time zone - for a wave of worship and adoration that will span the globe and unite all believers as one body. Utilizing 24 time zones, we will agree with and join the 24 elders, spoken of in Revelation 4, who are already worshipping Jesus around the throne. It is when the worship of heaven meets the worship of earth that spiritual climates of nations will shift as we serve faithfully here and now in preparation for His return.

#### ***What the Global Day of Worship Is***

On this day, we will not focus on asking, or petitioning the Lord. We will simply gaze upon His beauty, thank Him for His love, and declare His attributes and goodness in our lives, families, communities and nations.

We can worship Jesus through reflective expressions of love or loud, joyful celebration. We can sing hymns and choruses or engage in free-flowing passionate worship. We were all created to love Jesus, and this event will allow us to uniquely express our love to Him in unity around the globe.

On our website, we will stream live venues in each time zone ranging from small house gatherings of families to larger events.

Join us in this global celebration and adoration of Jesus!

*"But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." (John 12:32)*

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## **SEBELIUS' HEALTH DEPARTMENT DESTROYED INCRIMINATING EVIDENCE**

Another layer to the depth of the [Sebelius abortion corruption has been revealed with the Associated Press report](#) that Kansas health department (KDHE) in 2005 destroyed the state late-term abortion reports at the heart of the current felony charges against Planned Parenthood of Kansas Mid-Missouri.

The pre-trial hearing for felony "false-writing" charges had been scheduled for Monday Oct. 24. Since the original reports have now been discovered as destroyed, the Johnson County District attorney's office had asked for a delay so they could engage other witnesses to verify the authenticity of copies of the state reports.

The state reports are verifications that abortionists send to KDHE for statistical purposes, and are annually tabulated and published. Copies of those reports are required to be kept in the patient medical files. Of crucial importance is that these reports FAIL to provide valid medical reasons for why banned post-viability abortions were performed. They are evidence of illegal abortion.

KFL Executive Director, Mary Kay Culp, said: "Only guilty people destroy evidence; not even we anticipated Sebelius and her administration could stoop this low to protect abortion industry criminality, but this proves they did.

"Sebelius wanted to insure that evidence of illegal abortions was removed before Kline could use it to convict her abortion industry campaign supporters.

"We truly can't find words to adequately convey how outrageous this is. We are especially incredulous given that Sebelius' Health department testified about these reports in Johnson County court in 2008 without once mentioning that the reports had been destroyed!

"It's all so unbelievable, and yet, given the players, so very believable indeed!"

Planned Parenthood tells the AP that they "recently" became aware of the destruction and that it was not done at their request. What is not yet known is when exactly Planned Parenthood knew;

- whether paper copies or electronic files -- or both -- were destroyed;
- who actually did the deed and under what orders;
- whether other reports from George Tiller were destroyed;
- whether similar reports in other years have been destroyed.

Mary Kay Culp, also reported, "Now when the case is finally set to go forward, Johnson County finds out the evidence was destroyed 6 years ago -- something the Sebelius Health Department failed to mention in a Johnson County hearing on this very subject 3 years ago!

"You can't spell corruption clearer than this. Truly, this proves that the ethics charges in Kansas have been pointed 180 degrees in the wrong direction!" (Contributors: [Associated Press](#), [Life News](#), [Christian Newswire](#), [Kansans for Life](#))

**Pray that all the facts are exposed in this case and that justice is served upon those that are responsible for this corruption. Pray that this loss of life due to these abortions is addressed with integrity and with righteous resolution.**

*"You knit me in my mother's womb . . . nor was my frame unknown to you when I was made in secret!"*  
(Psalm 139:13,15)

### **NOTABLE COURT DECISIONS THIS WEEK:**

**Supreme Court declines to hear case challenging school day moment of silence** - The Supreme Court has declined to hear a case challenging an Illinois statute that requires a moment of silence at the start of each school day. As such, the Seventh Circuit's ruling upholding the constitutionality of the statute will stand. The moment of silence had been challenged as a violation of the Establishment Clause. (Contributor: Capitol Hill Prayer Partners, [Education Week](#))

