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WHITE HOUSE PRAYER BREAKFAST / STATE DINING ROOM
TUESDAY, JULY 17, 1990 / 7:30 A.M.

Bobs

GOOD MORNING TO YOU ALL, AND WELCOME TO THE WHITE HOUSE. I'M DELIGHTED TO SEE SO MANY OF OUR FRIENDS FROM CONGRESS, AND SO MANY FROM MY OWN CABINET AND STAFF, GATHERING TOGETHER TO SHARE FRIENDSHIP AND PRAYER.

(THOSE OF YOU WHO PRAYED THAT MY REMARKS BE KEPT SHORT ARE ABOUT TO HAVE YOUR PRAYERS ANSWERED.) \\\

- 2 -

(AS MARK TWAIN SAID: "DURING A SERMON, FEW SINNERS ARE SAVED AFTER THE FIRST TWENTY MINUTES!") \\\

LIKE ALL MOMENTS OF PRAYER, THE MOMENTS WE SHARE IN PRAYER THIS MORNING SERVE AS A TIME FOR BOTH RESPITE AND REFLECTION. AND THIS PARTICULAR MORNING -- WITH THREE SUMMIT MEETINGS JUST BEHIND US, AND A SUMMER RECESS JUST AHEAD -- OFFERS A PARTICULAR OPPORTUNITY TO PAUSE AND TAKE STOCK.

THE WORLD WE HAVE LONG PRAYED FOR -- LONG WORKED FOR -- IS BEGINNING TO COME TO PASS. IT IS A WORLD THAT IS RUSHING TO EMBRACE SPIRITUAL VALUES -- UNIVERSAL VALUES. AND IT HAS PROVIDED US WITH A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR EXERCISING BOTH POLITICAL AND MORAL LEADERSHIP.

MY FIRST ACT AS PRESIDENT WAS A PRAYER ABOUT POWER. I SAID: "WE ARE GIVEN POWER NOT TO ADVANCE OUR OWN PURPOSES, NOR TO MAKE A GREAT SHOW IN THE WORLD, NOR A NAME. THERE IS BUT ONE JUST USE OF POWER, AND IT IS TO SERVE PEOPLE."

AND MANY OF YOU WERE AT THE PRAYER BREAKFAST AT THE HILTON IN FEBRUARY, WHEN MY FRIEND JIM BAKER REMINDED US OF ANOTHER LESSON ABOUT POWER -- WHAT JIM CALLED THE MOST IMPORTANT THING HE'D LEARNED IN WASHINGTON.

"TEMPORAL POWER IS FLEETING," HE SAID. FRIENDSHIP IS WHAT REMAINS.

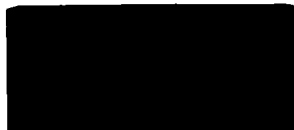
AT THAT SAME BREAKFAST, I WAS ALSO MOVED BY WHAT SAM NUNN AND LIZ PATTERSON HAD TO SAY ABOUT MEMBERS AND STAFFERS ON THE HILL WHO LIKE TO MEET TO SHARE A FEW QUIET MOMENTS OF PRAYER AND BIBLE READING. AND SO THIS MORNING I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO CONTINUING THAT CONVERSATION -- A CONVERSATION WITH FRIENDS -- A CONVERSATION WITH GOD.

I PROMISED TO BE BRIEF. SO LET ME JUST CONCLUDE WITH ONE OF BARBARA'S FAVORITE PRAYERS. IT GOES SOMETHING LIKE THIS: "LORD, KEEP ME FROM THE HABIT OF THINKING I MUST SAY SOMETHING ON EVERY SUBJECT... RELEASE ME FROM THE CRAVING TO STRAIGHTEN OUT EVERYBODY'S AFFAIRS... WITH MY VAST STORE OF WISDOM, IT SEEMS A PITY NOT TO USE IT ALL ... BUT THOU KNOWEST, LORD, THAT I WANT A FEW FRIENDS AT THE END..." \\\

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN -- MY FRIENDS -- THANK YOU FOR
COMING TO THE WHITE HOUSE TODAY. GOD BLESS YOU AND
THOSE YOU LOVE. \\\

NOW, LET'S GET ON WITH BREAKFAST, AND AFTER THAT,
I'LL LET SONNY TAKE OVER.

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McNally/Simon
July 10, 1990
Draft Two (B:PRAYER)

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: WHITE HOUSE PRAYER BREAKFAST
THE STATE DINING ROOM
TUESDAY, JULY 17, 1990, 7:30 A.M.

Thank you, Sonny [MONTGOMERY]. Good morning to you all, and welcome to the White House. I'm delighted to see so many of our friends from Congress, and so many from my own Cabinet and staff, gathering together to share friendship and prayer.

(Those of you who prayed that my remarks be kept short are about to have your prayers answered.) \\\

(AS Mark Twain said: "During a sermon, few sinners are saved after the first twenty minutes!") \\\

(But I know Sonny takes the business of this group seriously. I asked if it would be alright for me to tell a fishing story this morning, and he said: "Only if it's about Jonah and the whale!") \\\

Like all moments of prayer, the moments we share in prayer this morning serve as a time for both respite and reflection. And this particular morning -- with three summit meetings just behind us, and a summer recess just ahead -- offers a particular opportunity to pause and take stock.

The world we have long prayed for -- long worked for -- is beginning to come to pass. It is a world that is rushing to embrace spiritual values -- American values -- our values. And it has provided us with a unique opportunity for exercising both leadership and power.

My first act as President was a prayer about power. I said:

Inaugural address
 1-20-89 "We are given power not to advance our own purposes, nor to make a great show in the world, nor a name. There is but one just use of power, and it is to serve people."

see text in file
 And many of you were at the prayer breakfast at the Hilton in February, when my friend Jim Baker reminded us of another lesson about power -- what Jim called the most important thing he'd learned in Washington. "Temporal power is fleeting," he said. Friendship is what remains.

prayer B-fast
 2-1-90 At that same breakfast, I was also moved by what Sam Nunn and Liz Patterson had to say about Members and staffers on the Hill who like to meet to share a few quiet moments of prayer and Bible reading. And so this morning I'm looking forward to continuing that conversation -- a conversation with our friends -- a conversation with our God.

U
see file
 I promised to be brief. So let me just conclude by citing one of Barbara's favorite prayers. It goes something like this: "Lord, keep me from the habit of thinking I must say something on every subject... Release me from the craving to straighten out everybody's affairs... With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all ... but thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end..." \\\

Ladies and gentlemen -- my friends -- thank you for coming to the White House today. God bless you and those you love -- and God bless the United States of America.

#

Book of Religious Quotations

SERMONS

The sermon is one thing, the preacher another.

Michel Eyquem de Montaigne: *Essays*,
Bk. II, ch. 10

The American people are so tense that it is impossible even to put them to sleep with a sermon.

Norman Vincent Peale

A good, honest, and painful sermon.

Samuel Pepys: *Diary*

His sermon never said or showed

That Earth is foul, that Heaven is gracious,
Without refreshment on the road

From Jerome, or from Athanasius;

And sure a righteous zeal inspired,

The hand and head that penned and
planned them,

For all who understood, admired—

And some who did not understand them.

Winthrop Mackworth Praed: *The Vicar*

The sight of a drunkard is a better sermon
against that vice than the best that was ever
preached on that subject.

Sir George Savile, Lord Halifax

A sermon without St. Augustine is a stew
without bacon.

Spanish Proverb

I won't speak long today, as Mark Twain said,

Few sinners are saved after the first twenty
minutes of a sermon.

Mark Twain

The silent colossal National Lie that is the
support and confederate of all the tyrannies
and shams and inequalities and unfairness
that afflict the peoples—that is the one to
throw bricks and sermons at.

Mark Twain: *My First Lie*, Harper &
Row, Publishers, Inc.

A man must have very little to do at church
that can give an account of the sermon.

Sir John Vanbrugh: *The Relapse*, Act I

SERVANTS, SERVICE

The Sermon edifies, the example destroys.
Practice what you preach.

Abbé de Villiers: From a story in *L'Arte
de Prêcher*

I find more profit in sermons on either good
tempers or good works than in what are vul-
garly called gospel sermons. The term has
now become a mere cant word: I wish none
of our society would use it. It has no de-
terminate meaning. Let but a pert, self-
sufficient animal, that has neither sense nor
grace, bawl out something about Christ, or
his blood, or justification by faith, and his
hearers cry out, "What a fine gospel sermon!"

John Wesley

Once in seven years I burn all my sermons;
for it is a shame if I cannot write better
sermons now than I did seven years ago.

John Wesley: *Journal*

It is a poor sermon that gives no offense; that
neither makes the hearer displeased with
himself nor with the preacher.

George Whitefield

If a man can write a better book, preach a
better sermon, or make a better mouse-trap
than his neighbor, though he builds his
house in the woods the world will make a
beaten path to his door.

Attributed to Emerson by Sarah S. B. Yule
and Mary S. Keene: *Borrowing*

SERVANTS, SERVICE

Life is like a game of tennis; the player who
serves well seldom loses.

Anonymous

No service in itself is small,

None great though earth it fill;

But that is small that seeks it sown,

And great that seeks God's will.

Anonymous

Service is the rent we pay for the space we
occupy.

Anonymous

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 20, 1989

INAUGURAL ADDRESS
OF THE PRESIDENT

The Capitol

12:05 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Chief Justice, Mr. President, Vice President Quayle, Senator Mitchell, Speaker Wright, Senator Dole, Congressman Michel, and fellow citizens, neighbors and friends.

