

Praying for Those in Authority

God our Savior, from our lips and our hearts come requests and prayers to You alone, intercession and thanksgivings, on behalf of all men, for rulers and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. 1Tim 2:1-3.

Merciful Father, forgive us our transgressions. Forgive us for not going to You first and not diligently seeking Your direction in prayer when government decisions are in our hands, as when we vote. For we see that Jesus modeled this for us when He prayed the entire night to You, Father, before He called and chose His disciples and apostles. Then the remaining apostles followed His lead by praying that Your Holy Spirit would reveal to them the next apostle. So in the same manner, we beseech You to **grant us godly wisdom and discernment to vote and appoint into office the ones You carefully select and call**, those of understanding and knowledge of the truth, so our land will endure under Your hand of mercy, grace, provision and protection.

Prov 28:2. Luke 6:12-13.

God of Righteousness, establish Your authorities, for there is no authority except from You. We **ask for help to live with an attitude of subjection to the governing authorities**; to be in obedience, ready for and engaged in every good deed; to malign no one; to be peaceable, gentle, and showing every consideration for all men. Set Your righteousness through us as our compulsion. In mercy, wash us with regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom You have richly poured out upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. Forgive us for disobedience to our country when we chose allegiance to “we the people” instead of the king. Thank you for your mercy and grace; for bringing a greater good out of rebellion; for blessing this people with a new form of government that blessed the world. Rom 13:1-2. Titus 3:1-6.

Gracious Provider, we acknowledge that You alone are our Sovereign, Almighty God. Our leadership’s heart is like channels of water in Your hand. So do not remove Your hand from us. Instead continually uphold us with Your righteous right hand. **Turn the leadership’s heart wherever You wish.** But also weigh our hearts and show us where we need to be people of greater righteousness and justice, for this is what You desire. We confess haughty eyes and a proud heart as a nation, in comparing our country to others, as if it were a work of our own. **We acknowledge our abundance and riches in this land, and the honor we have seen in the world, come from Your hand.** You rule over all, and in Your hand alone is all power and might. We know we are sojourners before You, and tenants as our fathers were. So, again, **we confess our pride and humble ourselves before You**, for we understand that pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before stumbling. 1Chron 29:12-16.

Prov 16:18. Prov 21:1-4. Is 41:10.

Prince of Peace, **establish Your government, one of wisdom and understanding; lovingkindness and truth; righteousness and justice.** We commit the work of our government and the work of our own hands and minds to You, and trust that You will be the One to establish our plans. Don’t let it be that our government’s decisions are just the plans of men’s minds. But instead we pray that the decisions will be divine and each step directed by You without error in judgment. Let our ways please You. **Make even our enemies to be at peace with us.** Give us governors on all levels of government who are humble and lowly in spirit, giving attention to Your Word and putting their trust in You. Let the wise in heart and understanding and have persuasive sweetness of speech that is for a fountain of life for this nation and into the world. Prov 16.

Holy Counselor, give us **legislators** You have ordained as many wise counselors, who are diligent and upright; walking straight in righteousness with understanding; who ponder how to answer and cry out to You in prayers that You hear and delight in; whose gentle answers calm disputes; whose tongues of wisdom make knowledge acceptable and are a tree of life. Grant them success with apt answers and timely words. Lead them away from the temptations of bribery. Prov 15.

Just Judge, let justice for us in this nation come from You alone. By Your power, appoint **judges** on all levels who judge rightly with righteous judgment for all the towns and people across the land. Let no one be a judge who would distort justice, who would be partial, or who would take any form of bribe and thereby blind the eyes of the wise and pervert the words of the righteous. Instead, establish judges who have reverent fear of You by hating evil, pride, and arrogance; and love You and diligently seek You. Grant them Your knowledge, discretion, counsel, sound wisdom, and understanding. Deut 16:18-19. Prov 8:12-17. Prov 29:26.

King of Kings, on **all levels of authority** – the city councils and mayors; the county boards of supervisors and school boards; the governors, the President, cabinet, and appointments; the legislators and congress; the judges; the military, police, and patrols; and all other forms of government, civil, and military authority – we cry out for righteous rule over us in the fear of God. Let it be as the light of the morning when the sun rises, a morning without clouds, as the tender grass springing out of the earth through sunshine after rain. **Jesus, reign in all the earth, for all authority has been given to You in heaven and on earth.** 2 Sam 23:3-4. Matt 28:18.

Spirit of Truth, **let integrity increase across the land** where the righteousness of the blameless will smooth the way and the upright will be delivered; and the blessing upon them, upon us, will raise up and make great entire cities. Give Your people vision, an eternal perspective, and thereby spread throughout the land the happiness of keeping Your law. Prov 11:3-11. Prov 29:18.

Mighty Deliverer, we acknowledge that at times persecution will result from the proclamation of the Gospel. Although there are seasons of suffering through trials with Your grace and mercy, **we cry out for Your divine protection and deliverance even in this age.** We commit by Your Spirit to be people of strength and courage who will not tremble in fear or be dismayed. Help us to continually remember, and particularly during a moment of crisis, that You, Great I AM, will always go ahead of us and be with us. You will not fail us or forsake us. Your presence will go with us and You will give us rest. You will give us perfect peace because our minds are stayed on You, because we put our trust in You. Holy Refuge, protect us Your children and all people who live in this nation, and protect our land, from attacks, disasters, and destruction – protect our food, water, air, and energy supplies; our transportation systems; our homes, schools, businesses, and places of recreation; our houses of worship; our sites of government; our military installations; protect us from pestilence and chemicals. Ex 33:14. Deut 31:6-8. Ps 34:19. Psalm 91. Is 26:3. Matt 5:10-12. John 15:20. James 1:2-4.

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth. Yours is the dominion, O Lord, and You exalt Yourself as Head over all. **We proclaim that our eternal home is a holy city,** without need of the sun or the moon to shine on it, for Your glory has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. There will be Your river of the water of life coming from Your throne and the tree of life for the healing of the nations. So, we cry, “Come!” as we pray in the precious and powerful and glorious Name of Jesus, Amen! I Chron 29: 11. Rev 21:10, 23-24. Rev 22:1-2, 17.