

American Minute with Bill Federer

National Day of Prayer: "We have forgotten God ..."
Lincoln, "The awful calamity ... may be but a
punishment ... for our presumptuous sins"

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President Reagan stated
January 27, 1983:

"In 1775, the **Continental Congress** proclaimed the
first National Day of Prayer

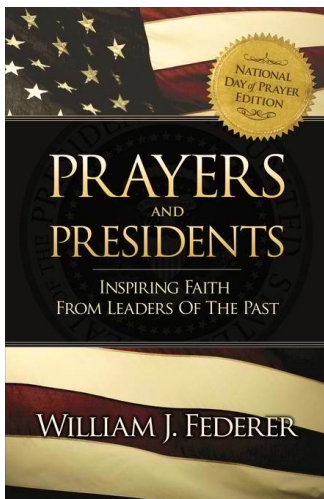
...

In 1783, the Treaty of Paris
officially ended the long,
weary **Revolutionary War**
during which a **National Day
of Prayer** had been

**proclaimed every spring for eight years" ... [continue
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President Washington, after the Whiskey Rebellion in

western Pennsylvania, declared a **National Day of Prayer**, January 1, 1796:

"All persons within the United States, to ... render sincere and hearty thanks to the **great Ruler of nations** ... for the possession of constitutions of government ... and fervently beseech the **kind Author of these blessings** ... to establish habits of sobriety, order, and morality and piety."

During a threatened war with France, **President John Adams** declared a **National Day of Prayer & Fasting**, March 23, 1798, and again, March 6, 1799:

"As ... the people of the United States are still held in jeopardy by ... insidious acts of a foreign nation ... I hereby recommend ... a **Day of Solemn Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer**;

That the citizens ... **call to mind our numerous offenses against the Most High God, confess them before Him with the sincerest penitence,**

implore His pardoning mercy, through the Great Mediator and Redeemer, for our past transgressions,

and that through the **grace of His Holy Spirit**, we may be disposed and enabled to yield a more suitable obedience to **His righteous requisitions** ...

'Righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is a reproach to any people.'"

Jefferson, at the beginning of the Revolutionary War when Boston's Harbor was blockaded, introduced a resolution in the Virginia Assembly calling for a Day of Fasting and Prayer.

When he was Governor of Virginia, Jefferson issued a Day of Prayer, November 11, 1779:

"Congress ... hath thought proper ... to recommend to the several States ... a day of public and solemn Thanksgiving to Almighty God ...

That He would ... crown our arms with victory; That He would grant to His church, the plentiful effusions of Divine Grace, and pour out His Holy Spirit on all Ministers of the Gospel; That He would bless and prosper the means of education, and spread the light of Christian knowledge through the remotest corners of the earth ...

I do therefore ... issue this proclamation ... appointing ... a day of public and solemn thanksgiving and prayer to Almighty God ... Given under by hand ... this 11th day of November, in the year of our Lord, 1779. -Thomas Jefferson."

James Madison, who had introduced the First Amendment in the first session of Congress, proclaimed two **National Days of Prayer** and a **National Day of Fasting** during the War of 1812, writing November 16, 1814:

"In the present time of public calamity and war a day may be ... observed by the people of the United States as a **Day of Public Humiliation and Fasting and of Prayer to Almighty God** for the safety and welfare of these States ...

of **confessing their sins and transgressions**, and of strengthening their **vows of repentance** ... that **He** would be graciously pleased to **pardon all their offenses.**"

President Tyler proclaimed a **National Day of Prayer and Fasting**, April 13, 1841, when President Harrison died in office.

"When a **Christian people** feel themselves to be overtaken by a **great public calamity**, it becomes them to **humble themselves** under the dispensation of **Divine**

Providence."

President Zachary Taylor declared a **National Day of Fasting and Prayer**, July 3, 1849, during a cholera epidemic:

"A fearful pestilence which is spreading itself throughout the land ...

It is fitting that a people whose reliance has ever been in **His protection** should **humble themselves before His throne ... acknowledging past transgressions**, ask a continuance of the **Divine mercy**.

It is earnestly recommended that the first Friday in August be observed throughout the United States as a **Day of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer."**

President Buchanan declared a **National Day of Prayer and Fasting** to avert civil strife, December 14, 1860:

"In this the hour of our calamity and peril to whom shall we resort for relief but to the **God of our fathers?**
...

