

Call to Prayer for the Community, State and Nation by Rob Chambers

Jeremiah prophesied to the people of God in Babylon to “seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare” (Jeremiah 29:4-7). Although Christians are not in exile in America, as were the people of God in Babylon, we are strangers in a foreign land as our ultimate citizenship is in heaven. Nevertheless, the fundamental truth exists that as the people of God in America seek what is best or the welfare of the United States of America, the people of God will in turn be blessed.

Below is a model prayer offered by Kevin Jackson, author of *The Prayer of Jesus*, for a Christian’s community, state and nation. I urge you to prayerfully read through this prayer and then use it as a guide to pray for the welfare of your community, state, and nation.

Introduction

Father I come to you in Jesus name (John 14:14). I ask you to strengthen me with power by your spirit in my inner man (Ephesians 3:16) because it is not by might nor by power but by your spirit that I live (Zechariah 4:6).

I ask you to cover me, my family, my church and my nation with the blood of Jesus (Exodus 12:21-23). I ask you to make a hedge about me for protection from Satan's attacks (Job 1:10). I put on the whole armor of God that I may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. I wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6:11-12). Make me as a fenced brazen wall so that even though Satan's hosts fight against me, they shall not prevail against me for you were with me to deliver me out of the hand of the wicked one and redeem me out of the hand of trouble (Jeremiah 15:20-21).

Thanks be to you, oh God, who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:57).

Repentance

Lord, remove the heart of stone from me and give me a heart of flesh (Ezekiel 11:19). Make me afraid of every form of evil (1 Thessalonians 5:22) and careful not to be outwitted by Satan, since I am not ignorant of his designs (2 Corinthians 2:11).

Lord, give me the happiness which they have who fear You always (Psalm 128:1) that when I think I stand, I may take heed lest I fall (1 Corinthians 10:12).

Thanksgiving

I thank you for the preaching of Jesus Christ. And the gospel which has been made known to all nations for the obedience of faith (Romans 16:25-26) has divine power to destroy strongholds (2 Corinthians 10:4).

I thank you that the gospel preached in the midst of much conflict (1 Thessalonians 2:2) continues to increase and prevail mightily (Acts 19:20) and multitudes turn to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven (1 Thessalonians 1:9-10).

I ask you to Preserve Christianity in my community, state and nation.

I pray that even though the enemies of Your people have afflicted them, they will not prevail against them (Psalm 129:1-4). I thank you that Jesus Christ has built his church upon a rock, which the gates of hell cannot prevail against (Matthew 16:18).

I ask You to Restore Moral Decency and Civility in the Nation.

O let the evil of the wicked come to an end, and establish the righteous (Psalm 7:9). Let the Deliverer come and banish ungodliness from our land (Romans 11:26) and let the filth of our cities, communities and states be cleansed from its midst (Isaiah 4:4).

Let those who are struggling against sin never grow weary or fainthearted (Hebrews 12:3-4). Remove the spirit of uncleanness from the Church, (Zechariah 13:2) and enable people to call upon the name of the LORD (Zephaniah 3:9).

I ask You to Grant Peace in the Nation

Let God himself be a wall of fire all around us and the glory in the midst of us (Zechariah 2:5). Let Peace and security be within our borders (Psalm 122:7). Let violence never be heard in our gates, devastation or destruction in our borders, but let our walls be called Salvation and our gates Praise (Isaiah 60:17-18).

Never let our land be termed Forsaken and Desolate, but let the Lord delight in us (Isaiah 62:4). Let righteousness abound among us which exalts a nation, and deliver us from sin, which is a reproach to any people (Proverbs 14:34).

Conclusion

I ask you, Father, to give me more than twelve legions of angels to do spiritual warfare in this situation (Matthew 26:53). I pray the power of the Holy Spirit to move freely and save souls in my community, state and nation (Matthew 18:18).

I ask that the fear of the Lord would come upon every soul in our community, state and nation. (Acts 2:43) and that Your Word would grow and multiply, (Acts 12:24) and Your Word shall not return void, but it shall accomplish what You please and prosper in the thing whereto You send it (Isaiah 55:11).

Thank You that Your peace rules in my heart, (Colossians 3:15) and that Your love is shed abroad in my heart by the Holy Spirit that dwells in me (Romans 5:5). Amen.

In America's founding documents, the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, exist expressions of godliness and godly principles that Christians should seek to protect and preserve for the welfare of the country.

Christian voters in America are seeking the welfare of the country when they seek to elect leaders who affirm the God-given right to life and who work to make abortion illegal.

Christians are also seeking the welfare of the country when they elect leaders who will protect a person's religious liberty to express their faith without fear of persecution from the state. The right to believe is like the right to life as both come from God, not government.

Unfortunately, political candidates have been opposing these principles and instead have been increasingly promoting secular liberalism with more intensity than ever before. This is one reason people say time and time again that "this election is more important than any election before."

These fundamental principles among others are worth defending at the ballot box. We also must be mindful that only a sovereign God who has chosen to work through His church, or Christians who are called to live a life of prayer and obedience, will bring about lasting change.

*For more about Kevin Jackson and his book on prayer, *The Prayer of Jesus*, visit www.ordinarytheologian.org*