There is a man here who has earned a lasting place in our hearts, and in our history. President Reagan, on behalf of our nation I thank you for the wonderful things that you have done for America. (Applause.)

I've just repeated word-for-word the oath taken by George Washington 200 years ago; and the Bible on which I placed my hand is the Bible on which he placed his.

It is right that the memory of Washington be with us today, not only because this is our Bicentennial Inauguration, but because Washington remains the father of our country. And he would, I think, be gladdened by this day. For today is the concrete expression of a stunning fact: Our continuity these 200 years since our government began.

We meet on democracy's front porch. A good place to talk as neighbors, and as friends. For this is a day when our nation is made whole, when our differences, for a moment, are suspended.

And my first act as President is a prayer. I ask you to bow your heads.

'Heavenly Father, we bow our heads and thank you for your love. Accept our thanks for the peace that yields this day and the shared faith that makes its continuance likely. Make us strong to do your work, willing to heed and hear your will, and write on our hearts these words: "Use power to help people." For we are given power not to advance our own purposes, nor to make a great show in the world, nor a name. There is but one just use of power, and it is to serve people. Help us remember, Lord. Amen.'

I come before you and assume the presidency at a moment rich with promise. We live in a peaceful, prosperous time, but we can make it better.

For a new breeze is blowing, and a world refreshed by freedom seems reborn; for in man's heart, if not in fact, the day of the dictator is over. (Applause.) The totalitarian era is passing, its old ideas blown away like leaves from an ancient lifeless tree.

A new breeze is blowing, and a nation refreshed by freedom stands ready to push on. There is new ground to be broken, and new action to be taken.

There are times when the future seems thick as a fog; you sit and wait, hoping the mists will lift and reveal the right path.

But this is a time when the future seems a door you can walk right through -- into a room called Tomorrow.

MORE

REMARKS BY
SECRETARY OF STATE JAMES A. BAKER, III
TO THE NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST
THE WASHINGTON HILTON
WASHINGTON, D.C.
FEBRUARY 1, 1990

This is a unique morning. Today, heads of state from three continents and citizens from approximately 150 nations of the world are meeting here in the spirit of Jesus Christ to pray together, to talk together and to seek to know each other better. I know we all hope that by meeting in this way we can help foster increasing bonds of friendship throughout the world.

Frankly, when I was asked if I'd be willing to speak with you today, I was hesitant. That hesitation came from the fact that after nine years here in Washington in three different public service jobs, I am far more comfortable talking about the policy process, the political process, or any number of other topics. For me to discuss a personal journey of faith is a new experience.

But here I am and I want to talk with you "briefly" -- about faith, about friendship and about our collective spiritual responsibilities as leaders.

I am up here this morning because I believe that those of us who are put in positions of public trust should not be hesitant to speak about spiritual values. In fact, I believe spiritual values are important in the pursuit of world peace.

Pope Paul VI said at the United Nations: "The problems of the world are so great that perhaps the leaders of the world will have to learn to pray together."

It was in this very spirit that President Eisenhower, 38 years ago, began with a few members of the Senate and the House of Representatives to see if it was possible to pray together both privately and in this kind of assembly. President Eisenhower had a strong conviction that we need to build deeper and longer lasting relationships on a basis other than just economic or political. I think he would be excited to see the reality that his vision has become, if he could see us here this morning.

I spoke a moment ago about a personal journey of faith. Those of you who know me best certainly know that I do not feel like an expert on this subject. Like many of you, I am just one person genuinely struggling to put faith into practice in my life. But over these last nine years in Washington I have gained some valuable insight into that process.

There are many who believe that living in this city makes developing one's personal faith more difficult. But for me, living in this centrifuge of power and politics has encouraged (and even demanded) spiritual growth. Power, of course, can be intoxicating and addictive, and few doubt the truth of Lord Acton's words that "Power tends to corrupt, absolute power corrupts absolutely." Over these last nine years, I have had opportunities to participate in the exercise of more power than I would ever have imagined. I have felt the weight of responsibility that that brings, and I have also felt the temptations attendant to it. From this perspective, I have seen the reality that people from every level and station in life desire affirmation, recognition, and fulfillment. And some go to extraordinary lengths to obtain these elusive goals. And I found early on that having a position of power doesn't bring the fulfillment that many think it does.

Of course, it does bring excitement, a sense of satisfaction when things go well, disappointment when they don't, and invitations to some of the most exclusive gatherings in the world. (For someone who likes to go to bed at 9:30 at night that is not necessarily a plus!) But it also brings a complicated lifestyle with an exhausting schedule, innumerable headaches, and lots of conflict.

Most importantly, having a position of power does not bring inner security and fulfillment. That comes only by developing a personal relationship with God, which for me is personified by Jesus Christ. Inner security and real fulfillment comes by faith -- not by wielding power in the town where power is king. As those of you who believe know only too well, faith more often than not doesn't come easily. It takes work.

When I look back on my own journey of faith I can see that real growth began when I started reading God's word as a young man. Romans 10:17 in the New Testament, says "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." The Scriptures I read also teach me that my God loves and accepts me as I am. He loves me as I struggle (and even as I fail) to become the man He wants me to be. Once upon a time I felt I had to earn God's love, but now I know the Bible tells us that it is faith, and not works that makes us acceptable in God's sight.

In 1986 I met with a group of diplomats gathered here for this National Prayer Breakfast. One of them asked me what I felt was the most important thing I'd learned since being in Washington. I told him it was the discovery that temporal power is fleeting.

I told him about an experience I had early one morning a few years ago, when I was the White House Chief of Staff. As my driver turned the car into the Northwest gate, I looked down Pennsylvania Avenue and noticed a man walking alone. He was someone many of you would have recognized -- a Chief of Staff in a previous Administration. There he was alone -- no reporters, no security, no adoring public, no trappings of power -- just one solitary man alone with his thoughts.

That mental picture continually serves to remind me of the impermanence of power and place. That man had it all -- but only for a time. That memory puts my own life in perspective. When I leave Washington, what will remain? (One thing I know for sure -- the people who wouldn't return my telephone calls before I went to Washington, won't return them after I leave.)

The fleeting aspects of power cause us to understand the importance of lasting personal relationships. Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "God evidently does not intend us all to be rich, or powerful, or great, but He intends us all to be friends." The Scriptures, both Old and New, affirm this reality by speaking about our relationships to God and to each other. The first and greatest commandment is to "Love the Lord, your God with all your heart, with all your soul, all your strength and all your mind" and the second is to "Love others as yourself." And we know too that Jesus said, "I do not call you servants, I call you friends."

These ancient thoughts on personal relationships -- friendships -- are often not taken seriously enough in our modern, busy lives. In all candor, I used to think that if you were strong you didn't need anyone. Too often independence -- self reliance -- are said to be the path to success. And to many, being "successful," means never admitting that you have any hurts or problems. The truth is, we really do need one another if we are going to make it through this life in both our private and public capacities.

I remember a situation a few years ago where I was really struggling with a specific problem. No matter how much I tried, I couldn't figure it out -- but I found strength in being able to talk it over with my wife, Susan. As we did, a truth from the book of proverbs finally crystallized our thinking.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, lean not unto your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your path." Susan helped me to see that I needed to stop trying to play God and really turn the matter over to Him. Without this kind of partnership, I'm convinced I would never have resolved the problem.

For several years I have been meeting each week with a small group of men for fellowship. They are all pretty normal guys who just happen to hold positions of power and influence in Washington. Members of our group come from both of our nation's political parties and from several religious traditions.

None of us expresses himself in religious jargon -- more typically our language is pretty earthy. But in our own way, we're pursuing our faith through friendship. We've grown to trust each other. We talk pretty openly about our problems -- and I don't just mean items on the national agenda. We support each other in our efforts to live a life of faith in a very complex and challenging environment.

There are, of course, many times when all of us need something extra from our faith and from our friendships. I remember my Mother telling me how she used to repeat the 91st Psalm every day when my Dad was a Captain in the Infantry in Europe in World War I: "A thousand shall fall beside thee, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee...."

My Mother, who taught me so many of the values that give me strength today, drew much comfort from those words -- and in hearing her say them, so did I. (She is still saying them as her 96th birthday approaches!)

I also remember how important friendships were during my first wife's illness. How important, for instance, that friends were there with me at her bedside during the last days. (Two of those friends are very prominent today and are both with us here at the head table this morning.) How important that friends were there for four little boys who were heartbroken, scared and confused. How important friendships were to the task that Susan and I faced several years later of putting two families together at a very difficult time in the lives of seven children. (If any of you have ever had 3 seventh graders at one time, you understand what I mean!)

I remember how important friendships were and are to the need for support on a journey through public service. And I remember finally how important friendships were and are to the process of developing and maintaining my faith.

So, when I think back over the hills and valleys of my life, the consistent theme is the one in that 91st Psalm -- "I will say unto the Lord, Thou art my hope and my stronghold; my God, in Thee will I trust."

Faith and friendship are very important in building a community of nations. And as leaders, I think we share certain spiritual responsibilities.

Daniel Webster has said "If we work upon marble, it will perish. If we work upon brass, time will efface it. If we rear temples, they will crumble to dust.

But, if we work upon men's immortal minds, if we imbue them with high principles, with the just awe of God, with love of their fellow men, we engrave something which no time can efface and which will brighten and brighten to eternity."