Let us ... unite in **humbling ourselves** before the **Most High**, in **confessing our individual and national sins ...**

Let me invoke every individual, in whatever sphere of life he may be placed, to feel a **personal responsibility to God** and his country for **keeping this day holy."**

In 1863, **Lincoln** stated in his **National Day of Prayer and Fasting** Proclamation:

"The awful calamity of civil war, which now desolates the land, may be but a **punishment** inflicted upon us for **our presumptuous sins ...**

We have forgotten God.

We have forgotten **the gracious Hand** which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and **we have vainly imagined**, in the **deceitfulness of our hearts**, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own.

Intoxicated with unbroken success, **we have become** too self-sufficient to feel **the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace**, too proud to pray to the **God that made us!**

It behooves us then to **humble ourselves** before the offended **Power**, to **confess our national sins** and to **pray for clemency and forgiveness."**

When Lincoln was shot, **President Andrew Johnson** proclaimed a **National Day of Prayer**, April 29, 1865:

"The 25th day of next month was recommended as a **Day for Special Humiliation and Prayer** in consequence of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln ...

but Whereas my attention has since been called to the fact that **the day aforesaid is sacred to large numbers of Christians** as one of rejoicing for **the ascension of the Savior ...**

I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do suggest that the **religious services** recommended as aforesaid should be **postponed until ... the 1st day of June."**

In 1901, when President McKinley was assassinated, **President Theodore Roosevelt** declared a **National Day of Prayer**:

"President McKinley crowned a life of largest love for his fellow men, of earnest endeavor for their welfare, by a death of **Christian fortitude ...**

Now, therefore, I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, do appoint ... September 19 ... as a **Day of Mourning and Prayer** throughout the United States ...

I earnestly recommend **all the people to assemble** on that day in their respective **places of divine worship**, there to **bow down in submission to the will of Almighty God**, and to pay out of full hearts the homage of love and reverence to the memory of the great and good President."

In 1918, when the U.S. entered World War I, **President Wilson** proclaimed a **National Day of Prayer and Fasting**:

"Whereas ... in a time of war humbly ... to **acknowledge our dependence on Almighty God** and to **implore His aid** ...

I, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim ... a **Day of Public Humiliation, Prayer and Fasting**, and do exhort my fellow-citizens ... to **pray Almighty God that He may forgive our sins.**"

President Coolidge declared a **National Day of Prayer** at the death of Warren Harding, August 24, 1923:

"Warren Gamaliel Harding, twenty-ninth President of the United States, has been taken from us ...

Now, therefore, I, Calvin Coolidge, President of the United States, do appoint ... a **Day of Mourning and Prayer** throughout the United States.

I earnestly recommend **the people to assemble on that day in their respective places of divine worship**, there to **bow down in submission to the will of Almighty God**,

and to pay out of full hearts the homage of love and reverence to the memory of the great and good President whose death has so sorely smitten the nation."

During the Great Depression, **Franklin D. Roosevelt** stated in a proclamation, November 12, 1935:

"Let us then on the day appointed **offer our devotions and our humble thanks to Almighty God** and **pray** that the people of America will be **guided by Him** in helping their fellow men."

When the U.S. entered World War Two, **Franklin D. Roosevelt** stated December 21, 1941:

"I have set aside a **Day of Prayer**, and in that Proclamation I have said:

'The year 1941 has brought upon our Nation **a war of aggression by powers dominated by arrogant rulers** whose selfish purpose is to **destroy free institutions** ...

Therefore, I ... do hereby appoint the first day of the year 1942 as a **Day of Prayer**, of **asking forgiveness for our shortcomings of the past**, of consecration to the tasks of the present, of **asking God's help** in days to come."

Roosevelt warned at the Dinner of White House Correspondents, March 15, 1941:

"Modern tyrants find it necessary to **eliminate all democracies** ... A few weeks ago I spoke of ... freedom of speech and expression, **freedom of every person to worship God in his own way** ...

If we fail -- if democracy is superseded by slavery ... **freedoms**, or even the mention of them, **will become forbidden things**. Centuries will pass before they can be revived ...

When dictatorships disintegrate -- and **pray God** that will be sooner ... May it be said of us in the days to come that our children and our children's children rise up and call us blessed."

Roosevelt prayed on D-Day, June 6, 1941:

"I ask you to join with me in prayer:

Almighty God, Our sons, pride of our Nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our republic, our religion, and our civilization ...

Give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith. They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard. For the enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces ...

We know that by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph ... Some will never return. Embrace these, Father, and receive them, Thy heroic servants, into Thy kingdom ..."

FDR concluded his D-Day Prayer:

"Help us, Almighty God, to rededicate ourselves in renewed faith in Thee in this hour of great sacrifice ...

