



**PRAYER**  
AND THE COMING  
**ELECTION**



That nation which loses its sense of values and sets its focus on gold, silver, stocks, bonds, houses, lands, property and pleasure needs prayer.

That nation in which laws are flagrantly broken, crime is winked at, justice is scorned, riots, drunkenness, pornography, dope and immorality are tolerated needs prayer. And to pray is exactly what every Christian is exhorted to do. Supplication, prayers and intercession are to be made for all in authority (1 Timothy 2:1,2). It is doubtful that America has ever stood in more need of prayer for those in places of political leadership than today.

Let us not be like Israel of old. She prayerlessly chose Saul to be her first king on the basis of externals. He looked good. He appeared to have the qualifications. But he failed miserably. A king was not God's choice. The child of God ought to seek the mind of Him whose choices are not made on the low level of outward appearance, but on the rightness of heart.

It is a tragic fact that many people in America are first Democrats or Republicans and then Christians. They place their politics above their Christianity. They prayerlessly vote for men purely because they are in the same party and not because they are men of Christian conviction or moral character.

There is plenty of evidence in the Bible that God responds to the earnest prayers of His People with regard to national interests. He has His own sovereign ways of raising up and setting aside rulers.

God was quite ready to hear Abraham's prayers for wicked Sodom and Gomorrah. He is no less ready to hear our prayers for America.

Consider the impact of Daniel's prayer life on the godless rulers of the great Babylonian Empire. God's man of prayer was the instrument through which Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar learned that God rules in the kingdom of men and "giveth it to whomsoever He wills" (Daniel 4:25).

Think of the effectiveness of Nehemiah's prayers in the restoring of a defeated, scattered and decadent nation. Basic to Nehemiah's courageous leadership and hard work was continual prayer.

Take a second look at Mordecai and Queen Esther. The doom of Israel had been sealed by Haman's plot and signed by the king. But prayer reversed the whole situation (Esther 4:15-17). Surely God is ready to hear the desperate cries of His children for America today.

And how do you pray for the coming election?

Ask God to put in authority men who will allow us to live peaceable, godly and honest lives.

Ask God for rulers who will in no way hinder the proclamation of the Gospel in this country or other countries.

Ask for wisdom in voting that His will may be done on earth as it is done in heaven.

Pray for America. Pray before you vote. Pray in the assurance that He will answer. "If my people which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).

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