We are all struck by the changes taking place in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. They are not all political or economic. In September of last year, I met with Eduard Shevardnadze in Wyoming. We had very productive sessions and on the last evening exchanged gifts. I gave him a pair of cowboy boots -- in keeping with the Western motif of Jackson Hole. But, I received from him a far more profound and meaningful gift -- an enamel picture of Jesus teaching the people. In giving me this picture he said -- only half jokingly -- "You see even we Communists are changing our world view."

Could it be that a major meaning of the revolution going on in Eastern Europe is the resurgence of faith? What we seem to be seeing is the reaffirmation of the individual as a person worthy in his or her own right, with freedom to choose and the responsibility that goes along with those choices.

Vaclav Havel, the new president of Czechoslovakia, recently told his countrymen that the most important problem they were facing was a "decayed moral environment" devoid of belief, consideration, compassion, humility and forgiveness. These values, of course, are crucial to democracy.

And it is no accident that the churches in Eastern Europe have played such an important part in political change. Despite oppression, the people of God have maintained their integrity as custodians of the faith.

I believe there is a moral and spiritual lesson for the United States in these events. We need to listen to others who are observing us. Lech Walesa made the observation that "Americans were drifting away from spiritual values as they become richer." He said that "Sooner or later we will have to go back to our fundamental values, back to God, the truth, the truth which is in God." Then he made a most interesting statement, "We look to America....and expect from you a spiritual richness to meet the aspirations of the 20th Century."

And so, as we hail the resurgence of faith and freedom around the world, in America we must be mindful of our own responsibilities regarding faith. The United States, as a great political experiment was and continues to be a great spiritual experiment as well.

Every person who enjoys freedom has the responsibility to improve the society which assures that freedom. One way to carry out this responsibility is to pray together as we are doing this morning. Prayer by itself is a reaffirmation of that freedom and that responsibility, whether that prayer is private or communal. It is an act of free men and women who believe that their relationship to God is fundamental to preserving those freedoms. The Bible tells us, "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."

So my friends, I believe that as leaders we can build relationships around the world rooted in trust, love and understanding. I believe we can go beyond rhetoric to discover concrete ways to express this reality -- particularly in light of the Psalmist's profound observation that "righteousness exalts a nation and sin is a reproach to any people."

And so, as we join together in prayer this morning let us be thankful for recently rekindled hopes for freedom in many countries, for our faith and for our friendships.

Let us pray for the strength to meet our collective spiritual responsibilities as leaders -- by doing what we can to make our world a freer, better, and more peaceful place.

God bless all of you, and may God bless this great nation, the United States of America.

Note: The President spoke at 9:05 p.m. in the House Chamber of the Capitol. He was introduced by Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives. The address was broadcast live on nationwide radio and television. Prior to his address, the President attended a reception in the Speaker's Conference Room hosted by the congressional leadership.

White House Fact Sheet on the President's Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Initiative
January 31, 1990

After initial discussions with NATO allies, the President concluded that changes which have taken place in Europe over the last 3 months have made it possible to propose lower levels in the area of greatest concentration of forces: central and eastern Europe. However, the United States will maintain significant military forces in Europe as long as our allies desire our presence as part of a common security effort.

Therefore, in his State of the Union Address to Congress on January 31, President Bush proposed to revise NATO's current position in the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) negotiations to lower substantially the levels of U.S. and Soviet ground and air force manpower in central and eastern Europe to 195,000 on each side. Forces withdrawn will be demobilized. There would be approximately 225,000 U.S. ground and air force personnel in Europe after CFE reductions are completed. The proposal responds to rapid changes in eastern Europe and is designed to help propel the CFE negotiations to an early conclusion in 1990.

The President's initiative would supersede an earlier proposal establishing a level of 275,000 each of U.S. and Soviet ground and air force manpower stationed outside of their respective national territories in the Atlantic to the Urals region.

The President has concluded that this proposal reflects the minimum level of U.S. forces needed in Europe to protect American interests and to sustain NATO's strategy of forward defense and flexible response. Even if—as we expect—Soviet forces in this region are reduced even further, the United States does not envision the further reduction of its forces in Europe below this new level.

Remarks at the Annual National Prayer Breakfast
February 1, 1990

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you all. Thank you very, very much. Vice President and Mrs. Quayle, and Chuck Grassley, Sam Nunn, and my dear friend Billy Graham, and Ruth. Jim Baker, that was a very inspiring testament of faith. I also want to salute our very special guests who have traveled far to join us in a prayer for peace and understanding: President Moi of Kenya; President Ershad of Bangladesh; Major Buyoya, the marvelous head of Burundi; President Cristiani, a longtime friend; the Prime Minister Kisekka. And I just express for all of us a very hearty welcome, and to President Ershad, a happy birthday greeting to go with Bev Shea's. We're delighted you're here.

And I want to thank Bev Shea and Billy. It'll probably read: Prayer Breakfast, Bev Shea; Supporting Cast: Secretary of State; Billy Graham. *[Laughter]* A lot of Presidents out here, Senators and Congressmen. He was magnificent. *[Laughter]* Magnificent music.

It's often said in my line of work that a candidate or a proposal hasn't got a prayer. Well, I'm pleased to be with an audience about whom that will never be said. *[Laughter]* And this breakfast is the result of years of quiet diplomacy—I wouldn't say secret diplomacy—quiet diplomacy by an ambassador of faith, Doug Coe. And I salute him.

And I was moved once again by what Sam and Liz told us of Members and staffers on the Hill who like to regularly meet to share a few quiet moments of prayer and

Bible reading. The values that spring from our faith certainly tell us a lot about our country. And consider that for more than two centuries Americans have endorsed, and properly so, the separation of church and state. But we've also shown how both religion and government can strengthen a society. After all, our Founding Fathers' documents begin with these words: All men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights. And Americans are religious people, but a truly religious nation is a tolerant nation. We cherish dissent, we cherish the fact that we have many, many faiths, and we protect even the right to disbelieve.

A truly religious nation is also a giving nation. A close friend of mine sent me a poem recently which eloquently embodies this spirit of giving. "I sought my soul, but my soul I could not see. I sought my God, but my God eluded me. I sought my brother and found all three."

Thousands of Americans are finding their soul, finding their God, by reaching out to their brothers and sisters in need. You've heard me talk about a Thousand Points of Light across the country. Americans are working through their places of worship, through community programs, or on their own to help the hungry or the homeless, to teach the unskilled, to bring the words of men and the Word of God to those who cannot even read.

And so, I believe that this democracy of ours is once again proving, as it has throughout our history, that when people are free they use that freedom to serve the greater good and, indeed, a higher truth. As freedom blossoms in Eastern Europe—and Jim was talking eloquently about that—I am convinced that the 1990's will be the decade of the rebirth that he so beautifully spoke about, a rebirth of faith and hope.

And one example: I met this week Father Calciu, a Romanian Orthodox minister. Father Calciu had spent 21 of his 64 years in jail—a third of his entire life in prison. And in fact, it was while in prison for opposing the Government that he found God. And once released, he risked his freedom by preaching a series of Lenten sermons. And for that, he was imprisoned again and tortured beyond belief. And yet Father Calciu had faith, and he refused to break.

He was sentenced to death. And as he stood in the corner of the prison yard, praying for his wife and son, awaiting death, it was then that something remarkable occurred. His two executioners called to him. And surely, he thought, well, this was the end. But instead they said, "Father,"—and that was the first time they had called him that—"we have decided not to kill you." And 3 weeks later, he received permission to celebrate the Divine Liturgy. And when he did, he saw these same two guys—the same two guards—approach, and to his astonishment, his would-be executioners got on their knees and joined him in prayer. This is one man's story, a humble priest.

And today the times are on the side of peace because more and more brave men and women are on the side of God. And so, that is the end of these few words. That is my prayer: that we will continue to recognize the power of faith. Thank you all, and God bless you.

Note: The President spoke at 9:25 a.m. in the International Ballroom at the Washington Hilton Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Senators Charles E. Grassley and Sam Nunn; Representative Elizabeth J. Patterson; Secretary of State James A. Baker III; the Rev. Billy Graham and his wife, Ruth; President Alfredo Cristiani Buckard of El Salvador; Prime Minister Samson Kisekka of Uganda; religious singer George Beverly Shea; and Doug Coe, a participant in the prayer breakfast.

Remarks on Transmitting the Savings and Economic Growth Act of 1990 February 1, 1990

Well, today I'm transmitting to Congress an important initiative that was outlined last night in the State of the Union Address: the Savings and Economic Growth Act of 1990. And this important legislation will increase national savings, lower the cost of capital, create jobs, increase our international competitiveness, and improve our standard of living.

There are three elements to the act: family savings account, capital gains tax rate

reduction, and then the initiative.

First, the family savings account will allow Americans an important tool for their futures. I believe that if we save more if given this opportunity, they will generate more investment that strengthens the economy.

Second, the permanent reduction in the cost of capital and provision for long-term investment. This will create jobs and make America more competitive in the international market.

And third, the home ownership incentive. This will allow individuals to deduct a penalty up to \$10,000 from their individual retirement account if the funds are used for a first home.

And this legislative package will allow millions of Americans to invest in education, buy a first home, set money aside for family, and this will also strengthen the economy, create jobs, and make America more competitive internationally.

I'm grateful to those who have worked on this legislation, and I look forward to working closely with Congress to get this bill passed.

And now I'll sign the bill and send the Savings and Economic Growth Act up to the Congress.