I ask that our people devote themselves in a continuance of prayer. As we rise to each new day, and again when each day is spent, let words of prayer be on our lips, invoking Thy help to our efforts.

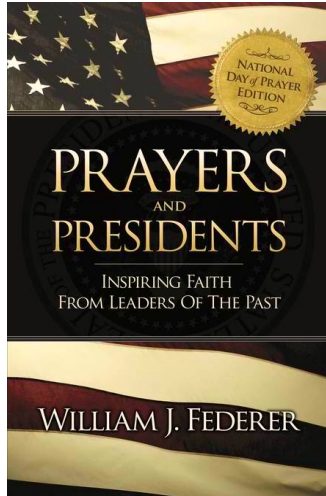
Give us strength ... and, O Lord, give us Faith. Give us Faith in Thee ... With Thy blessing, we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy ... And a peace that will let all of men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil. Thy will be done, Almighty God. Amen."

Roosevelt's D-Day Prayer has recently been added to the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., at a Circle of

Remembrance, thanks to the tireless efforts of Congressman Bill Johnson, Chris Long of the Ohio Christian Alliance, and many others.

In 1952, **President Truman** made the **National Day of Prayer** an annual event, stating:

"In times of national crisis when we are striving to strengthen the foundations of peace ... we stand in special need of Divine support."



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An **anti-God agenda** was visible during the **Cold War**.

World War II ended in Europe on **VE Day**, Victory-in-Europe Day, MAY 7, 1945.

National Socialist Workers Party emissaries unconditionally surrendered to the **Supreme Allied Commander General Dwight Eisenhower** at his headquarters in a schoolhouse at Reims, France.

Less than four months later, **World War II** ended in the **Pacific** on **August 15, 1945**, celebrated on **V-J Day** with the signing of surrender on **September 2, 1945**.

In total, **World War II** resulted in an estimated 75 million people who died worldwide, including 20 million soldiers and 40 million civilians.

Following World War II, the **United States** and the **Union of Soviet Socialist Republics** emerged as rival

superpowers, beginning the Cold War.

Dwight Eisenhower was elected the 34th President by the largest number of votes in history to that date.

Commenting on the **anti-God agenda** in **Stalin's Soviet Union** and **Mao Zedung's China**, **Eisenhower** stated (*Virginia's Religious Herald*, January 25, 1952):

"What is our battle against **Communism** if it is not a **fight between anti-God and a belief in the Almighty?** ...

Communists ... have to eliminate God from their system. **When God comes, Communism has to go."**

Eisenhower was quoted in the *TIME Magazine* article, "Eisenhower on Communism," October 13, 1952:

"The **Bill of Rights** contains **no grant of privilege** for a group of people **to destroy the Bill of Rights.**

A group -- like the **Communist conspiracy** -- dedicated to the **ultimate destruction of all civil liberties**, cannot be allowed to claim civil liberties as its privileged sanctuary from which **to carry on subversion of the Government."**

The **Eisenhower Museum** is located in Abilene, Kansas, where he grew up.

In laying the cornerstone of the **Eisenhower Museum**, he stated, as recorded in *TIME Magazine*, June 5, 1952:

"In spite of **the ... problems** we have, I ask you this one question:

If each of us in his own mind would dwell more upon those **simple virtues** -- integrity, courage, self-confidence and **unshakable belief in his Bible** -- would not some of these problems tend to simplify themselves?

...

Free government is the political expression of a deeply felt religious faith."

TIME Magazine published an article titled "Faith of the Candidates," September 22, 1952, in which **Dwight Eisenhower** stated:

"You can't explain **free government** in any other terms than **religious**.

The founding fathers had to refer to the Creator in order to make their **revolutionary experiment make sense**; it was because '**all men are endowed by their Creator** with certain **inalienable rights**' that men could **dare to be free.**"

In 1954, **President Eisenhower** signed the bill to add "**under God**" to the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

In 1956, he signed the bill making "**In God We Trust**" the **official National motto**; and the bill adding "**In God We Trust**" to the **Nation's paper currency**.

On February 7, 1954, **President Eisenhower** supported the **American Legion "Back-to-God" Program**, broadcasting from the White House:

"As a former soldier, I am delighted that **our veterans** are sponsoring a movement to **increase our awareness of God** in our daily lives.

In battle, they learned a great truth -- that there are no **atheists in the foxholes**. They know that in time of test and trial, we instinctively **turn to God for new courage** ...

Whatever our individual **church**, whatever our personal creed, **our common faith in God is a common bond among us.**"

President Nixon had a **National Day of Prayer** when

Apollo 13 had a life-threatening explosion in space.