**Federal court hears challenge to public school prayer mural; judge exits courtroom to see the display** - On Thursday, a federal district court heard arguments in a case regarding the constitutionality of a prayer mural that has hung in a Rhode Island public school for almost 50 years. The judge recessed the hearing to visit the school and view the banner for himself. The ACLU sued on behalf of an offended student, alleging that the display violates the Establishment Clause. The mural contains a prayer that students would develop in positive ways. (Contributor: Capitol Hill Prayer Partners, [Becket Fund](#))

### **OBAMA BOWS TO ISLAMISTS**

In an unbelievable bow to Islamists, The Daily Caller reports that the Obama Administration has ordered law enforcement and national security communities to "eliminate all references to Islam" in their counterterrorism training materials. The action was reportedly taken in response to complaints from CAIR and other Moslem apologists. In fact, the president of the Moslem Public Affairs Council recently published an op-ed in the Los Angeles Times demanding a "clear and unequivocal apology to the Moslem American community" from the FBI and the Justice Department.

This is more evidence of the widespread denial and political correctness that infects our elites. This is not a war or terrorism. Terrorism is a tactic of war, but a war requires an enemy. If we are fighting a war on terrorism then World War II was a war on blitzkriegs and kamikazes. It is ludicrous to refuse to identify the enemy.

There are, no doubt, many Moslems who simply want to live peaceful lives. Most Moslems are not terrorists. But there were also many Germans who were not Nazis and simply wanted to live peaceful lives. With all due respect to the moderate Moslems, the Moslems who matter most are the ones trying to kill us. And it is vital that we understand what is motivating them to "kill the infidel." (SOURCE: Gary Bauer, CWFAPAC)

### **THE CONGRESSIONAL PRAYER CAUCUS FOCUS**

**House to vote on resolution reaffirming "In God We Trust" as national motto.** - We expect the House to vote next week on H.Con.Res.13, legislation introduced by Rep. Forbes to reaffirm "In God We Trust" as the official motto of the United States, and support and encourage its display in public buildings, public schools, and other government institutions. (Source: Congressional Prayer Caucus)

**Rep. Franks to chair subcommittee hearing on "The State of Religious Liberty in America."** - As Chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Rep. Trent Franks, an active Member of the Prayer Caucus, will be holding an important hearing this week on "The State of Religious Liberty in the United States." The hearing will focus on current issues related to religious freedom under both the free exercise and establishment clauses of the First Amendment. It will also review how the courts are treating religious beliefs and institutions of American citizens. The hearing will be today, Wed., Oct. 26th at 2:30 pm in 2141 RHOB. (Source: Congressional Prayer Caucus)

**Prayer Caucus reaches milestone of 100 Members.** - The Prayer Caucus recently reached the milestone of 100 Members. Throughout our nation's history, prayer and faith have played a significant role in strengthening our society. Yet we see frequent efforts to erase references to our nation's rich spiritual heritage from the public square. The nearly one-in-four Members of Congress that comprise the Prayer Caucus care deeply about preserving the presence of religion, faith, and morality in the marketplace of ideas. This strong bipartisan group of Members will continue working vigilantly to ensure that Americans are able to experience the freedom of religion that was a cornerstone upon which our nation was founded. You can see a list of Prayer Caucus Members [here](#). (Source: Congressional Prayer Caucus)

**H.Res.642 - Broadcaster Freedom Act of 2011** - Purpose: To prevent the Federal Communications Commission from promulgating the fairness doctrine. H.R. 642 amends the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) from having the authority to require broadcasters to present opposing viewpoints on controversial issues of public importance, commonly referred to as the Fairness Doctrine. This bill is sponsored by Rep. Mike Pence (R-IN) and has 145 cosponsors. To learn more about the Fairness Doctrine, go [here](#). (Source: Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation.)

**H. Res. 253: Designating the First Week in May as "America's Spiritual Heritage Week"** - This bill affirms the rich spiritual and religious history of our Nation's founding and subsequent history and expressing support for designation of the first week in May as "America's Spiritual Heritage Week" for the appreciation of and education on America's history of religious faith. H. Res. 253 is sponsored by Congressman Randy Forbes. (Source: Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation.)