Note: The President spoke at 10:05 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House.

Message to the Congress on the Savings and Economic Growth Act of 1990

February 1, 1990

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to submit to you the Savings and Economic Growth Act of 1990. This proposal would enact legislation in the capital gains tax, create new family savings plans, and provide a penalty-free Individual Retirement Account (IRA) rollover.

Prayer Breakfast - Tuesday, July 17, 1990 - 07:15AM

THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. BUSH

The Secretary of State & Mrs. Baker

Hon. T. Cass Ballenger

House of Representatives

Hon. Douglas R. Barnard, Jr.

House of Representatives

Hon. Charles E. Bennett

House of Representatives

Hon. Tom Bevill

House of Representatives

Hon. Michael J. Boskin

Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers

Hon. Nicholas Brady

Secretary of the Treasury

Hon. Glen Browder

House of Representatives

Hon. James P. Bunning

House of Representatives

Ms. Jan Burmeister

Hon. Ben Nighthorse Campbell

House of Representatives

Captain Joseph Cappar, CHC, USN

USS Iowa

Commander Vincent Carroll, CHC, USN

United States Naval Academy

Hon. Lauro F. Cavazos

Secretary of Education

Hon. Richard B. Cheney

Secretary of Defense

Lt. Commander George M. Clifford III, CHC, USN

Office of the Chief of Naval Operations

Commander William R. Clough, CHC, USN

Office of the Chief of Naval Operations

Hon. J. Howard Coble

House of Representatives

Mr. Les Csorba

Ms. Justine D'Andrea

Hon. William E. Dannemeyer

House of Representatives

Hon. Richard G. Darman

Director, Office of Management & Budget

Lt. Anthony W. Dean, CHC, USN

Office of the Chief of Naval Operations

Hon. Edward J. Derwinski

Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Hon. Elizabeth H. Dole

Secretary of Labor

Hon. Charles G. Douglas III

House of Representatives

Hon. Bill Emerson

House of Representatives

Prayer Breakfast - Tuesday, July 17, 1990 - 07:15AM

The Reverend James Ford
Chaplain, House of Representatives
Hon. Bill Frenzel
House of Representatives
Lt. John M. Frusti, CHC, USN
Office of the Chaplain
Lt. Commander Susan L. Garment, CHC, USN
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Lt. Commander Stanley Garment, CHC, USN
National Naval Medical Command
Mr. Daniel Godzich
OPM
Hon. Porter J. Goss
House of Representatives
Lt. Commander James Griffith, CHC, USN
Chaplain's Office
Hon. Steve Gunderson
House of Representatives
Lt. Patrick Hahn, CHC, USN
USS Vancouver
Hon. Melton D. Hancock
House of Representatives
Hon. Claude Harris
House of Representatives
Hon. J. Dennis Hastert
House of Representatives
Hon. Joel M. Hefley
House of Representatives
Mr. Daniel R. Heimbach
Hon. Carla A. Hills
United States Trade Representative
Captain Anderson B. Holderby, Jr., CHC, USN
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Hon. Earl D. Hutto
House of Representatives
Hon. Henry J. Hyde
House of Representatives
Hon. James M. Inhofe
House of Representatives
Hon. Marcy Kaptur
House of Representatives
Hon. Jack F. Kemp
Secretary of Housing & Urban Development
Major Carter Kerns, USA
Chaplain's Activity Office
Captain Alston S. Kirk, CHC, USN
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Rear Admiral Alvin B. Koeneman, CHC, USN
Chief of Chaplains, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Hon. Jon L. Kyl
House of Representatives

Prayer Breakfast - Tuesday, July 17, 1990 - 07:15AM

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House of Representatives
Commander George A. Langhorne, CHC, USN
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Hon. Manuel Lujan, Jr.
Secretary of the Interior
Hon. Donald E. Lukens
House of Representatives
Hon. Ronald K. Machtley
House of Representatives
Hon. Bob McEwen
House of Representatives
Hon. J. Alex McMillan
House of Representatives
Hon. G. V. Montgomery
House of Representatives
Hon. Carlos J. Moorhead
House of Representatives
Hon. Robert A. Mosbacher, Sr.
Secretary of Commerce
Ms. Jeannie Mozley
Hon. John T. Myers
House of Representatives
Lt. Commander Douglas J. Olauson, CHC, USN USN USN
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Hon. Mike Parker
House of Representatives
Lt. Dale Parker, CHC, USN
Cherry Point, NC
Hon. Elizabeth J. Patterson
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Commander George Paul, CHC, USN
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House of Representatives
Hon. Timothy J. Penny
House of Representatives
Hon. Owen B. Pickett
House of Representatives
Hon. J. J. Pickle
House of Representatives
Hon. Howard Pollock
Arlington, VA
(Hon.) Mrs. Patricia Presock
Deputy Assistant to the President
Hon. David E. Price
House of Representatives
The Vice President & Mrs. Quayle
Hon. Richard Ray
House of Representatives
Hon. Ralph Regula
House of Representatives

Prayer Breakfast - Tuesday, July 17, 1990 - 07:15AM

Hon. John J. Rhodes III
House of Representatives
Captain Charles S. Rimmer, CHC, USN
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Captain Fred Rothermel, CHC, USN
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Hon. J. Roy Rowland
House of Representatives
Hon. H. James Saxton
House of Representatives
Hon. Richard T. Schulze
House of Representatives
Hon. Norman D. Shumway
House of Representatives
Hon. Ike Skelton
House of Representatives
Hon. Samuel Skinner
Secretary of Transportation
Lt. Lyman M. Smith, CHC, USN
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Hon. Mick Staton
Delchamps Associates
Hon. Clifford B. Stearns
House of Representatives
Hon. Charles W. Stenholm
House of Representatives
Hon. Bob Stump
House of Representatives
Hon. Louis W. Sullivan
Secretary of Health & Human Services
Hon. Gene Taylor
House of Representatives
Hon. Craig Thomas
House of Representatives
Hon. Richard L. Thornburgh
Attorney General
Mr. David Valdez
Hon. Tim Valentine
House of Representatives
Hon. Brian K. Waidmann
Special Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs
Hon. Robert S. Walker
House of Representatives
Mr. Joseph P. Watkins
Hon. Wesley Watkins
House of Representatives
Hon. James D. Watkins
Secretary of Energy
Mr. Joseph P. Watkins
Hon. R. Douglas Wead
Special Assistant to the President for Public Liaison

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Major John Weyand, USA
Chaplain's Activity Office
Rear Admiral David E. White, CHC, USN
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Hon. Charlie Whitley
The Tobacco Institute
Hon. Robert Whittaker
House of Representatives
Miss Katherine Wills
Hon. Clayton K. Yeutter
Secretary of Agriculture
Hon. (Mrs.) Rose M. Zamaria
Special Assistant to the President & Director of White House
Operations
Hon. Roger Zion
Washington, DC