On April 19, 1970, **President Nixon** spoke at Kawaiaha'o Church, one of the oldest Christian Churches in Hawaii:

"When we learned of the safe return of our astronauts, I asked that the Nation observe a **National Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving** today ...

This event reminded us that in these days of growing materialism, deep down **there is still a great religious faith in this Nation** ...

I think more people prayed last week than perhaps have prayed in many years in this country ... **We pray for the assistance of God** when ... faced with ... **great potential tragedy.**"

President Reagan made the **National Day of Prayer** the first Thursday in May, stating in 1988:

"Americans in every generation have **turned to their Maker in prayer** ...

We have acknowledged both **our dependence on Almighty God** and **the help He offers us as individuals and as a Nation** ...

Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States ... do ... proclaim May 5, 1988, as a **National Day of Prayer**. I call upon the citizens of our great Nation to **gather together on that day in homes and places of worship to pray.**"

President Donald J. Trump remarked on the **National Day of Prayer**, May 3, 2018:

"Today, we remember the words of Reverend Graham, **'Prayer is the key that opens to us the treasures of God's mercies and blessings'** ...

Reverend Graham's words remind us that **prayer** has always been at the center of American life, because **America is a nation of believers ...**

Prayers of religious believers helped gain our independence, and the **prayers of religious leaders** like the Reverend Martin Luther King — great man — helped win the long struggle for civil rights.

Faith has shaped our families, and it's shaped our communities. It's inspired our commitment to charity and our defense of liberty. And **faith** has forged the identity and the destiny of this great nation that we all love ...

Americans of faith have built the hospitals that care for our sick, the **homes that tend to our elderly**, and the **charities** that house the **orphaned**, and they **minister** — and they really do, they **minister** to the **poor**, and so beautifully and with such love ...

My administration has spoken out against religious persecution around the world, including the **persecution of many, many Christians**. What's going on is horrible. And we're taking action ...

In solving the many, many problems and our great challenges, **faith is more powerful than government**, and **nothing is more powerful than God ..."**

President Trump continued:

"With us today ...is Jon Ponder, from Las Vegas ...

Jon was in and out of jail for years until, at age 38, he was arrested for bank robbery

Jon soon ended up in federal prison, relegated to solitary confinement. **That's where God found him**. Jon began to **read the Bible and listen to Christian radio ...**

One morning, at 2 a.m., he woke up to the voice of the

great Billy Graham ...through the airwaves, '**Jesus wants to be Lord of your life.**' That night, Jon **dedicated his life to Christ.**

He spent the rest of his time in prison **praying, studying the Bible, and bringing the Lord to his fellow inmates**

...

Prayer changes hearts and transforms lives. It uplifts the soul, inspires action, and **unites us all as one nation, under God."**

The **anti-God agenda** is once again evident.

Beginning in 2020 with the Corona virus epidemic, various **governors and mayors have kept open marijuana shops, liquor stores, and abortion clinics as essential, but closed churches,** declaring them **non-essential, even ticketing members staying safely in cars in a church parking lot** while the pastor preached.

There are also **new assaults on Judeo-Christian beliefs** from the implementation of **Marxist thinker Antonio Gramsci's** plan to institute **socialism** by **undermining Western Civilization's "cultural hegemony,"** using tactics such as **Critical Race Theory, Intersectionality, Race-Shaming, Diversity Training, "Confessing Privilege," Sensitivity Codes, Safe Spaces, and Transgendered Pronouns.**

Gramsci wrote in his **"Prison Notebooks":**

"The civilized world has been thoroughly saturated with **Christianity** for 2,000 years. Any country grounded in **Judeo-Christian values** cannot be overthrown until **those roots are cut.**

But to **cut the roots -- to change the culture -- a long march through the institutions is necessary.** Only then will power fall into our laps like a ripened fruit."

President Eisenhower stated in the "Back-to-God" Program, February 20, 1955:

"Without God, there could be no American form of Government, nor an American way of life.

Recognition of the Supreme Being is the first -- the most basic -- expression of Americanism."

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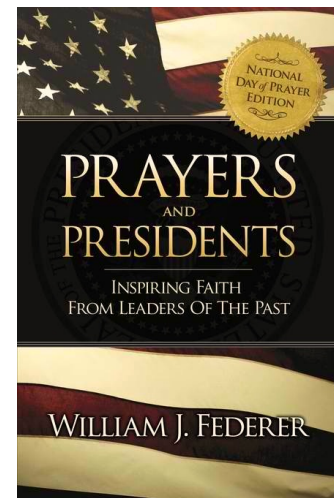


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