**H.Res. 211: Recognizing the Importance of the Ten Commandments in our Founding Documents** - This piece of legislation is aimed at recognizing the important influence the Ten Commandments had on our Founding Documents and Principles. Rep. Louis Gohmert (R-TX) is the sponsor of this bill. Read status [here](#). (Source: Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation.)

**H.Res. 2023: Public Expression of Religion Act** - If passed into law, this bill would limit the remedies available to parties that bring lawsuits against expressions of religion . . . The bill would modify the law so each side pays its own attorney fees, removing the monetary incentive that activist groups have in bringing these types of cases. The sponsor of this bill is Rep. Dan Burton (R-IN). Read status [here](#). (Source: Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation.)

**H.Res. 2070: The World War II Memorial Prayer Act of 2011** - Please pray for World War II Memorial Prayer Act of 2011 which would require the Secretary of the Interior to place a plaque at the World War II Memorial or inscribe on the Memorial President Franklin D. Roosevelt's D-Day prayer, which has been entitled "Let Our Hearts Be Stout." The sponsor of H.Res. 2070 is Rep. Bill Johnson (R-OH). Read more [here](#). (Source: Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation.)

**CA city council votes to allow prayers in Jesus' name at meetings.** - The Laguna Niguel City Council voted this week to remove restrictions on council meeting invocations. Previous regulations had prohibited invocations from mentioning Jesus Christ; however, because of the change, prayers at council meetings may now reference a specific deity. <http://www.ocregister.com/news/policy-322852-council-christ.html>

**FL city commission will open meetings with prayer instead of moment of silence.** - This week, the Deltona City Commission approved a plan to begin opening meetings with prayer, eliminating its earlier practice of beginning meetings with a moment of silence. Members of the council will take turns inviting

local clergy members to give the invocations. <http://www.news-journalonline.com/news/local/west-volusia/2011/10/18/deltona-city-commission-approves-spoken-prayer-to-start-meetings.html>

**VA school board asks court to dismiss ACLU challenge to inclusion of 10 Commandments in historical display.** - The Giles County school board asked a federal court to dismiss a case filed by the ACLU challenging a display in county schools that includes the Ten Commandments along with other historical documents. The school board said that since a private citizen funded the display and placed it in county schools, the display was not a result of any action by the school district. <http://www.roanoke.com/news/roanoke/wb/298320>

**VA town changes "Holiday Parade" to "Christmas and Holiday Parade."** - The Leesburg Town Council approved a proposal to change the name of its "Holiday Parade" to "Christmas and Holiday Parade." One council member noted that including the word "Christmas" will not exclude other faiths from participating. <http://www.christianpost.com/news/small-virginia-town-torn-over-putting-christmas-back-into-holiday-parade-58622/>

**Judge approves settlement in Houston National Cemetery religious discrimination case** - On Wednesday, a federal court judge [approved](#) a settlement in a lawsuit that originated when volunteer veterans groups alleged that the director of the Houston National Cemetery was censoring religious speech at private burial services. In the [consent decree](#), the VA agreed that it will not ban or interfere with prayers or religious expressions at burial services; will not censor private religious speech; and will not interfere in the distribution of cards and gifts containing religious messages. The case began when veterans groups accused the cemetery director and other VA officials of a pattern of hostility towards religion. The groups said that on various occasions, they were prohibited from saying "God" during burial rituals; required to submit prayers and religious speeches for government approval before using them at private burial services; and banned from writing "God bless" on condolence cards or using religious speech when talking with veterans' families.

**Update: Letter to Obama supporting faith-based hiring** - This week, a group of leaders of faith-based organizations sent a letter thanking Obama for preserving federal policies that allow faith-based organizations to consider religion in their employment decisions, while also participating in government contract work to provide crucial services. Signers of the letter represented groups including the Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance, the National Association of Evangelicals, World Vision, and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The letter was sent in response to a [letter](#) sent in September by a coalition of 56 organizations, lead by the ACLU and the Americans United for Separation of Church and State, opposing the current policies.