116 total

55 congressmen

Prayer Breakfast - Tuesday, July 17, 1990 - 07:15AM

REGRETS

Hon. William J. Bennett

Director, National Drug Control Policy

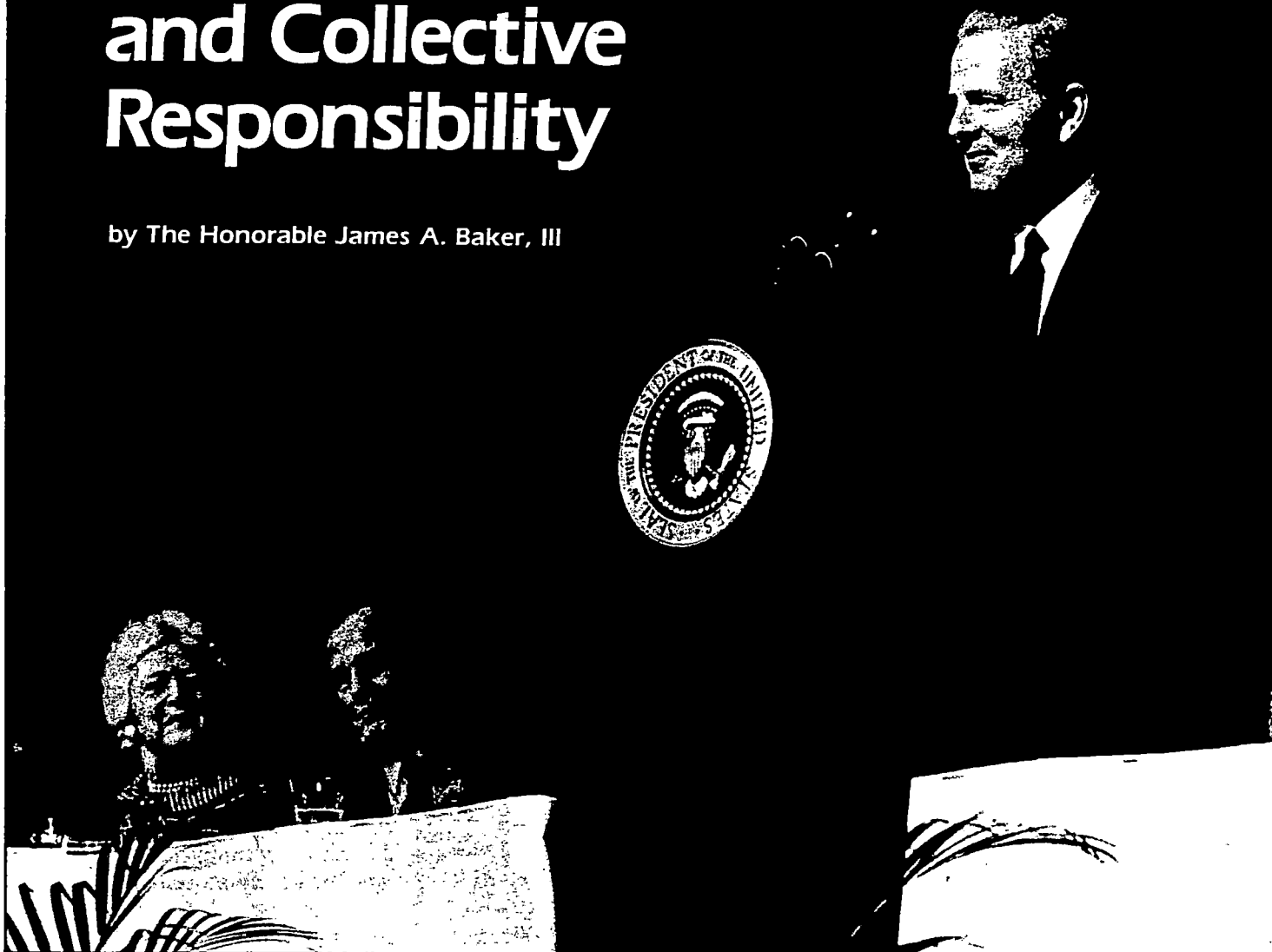
Hon. Larry E. Craig

House of Representatives

Mr. Timothy J. McBride

Faith, Friendship and Collective Responsibility

by The Honorable James A. Baker, III



The Honorable James A. Baker, III is U.S. Secretary of State, Washington, D.C. The following is taken by permission from a message that he gave at the National Prayer Breakfast, February 1, 1990.—ED.

To discuss a personal journey of faith is a new experience for me. But I believe that those of us who are placed in positions of public trust shouldn't be hesitant to speak about spiritual values. In fact, I believe that spiritual values are important in the pursuit of world peace.

The people who know me best certainly know that I don't feel like

an expert on the subject of faith. I am just one person, genuinely struggling to put faith into practice in my life. But over these past nine years in Washington, D.C., I think I have gained some valuable insight into that process.

Many people believe that living in this city makes developing one's personal faith a lot more difficult. But for me, living in this centrifuge of power and politics has encouraged (and I might say has demanded) spiritual growth.

Power, of course, can be intoxicating; it can be addictive; and few doubt the truth of Lord Acton's words: "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely."

Over these past nine years I have had opportunities to participate in the exercise of more power than I would ever have imagined. I have felt the weight of responsibility that that brings and have felt the temptations that are attendant to it.

But from this perspective I have seen that people from every level and from every station in life desire affirmation; they desire recognition; they desire fulfillment. And some people go to extraordinary lengths to obtain these elusive goals.

I found early on that having a position of power doesn't bring the fulfillment that many people think it does. It does bring excitement; it brings a sense of satisfaction when

Photo: Russ Busby/©BGFA

things go well, disappointment when they don't. It brings invitations to some of the most exclusive gatherings in the world. (For someone who likes to go to bed at 9:30 every night, that is not necessarily a plus.) But it also brings a complicated lifestyle with an exhausting schedule, innumerable headaches and lots of conflict. Most important, having a position of power does not bring inner security or fulfillment. That comes only by developing a personal relationship with God, which for me is personified by Jesus Christ.

Inner security or real fulfillment comes by faith. As those of you who believe know only too well, faith doesn't come easily; it takes a lot of work.

When I look back on my own journey of faith, I can see that real growth began when I started reading God's Word. Romans 10:17 says: "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."¹ The Scriptures teach me that God loves me and accepts me as I am. He loves me as I struggle, he loves me even as I fail to become the man that he wants me to be.

Once I honestly felt that I had to earn God's love. But now I know that the Bible tells us that it is faith, not works or accomplishments, that makes us acceptable in God's sight.

In 1986 I met with a group of diplomats gathered for the National Prayer Breakfast. One of them asked me what the most important thing was that I had learned since being in Washington. I replied that it was the fact that temporal power is fleeting. I told him about an experience that I had early one morning a few years ago when I was the White House Chief of Staff. As my driver turned the car into the northwest gate, I looked down Pennsylvania Avenue and noticed a man walking alone. He was someone whom many of you would recognize—a Chief of Staff in a prior administration. But there he was alone—no reporters, no security, no adoring public, no trappings of power—just one solitary man alone with

his thoughts.

That mental picture continually serves to remind me of the impermanence of power and the impermanence of place. That man had it all—but he had it all only for a time. And that really puts my life into perspective.

*"God loves me
and accepts me as I
am. He loves me as I
struggle, he loves me
even as I fail to
become the man that
he wants me to be"*

Occasionally I ask the question, "When I leave Washington, what's going to remain?" One thing I know for sure. The people who wouldn't return my phone calls before I came to Washington are not going to return them after I leave.

The fleeting aspects of power cause us to understand the importance of lasting personal relationships and friendships. Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "God evidently does not intend us all to be rich, or powerful, or great, but he does intend us all to be friends."

Both the Old and the New Testament Scriptures affirm this reality by speaking about our relationship to God and our relationships with each other. The first and greatest Commandment, of course, is to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind."² And the second is to "love others as yourself."³ We know too that Jesus said, "I do not call you servants. . . . I call you friends."⁴ These ancient thoughts on personal relationships are often not taken seriously enough in our busy lives.

In all candor, I used to think that

if we were strong, we really didn't need anyone. Too often independence, self-reliance, are said to be the path to success. To many, being successful means never admitting that we have any hurts or problems. But the truth of the matter is, we do need one another if we are going to make it through this life in both our private and our public capacities.

I remember a few years ago when I was struggling with a particular problem. No matter how hard I tried, I couldn't figure it out. But I found strength in being able to talk it over and to pray about it with my wife, Susan. And as we did, a truth from the book of Proverbs finally crystalized our thinking: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."⁵ Susan helped me to see that I needed to stop trying to play God and to turn the matter over to him. Without this kind of partnership I'm quite convinced that I would never have resolved that problem.

For several years I have been meeting each week with a small group of men for fellowship. They are normal guys who just happen to hold positions of power and influence in Washington. Members of our group come from both of the nation's political parties and from several religious traditions. We have grown to trust each other. We talk openly about our personal problems. I don't just mean problems we have with items on the national agenda. We support each other in our efforts to live a life of faith in a complex and challenging environment.

Many times all of us need something extra from our faith and from our friendships. I remember my mother telling me when I was young how she used to repeat Psalm 91:7 every day when my dad was a captain in the infantry in Europe during World War I: "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come

continued on next page

Faith, Friendship and Collective Responsibility

continued from previous page

nigh thee."⁶ My mother, who taught me so many of the values that give me strength today, drew much comfort from those words, and so do I. (She is still quoting that verse as her 96th birthday approaches.)

I also remember how important friendships were during the illness of my first wife. How important, for instance, that friends were there with me at her bedside during her last days. Two of those friends are prominent today.

I remember how important friends were for four little boys who were heartbroken, scared and confused. How important friendships were to the task that Susan and I faced several years later in putting our two families together at a difficult time in the lives of seven children. And if any of you have had three seventh graders at one time, you will understand what I mean!

I remember, as well, how important friendships were and are to the need for support on a journey through public service. And finally, I remember how important friendships were and are to the process of developing and maintaining my own faith.

So when I think back over the hills and valleys of my life, the consistent theme is the one in the 91st Psalm: "I will say unto the Lord, Thou art my hope and my stronghold: my God; in Thee will I trust."⁷

As leaders, we share certain spiritual responsibilities. Daniel Webster said, "If we work upon marble, it will perish. If we work upon brass, time will efface it. If we rear temples, they will crumble to dust. But if we work upon men's immortal minds, if we imbue them with high principles, with the just awe of God and love of their fellow men, we engrave on those tablets something which no time can efface, and which will brighten and brighten to eternity."⁸

We are all struck by the changes that are taking place in the Soviet Union and in eastern Europe. They are not all political or economic. In September last year I met with Ed-

uard Shevardnadze in Wyoming. We had some productive days, and on the last evening we exchanged gifts. I gave him a pair of cowboy boots in keeping with the western motif of Jackson Hole, Wyoming. But I received from him a far more profound and meaningful gift—an enamel picture of Jesus teaching the people. In giving me this picture he said, only half jokingly, "You see, even we Communists are changing our world view."

*"As we hail the
resurgence of faith
and freedom around
the world, in America
we must be mindful of
our own responsibility
regarding faith"*

Could it be that a major meaning of the revolution going on in eastern Europe is the resurgence or the rebirth of faith? What we seem to be seeing is the reaffirmation of the individual as a person—a person worthy in his or her own right, with the freedom to choose and the responsibility that goes with those choices. It is no accident, I think, that churches in eastern Europe have played such an important part in the political change that is taking place there. Despite oppression, the people of God have maintained their integrity as custodians of the faith.

I think that there is a moral and a spiritual lesson for the United States in these events. We need to listen a bit more perhaps to those who are observing us. Lech Walesa made the observation that "Americans are drifting away from spiritual values as they become richer." He said that "sooner or later we will have to go back to our fundamental values, back to God, the truth, the truth which is in God." And then he

made a most interesting statement: "We look to America, and we expect from you a spiritual richness to meet the aspirations of the 20th century."

