



Focus on Religious Freedom

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America's Founders: "Let There be Prayer Everywhere in Our Nation"

"Let there be prayer at sunup, at noonday, at sundown, at midnight - all through the day. Let us pray for our children, our youth, our aged, our pastors, our homes. Let us pray for the churches. Let prayer be our passion. Let prayer be our practice." - **General Robert E Lee, 1863**

"It is when a people forget God that tyrants forge their chains." - **Patrick Henry**

"We Recognize No Sovereign but God, and no King but Jesus!" - **John Adams**

"We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth, and power. ... But 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." - **Abraham Lincoln** - Day of Prayer Proclamation, March 30, 1863

Throughout our nation Americans are standing in prayer for the preservation of our liberties. Their voices are the essence and reality of America's 1st Amendment religious freedom. Thank God for our neighbors with the courage to pray before a school board meeting, to pray on our public streets, to pray in front of abortion clinics, to pray with their fellow students at appropriate times during their school day, to pray before public events, to pray before meals in a restaurant, to stand in public witness prayer with rosaries in their hands.

May God bless and shield them from harm. Let their example inspire all Americans to practice their faith openly and effectively as our founders intended when they declared the natural rights of conscience and liberty from our Creator.