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## Focus on Religious Freedom

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### Tower of Babel's Confusion Caused by Different Languages America's Babble Caused by False Language

**Babel defined: a confusion of sounds or voices**

**Babble defined: To utter a meaningless confusion of words or sounds**

The preservation of Constitutional religious freedom to practice, teach and evangelize our chosen faith requires truthful communication among Americans of all faiths or of none. May God guide us to regain a common language enabling us to understand and cooperate with each other to fulfill God's plan for each of us. The Bible verses, Genesis 11: 1-9, tell of the descendants of Noah who migrated to a plain in the land of Shinar, later called Babylon, and decided to build a proud tower up to the heavens to show how great they were and ensure that they would not be scattered apart across the earth. The Bible tells us that God "confounded" their speech into different languages so they could no longer work together, instead scattering to all lands as God had originally commanded in Genesis 9:1 to "be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth." Biblical commentators say that their revolt against the commands of God and their pride and arrogance brought on God's retribution of confusion, of babel.

And what have we brought onto ourselves today? America's critical conversations are often meaningless babble as we speak past, but not to, each other. The gratuitous and ongoing redefinition of society's previously accepted vocabulary into personally desired or politically motivated or racially charged, manipulative terminology has us speaking different languages which generates misunderstanding, distrust, resentment, and even hate.

Generations of Americans have little to no belief in God or the facts of the USA's grounding in the Judeo-Christian ethos. That ethos asserts our freedoms, the first of which is religious/conscience rights, come always from God, not from a king, dictator or all-powerful government who grants liberty as it sees fit. These Americans are unmoored from anything transcendental and larger than themselves, forcing them to be the sole, lonely arbiters of right and wrong, good and evil, acceptable and unacceptable. Vast segments of our citizens can no longer have honest discussions via shared definitions of faith, civilized behavior, common values, mutual priorities, and basic responsibilities that were long accepted as common ground and bonded our nation.

Let us pray and strive together for a restoration of civil discourse to renew the United States, the only nation founded on natural rights from God and blessed with a Constitution preserving religious freedom as the first freedom. This Constitution is well able to preserve those rights if only we understand its language and respect its original intent and blueprint for our Republic.

**Colossians 3:8 But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth.**