So as we hail the resurgence of faith and freedom around the world, in America we must be mindful of our own responsibility regarding faith. The United States, as a great political experiment, was and continues to be a great spiritual experiment as well. Every person who enjoys freedom, regardless of where they are in the world, has the responsibility to improve the society which assures that freedom. One way to carry out this responsibility is to pray, whether that prayer is private or whether that prayer is communal. Prayer is an act of free men and women who believe that their relationship to God is fundamental to preserving those freedoms. The Bible tells us, "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."⁹

I believe that as leaders we can build relationships around the world that are rooted in trust and in love and in understanding. I believe that we can go beyond rhetoric to discover concrete ways to express this reality, particularly in light of Solomon's profound observation: "Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people."¹⁰

As we join together in prayer, let us all be thankful for rekindling hopes of freedom in many countries around the world. Let us be thankful for our faith; let us be thankful for our friendships. Let us pray for the strength to meet our collective spiritual responsibilities as leaders by doing what we can to make our world a freer, a better and a more peaceful place.

God bless you, and God bless the people of all the nations of the world.

(1) Romans 10:17, NKJV. (2) Luke 10:27, NKJV. (3) Cf. Matthew 22:39. (4) John 15:15, GNB. (5) Proverbs 3:5-6, NKJV. (6) Psalm 91:7, KJV. (7) Cf. Psalm 91:2. (8) From a speech, Faneuil Hall, 1852. (9) 2 Corinthians 3:17, KJV. (10) Proverbs 14:34, NKJV. Bible verses marked NKJV are taken by permission from The Holy Bible, New King James Version, copyright © 1979, 1980, 1982 Thomas Nelson, Inc., Publishers, Nashville, Tennessee. The Bible verse marked GNB is taken by permission from the Good News Bible, the Bible in Today's English Version, copyright © 1976 American Bible Society, New York, New York.



SUPERSTOCK/MAURY ENGLANDER

July 4: Do Our Children Understand?

How many young Americans grasp the price of freedom and the source of liberty?

by Gary Bauer

The Fourth of July is a time for family outings, hamburgers on the grill, dips in the pool and spectacular fireworks. It's America's birthday, a coast-to-coast block party—but in honor of what?

You'd be surprised how little the average American knows about our country's origins, but then again, maybe you wouldn't. The same can be said for our schoolchildren. I was shocked to discover what our children knew—and didn't know—about

America's heritage when I was undersecretary of education during the Reagan administration.

A Case in Point

Driving home from work one day, I paused at a stoplight. To my right, a group of high school students sprawled out on a lawn. A portable CD player blared heavy metal rock music.

The teens lay in the grass with their heads bobbing to the music. They didn't have a care in the world. Their empty looks and designer jeans reminded me of a quip I heard about young people. "They have Calvin Kleins on their behinds and nothing in

their minds."

I wondered if any of the kids had noticed a historical marker a few feet behind them. The plaque marked the site of a Civil War skirmish. The Washington area is peppered with such markers, but the only people who stop and notice are tourists.

Yet, right on that spot, hundreds of men had paid the ultimate price for a great cause: liberty, freedom and the preservation of a nation. Many who died were young boys, some even younger than the youths who whiled the day away listening to rock music.

What did these teens know about Bull Run, Antietam, or Fort Sumter?

Did any of them understand what Abraham Lincoln meant by "patriot graves bound together by mystic cords of memory?" I doubt it.

But I'm not angry at these kids. You can't be. The blame sits squarely on the shoulders of their parents and teachers, many of whom pass this place daily on the way to work or to shop. Had any of them pointed out the significance of the area to their children? Probably not. We live in an age that's ignorant of the past and unworried about tomorrow.

Roots That Sustain Us

Parents and children who don't feel any particular reverence at such places reflect the transparent values of our culture, which often seems to elevate commerce and instant gratification above all else.

As Washington and its suburbs continue to grow, the land is gobbled up for shopping centers and freeways. Who cares whether this land was where our great-great-grandfathers fought an epic struggle? Who thinks twice about what this country would be like if we had lost the War for Independence or the War of 1812?

Perhaps your town has witnessed zoning battles over historic lands. In recent years, I've seen historic places like Manassas and Brandy Station lose out to commercial development. When we cut off ourselves and our children from our roots and the heroes who've sustained us, we guarantee that our children's children will be deprived as well.

Unlike the hippies of the '60s, the teenagers I saw that day had not rejected the American experience. More accurately, no one had *taught* our national heritage to them. Since our culture has shirked its responsibility of teaching history and love of country to the young, our children are adrift.

That's why freedom becomes license. For many teens, premarital sex is okay—as long as you are "mature" about it. You have to have "strong feelings" for your "partner" and take sensible "precautions," of course. That's what they learn in school. They may know that doing drugs is dumb, but what's wrong with getting a little high?

When young people are more concerned about the pleasures available here and now, history takes a back seat. We live in a culture that could care less about the past. That's why it's up to parents and teachers to fill in the gap and instill a love for history and our country's heritage. No one else is going to do it.

Some Startling Facts

Loving one's country is a natural emotion—one that America's cultural elites constantly underestimate. Many of our sons and daughters feel it instinctively.

Some feel it because they've experienced sacrifice, too. Each year, on appropriate days, a Washington-area group called "No Greater Love" (made up of sons and daughters of those who died in service to their country) gathers in Arlington Cemetery. They painstakingly decorate each grave site—and there are thousands—with a flower of remembrance.

I fear, however, that much of the next generation is entering adulthood without understanding the nature of our liberty. How far have we gone toward losing a common culture? Consider these results from several national surveys. One test given to over 8,000 students 17 years old—and funded by the National Endowments for the Humanities—produced depressing results.

On the history portion of the exam, the average student correctly answered 55 percent of the questions correct. Students fared worse on the literature portion: 52 percent. In other words, most of our children flunked out when

questioned about the history and literature of our civilization.

Specific questions were even more troubling. For example, when the 17-year-olds were given the key passage of the Declaration of Independence—"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness"—fully one-third of them could not identify where the quote came from. Less than half knew Lincoln said, "With malice toward none, with charity for all . . ."

Questions about recent history fared no better. Barely half knew John F. Kennedy said, "And so, my fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." And while 88 percent knew Martin Luther King Jr. said, "I have a dream," less than 60 percent knew Franklin D. Roosevelt said the day Pearl Harbor was bombed would be a date "which will live in infamy."

One-third did not know that the Declaration of Independence was signed between 1750 and 1800, two-thirds could not place the Civil War within the period 1850-1900; and one-



Loving one's country is a natural emotion—one that America's cultural elites constantly underestimate. Many of our sons and daughters feel it instinctively.

half couldn't say within 50 years when World War I took place!

If you're still not shocked, less than 50 percent of our 17-year-olds recognized the names of Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin. Another study showed that more children could identify Freddy Krueger (of the gruesome *Nightmare on Elm Street* movies) than could correctly identify Abraham Lincoln.

In the literature section, students were asked, among other things, a variety of questions about the Bible as *literature*. This was not a test of religious beliefs, but rather an effort to discover how much students knew about specific references in the Old and New Testaments that have influenced our culture and literature.

From Shakespeare to many contemporary literary works, it's impossible to understand what the author means without a knowledge of stories and phrases from the Bible. Large percentages of students—over 90 percent—recognized stories about Moses and Noah, proving that some knowledge is still being passed on. But less than 60 percent had heard of the Prodigal Son, and only 37 percent could identify the patience of Job.

Nearly 40 percent could not say that King Solomon was known for his wisdom. Thirty percent didn't know Jesus was betrayed by Judas.

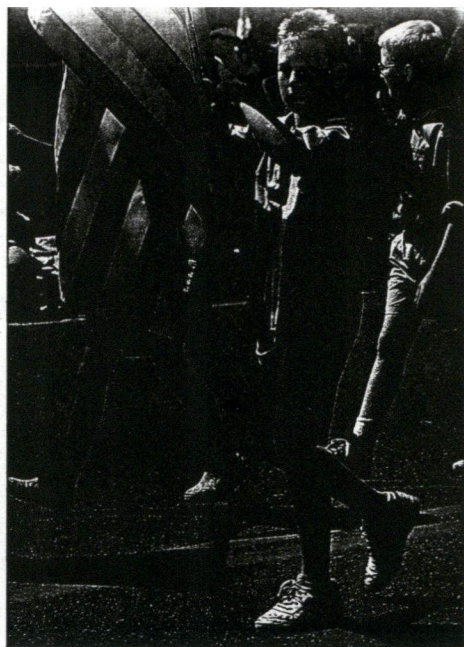
The results of one question is a commentary on our times: Only one-third of the 17-year-olds knew the significance of Sodom and Gomorrah! No doubt the idea of cities or nations being destroyed because of immoral conduct must seem odd to the young, particularly if they have no knowledge of such a thing happening in the past.

A Closing Thought

This July 4, there is nothing wrong with engaging in the usual fun-filled activities that families traditionally enjoy together. But could I suggest adding something else to this special holiday? Take some time to talk with your children about the unique experiment in liberty—under God—that they are part of, along with children of other free nations.

A good place to start is to share some facts about our Founding Fathers, including our first president, George Washington. At the end of the Revolutionary War, Washington stated that our greatest blessing was "the pure and benign light of revelation."

Washington later prayed that God "would most graciously be pleased to



JIM WHITMER

If we are not "One Nation Under God," then surely we will be but one more nation gone under.

dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind which were characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example we can never hope to be a happy nation."

When he took the oath of office as president, on April 30, 1789, in New York's Federal Hall, Washington added the words "I swear, so help me God." Every president since has repeated them.

Did you know that during Washington's administration the first Thanksgiving proclamation was issued? And at Washington's famous farewell address on September 17, 1796, he summarized what he thought America or any nation should do to survive. He said, "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports."

Washington was not out of step with the other Founding Fathers. Ironically, Thomas Jefferson, who is often cited as the Founder who wanted a strict separation of church and state, suggested that the Great Seal of the United States should depict Moses leading his people to the Promised Land.

As the main author of the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson made it clear that our rights come from

God—not from other men or governments.

Alexis de Tocqueville, a Frenchman who came to America in the early 1800s to determine the "secret" of our successful democracy, wrote, "Upon my arrival in the United States, the religious aspect of the country was the first thing that struck my attention. Religion in America . . . must be regarded as the foremost of political institutions of that country."

President Lincoln later referred to us as the "almost chosen people." On April 30, 1863, he called for a National Day of Prayer and Fasting. The proclamation read in part, "We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven . . . 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. It behooves us then to humble ourselves before the offended power to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness."

Our children need to know these basic facts. We need to teach them about Concord Bridge, Gettysburg and Omaha Beach. They need to know how their liberty has been won and preserved through the years. And they also need to know that with freedom comes responsibility.

If we are not "One Nation Under God," then surely we will be but one more nation gone under. Our children need to be taken to the great historical monuments and read the tales of sacrifice so many have given. In this way, they can enjoy liberty.

Our children should know what Constitution Hall looks like, and what the Great Lady in New York Harbor stands for. In short, let's begin this Fourth of July to teach our children to love the things we love and honor. Nothing less will do. □



Gary Bauer is president of the Family Research Council, Focus on the Family's branch office in Washington, D.C. He and his family plan to visit several monuments to past presidents over the Fourth of July.

Bauer is also publisher of the Washington Watch, a pro-family newsletter. For more information, please turn to "News and Such" on page 14.

Proclamation 5942—National Day of Prayer, 1989
March 17, 1989

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Throughout our Nation's history, Americans have been a prayerful people, giving thanks to our Creator for the blessings of liberty and seeking His help and guidance in preserving them.

Those who braved the long ocean journey from Europe to first settle in the American colonies were men and women of varied, but equally devout, religious beliefs. Many had been persecuted for those beliefs at home, and they sought a new land where they might be able to worship freely. Years later, our forefathers would clearly remember this and begin our Bill of Rights with the guarantee that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

But it was not just the experience of their ancestors that led the Founding Fathers to shape a free and democratic government for our Nation. On the contrary, their view of the rights of man and the proper role of government were derived from their firm faith in God. They believed that all men are created equal, "endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights." Any system of government they established must guarantee individual liberty and equality before the law, for freedom is the God-given right of all men. Calling for daily prayer at the Constitutional Convention, a number of delegates expressed their conviction that only with divine guidance would the new democracy be true and successful. "If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice," observed Benjamin Franklin, "is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid?" Dr. Franklin knew that human wisdom alone could neither build nor keep a free and just government.

As our first President, George Washington would continue to pray for guidance from "that powerful Friend" invoked by Ben Franklin. "I shall take my present leave," said the new President, "but not without resorting once more to that benign Parent of the Human Race in humble sup-

plication that . . . His blessing may be equally conspicuous in the enlarged views, the temperate consultations and the wise measures on which the success of this government must depend." Immediately after his Inauguration, President Washington made his way with the Congress through the crowds of well-wishers from Federal Hall to Saint Paul's chapel. There a prayer service was offered by the Chaplain of Congress for our new Nation.

The great faith that led our Nation's Founding Fathers to pursue this bold experiment in self-government has sustained us in uncertain and perilous times; it has given us strength and inspiration to this very day. Like them, we do well to recall our "firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence," to give thanks for the freedom and prosperity this Nation enjoys, and to pray for continued help and guidance from our wise and loving Creator. For what President Washington wrote 200 years ago remains true today: "the liberty enjoyed by the people of these States, of worshipping Almighty God agreeably to their consciences, is not only among the choicest of their blessings, but also of their rights."

Since the approval of the joint resolution of the Congress on April 17, 1952, calling for the designation of a specific day to be set aside each year as a National Day of Prayer, recognition of such a day has become a cherished annual event. Each President since then has proclaimed a National Day of Prayer annually under the authority of that resolution, continuing a tradition that actually dates back to the Continental Congress, which issued the first official proclamation for a National Day of Prayer on July 12, 1775. By Public Law 100-307, the first Thursday in May of each year has been set aside as a National Day of Prayer.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 4, 1989, as a National Day of Prayer. I invite the people of this great Nation to gather together on that day in homes and places of worship to pray, each after his or her own manner, for unity in the hearts of all mankind.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of March, in

Mar. 6 / Administration of George Bush, 1990

Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti of Italy

March 6, 1990

German Reunification

Q. Mr. Prime Minister, do you believe the two-plus-four formula will give Italy a sufficient voice in the possible reunification of Germany?

The Prime Minister. No, it's not a problem which belongs to Italy. I think that all the member countries of the Atlantic alliance must handle together these problems, and provided that the specific problems related to Berlin must be handled by the four countries.

Q. Mr. President, are you concerned or hopeful about what's happening in Afghanistan?

Baseball Strike

Q. Mr. President, do you think anything should be done about the baseball strike?

The President. We have a strike, and our son owns one of the teams—or is the managing owner or managing partner of one of the baseball teams, and she's asking me about the strike, knowing that I don't take questions at a photo opportunity, however. She got close to something I might answer. Very close there. I was tempted.

Meeting With Prime Minister Andreotti

Q. Mr. President, are you going to approve a NATO meeting here on Germany next month?

The President. I'm not going to take any questions at a photo opportunity, except to say this to the Italian journalists: Welcome back to the United States, and we are delighted you're here. And frankly, I view this as a very important meeting with a respected friend. But other than that, I won't take any questions in here. However, the Prime Minister is free to do anything he wants in here.

Note: The exchange began at 10:35 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House.

Proclamation 6104—National Day of Prayer, 1990

March 6, 1990

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of," wrote Lord Tennyson more than a century ago. Today, we are deeply mindful of the truth of his words. Our Nation's history and the lives of millions of men and women around the world provide compelling evidence of the power of faith and the efficacy of prayer.

The Bible tells us what we have often seen for ourselves: that God answers the prayers of those who place their trust in Him. In the Old Testament story of Hannah and Samuel and the New Testament parable of the Prodigal Son, we find a universal experience of parenthood: long hours spent in waiting for a child and in prayer for his well-being. What mother or father has not, in unspoken thought, asked the Almighty to protect his or her little ones and thanked Him for their safekeeping?

Our ancestors believed that, in the lives of nations as well as individuals, the love of God is a great parental love like this. They saw history as the place where our Creator looks for His children, longing for them to come to Him and to do His will. As they fashioned a system of government that would carry the United States into an uncharted future, as they fled oppressed and war-torn nations to build new lives in this land of opportunity, as they shielded the spark of hope from the cold winds of tyranny and world war, time and again they came, thankful and contrite, to the inextinguishable light of the Father's house.

So great was the faith of our Founding Fathers, and so firm was their belief in the need for God's blessing upon their bold experiment in self-government, that they frequently turned to Him in prayer both as individuals and as a community. Indeed, the first act of the Continental Congress, the same body that declared America's inde-

pendence, was a prayer. Thomas Jefferson and other Founders believed that the God Who gives us life gives us liberty as well, and if the American people are to keep a truly free and democratic government, they must acknowledge their dependence on His mercy and guidance. Thus, when they pledged to each other their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor in support of the Declaration of Independence, they did so "with a firm Reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence." When the Framers of our Constitution heeded Ben Franklin's call for daily prayer at the Federal Convention in 1787, it is as if they were profoundly aware of the gentle admonition found in the 127th Psalm: "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain."

Today, we do well to place in God's hands our hopes and concerns for our families and our communities, just as our Nation's Founders entrusted their labors to Him. The childhood of our liberty was guarded by the love of God, and the "new birth of freedom" of which President Lincoln spoke was possible only because that love was faithful to a people bitterly divided by civil war. Today, our liberty is older and our Republic has entered its third century, but we are still, as a people, in the infancy of our journey. So much greater is our need now to turn to God in prayer once again, seeking His blessing for the way that lies ahead.

On this National Day of Prayer, observed more than 200 years after the Continental Congress asked for God's blessing upon our young country, our prayers could have no better object than the safety and well-being of our children. It is for them that we labor and sacrifice, and it is for them that we struggle to uphold the noble ideals affirmed at our Nation's birth. Today, amidst our many blessings, we see the destruction of too many lives in their earliest flower—too many young minds lost to drugs, delinquency, and despair. The suffering or loss of even one of these children is more than any parent can bear, and it is more than our Nation can afford to tolerate.

I therefore ask my fellow Americans to join with me in prayer for our children. Let

us strive to help each of them sink their roots into the rich soil of God's love for the beings He has made in His own image. Let us show them through prayer that we, too, like our Nation's Founders, seek our shelter—our rock and our salvation—in the arms of God. Finally, let us dedicate this Nation once more to the protection of Divine Providence, remembering the words of the Psalmist: "How excellent is thy loving kindness O God! Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings."

Since the approval of the joint resolution of the Congress on April 17, 1952, calling for the designation of a specific day to be set aside each year as a National Day of Prayer, recognition of such a day has become a cherished annual event. Each President since then has proclaimed a National Day of Prayer annually under the authority of that resolution, continuing a tradition that actually dates back to the Continental Congress, which issued the first official proclamation for a National Day of Prayer on July 12, 1775. By Public Law 100-307, the first Thursday in May of each year has been set aside as a National Day of Prayer.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 3, 1990, as a National Day of Prayer. I invite the people of the United States to gather together on that day in homes and places of worship to pray, each after his or her own manner, for the renewal of our Nation's moral heritage and for God's blessing upon each of us, especially our children.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 4:24 p.m., March 6, 1990]

file

CITIZEN

Inside:

- George Bush talks about his spiritual side
- Movie reviewers provide a Christian perspective
- A Montana activist holds chastity rallies
- Gary Bauer looks at upcoming legislative battles

Vol. 3, No. 1

January 1991

COVER STORY

George Bush's Faith

The President-elect does not wear his religious beliefs on his sleeve, but he has a firm faith in God.

by Mike Yorkey

For the hundreds of TV and print journalists who covered the 1988 presidential race, George Bush's and Michael Dukakis' religious views were a non-issue. Early in the campaign, the question of Dukakis' standing in the Greek Orthodox Church was raised, but for the most part, religion was a back-burner topic for the national media.

While religious beliefs should not be the only test of a candidate's worthiness, a person's belief system can certainly color his political judgment. George Bush convinced conservative Christians that he supported the pro-family agenda, especially in the issues of abortion, pornography, judicial appointments, equitable child-care legislation and homosexual rights. Attentive Christian voters also learned that Bush was a believer in Jesus Christ.

The President-elect was raised in a Christian home and has been a member of his home church in St. Martin's Episcopal Church, since 1964. His wife, Barbara, taught Sunday school there for years.

"The Bushes have been very

active here in every kind of way," said the Rev. Claude Payne, the rector of St. Martin's.

Bush is a former vestryman—or member of the lay governing board—at St. Martin's, but serves in the vestry at St. Anne's when the family vacations in Kennebunkport, Maine.

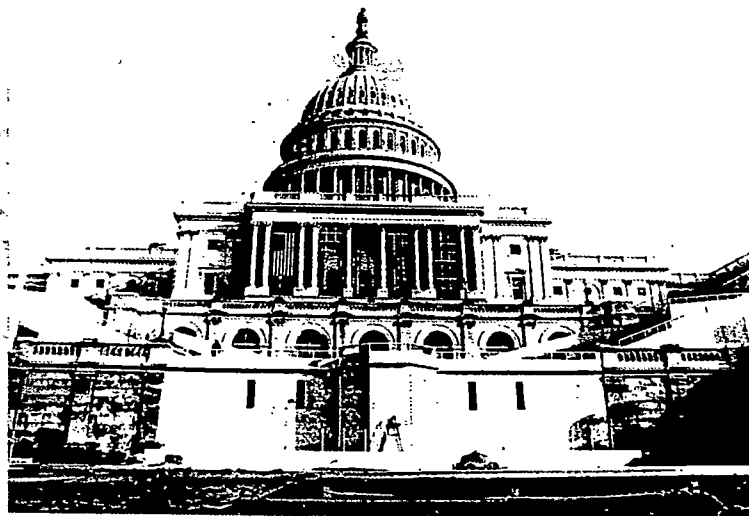
As a life-long Episcopalian, Bush belongs to a mainline Protestant denomination with 2.5 million members and 7,054 churches. In points of doctrine, worship and ministerial order, the Episcopal Church descended from and has remained associated with the Church of England.

Some Episcopal churches are experiencing renewal and "a lot of reaching out and reaching in," said Rev. Payne of St. Martin's. "We're not in the charismatic end of that renewal. We're just more into the broad end of it."

During his eight years as Vice President in Washington, D.C., Bush said he "moved around quite a bit" (following the assassination attempt on President Reagan's life in 1981), attending various churches. "Sometimes Barbara and I visit a black Baptist church," Bush wrote in his 1987 autobiography, *Looking Forward*. "Thad Garrett is the pastor there, and we really enjoy ourselves. Sometimes, we stop by the National Cathedral."

Bush certainly won the church-going vote last November. According to a survey taken

(continued on page 2)



Workers are completing construction of the inaugural stand at the west entrance to the U.S. Capitol, where George Bush will place his hand on the Bible and recite the oath of office.

FAITH

(continued from page 1)

by the Bush campaign after the election, Bush's biggest bloc of voters—one out of every three—were "evangelicals," or members of conservative Christian churches. Bush captured the evangelical

vote (see *Citizen*, December 1988 issue) in landslide numbers, as high as 84 percent according to some exit polls. President Reagan's high-water mark for evangelical voters was 78 percent in the 1984 election.

Interestingly, Bush has made several public comments—little reported—that reveal his deeply felt faith. At his acceptance speech on election night, Bush talk-

ed about how his faith had deepened in the last few years. The next morning at a news conference, Bush added, "We've just come from a church service at our home parish, St. Martin's Church, and I've begun to think about the task ahead. And I am certain that God's help is absolutely essential for anyone chosen to lead this great country of ours."

Q & A with George Bush

George Bush collaborated on a 1988 book *Man of Integrity*, in which he discusses his Christian faith. Co-author Doug Wead, Bush's liaison to evangelicals during the presidential campaign, conducted an interview on the topic for the book. Excerpts from that question-and-answer session follow:

Q. Is there a spiritual side to George Bush?

A. Yes, there is a spiritual side. I haven't always found it easy to discuss this in public, since my faith has been a very personal thing to me.

Q. You were raised in a Christian home?

A. My upbringing was very conventional Christianity. We had prayer at home and regular church attendance. There was never any doubt that Jesus Christ was my Savior and Lord. Even to this day, there has been a total conviction on this point. It's interesting that when you are in public life, people are always trying to categorize you, but they seldom look beneath the surface to see what's in your heart. There have been so many personal moments.

Q. In 1984, journalist Fred Barnes asked each candidate whether he or she had been born-again. How would you answer the born-again question?

A. I've discussed this many times with some of the great religious leaders, especially Billy Graham. I think I would ask for a definition. If by 'born again' one is asking, 'Do you accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior?' then I could answer a clear-cut 'Yes.' No hesitancy, no awkwardness.

But if one is asking, 'Has there been one single moment, above any other, in which your life has been instantly changed?' then I can't say that this has happened, since there have been *many* moments. I'm not a great biblical expert or theologian, but I am a *believer*. I do believe strongly in the Lord and the hereafter, in life after death.

(One time, Wead was at the Vice President's house, and he walked into a small working office next to Bush's bedroom. Wead noticed a well-worn copy of C.S. Lewis' *Mere Christianity* on top of Bush's desk.)

Q. Do you read C.S. Lewis?

A. Yes. People from different denominations are always recommending his books to me, and I always feel like saying, 'But he's Anglican. This is what we Episcopalians believe.'

I'm learning that some Christians feel that it's very important to speak out about their faith. For them it is another religious tenet. They feel they are wrong if they don't stand up and say something.

I have to balance that with my Episcopalian upbringing. C.S. Lewis taught that the greatest sin is pride, and that all other sins really come from pride. So we haven't been inclined to go around proclaiming that we are Christians. It somehow smacked of self-righteousness to us. Why do we have to tell people something that our own lives should demonstrate? It seemed prideful. But I must say that Barbara and I have talked about it, and we are learning that there are two sides to this.

Q. Have you ever been disillusioned with your faith?

A. We really went through a tough time with the loss of Robin. Imagine being told one day by the doctors that your little 3-year-old girl has leukemia and will die within weeks.

I can tell you that there was no one for us to turn to but God. And I really learned to pray. I would slip into our church sometimes when no one was there. I would ask God, 'Why? Why this little innocent girl?'

We lost Robin, but Barbara and I have never lost the faith and spiritual insight from that experience. I don't really think it was disillusioning. Actually, the pain of that experience taught us how dependent on God we really are. □

The day after the election, Bush's son, George Jr., delivered a prayer at a thanksgiving service at St. Martin's, which contained these words: "We thank you for our health and safe passage during the past months. And we thank you for your greatest gift of all—your Son. Please guide us and guard us on our new journeys—particularly, watch over Dad and Mother."

"This thanksgiving service was requested by the family," said Bush's pastor, Rev. Payne. "They really wanted to do it, win or lose. It was good to know that the first public act the day after the election was to go to church."

Doug Wead, who served as Bush's liaison to evangelicals during the campaign, talked to Bush that day.

"It's been almost a spiritual experience for him, the run for the presidency," Wead said. "From my observation of him, he is humbled, and he's looked to the Lord for help."

Bush's religious training began in his childhood, when his father or mother would read a Bible lesson at the breakfast table. Prescott and Dorothy Bush "believed in an old-fashioned way of bringing up a family—generous measures of both love and discipline," Bush wrote in his autobiography.

Religious teaching was also part of family life, and the Bush family, raised in the Episcopalian faith, regularly attended Sunday services at Christ Church in Greenwich, Conn.

Bush served as a Navy fighter pilot in World War II, and had a close brush with death that tested his faith. In an air strike against a Japanese stronghold on the Chichi Jima island, Bush's plane was struck by flak. The young pilot had to bail out over the Pacific. Fortunately, a buddy in Bush's air squadron saw his parachute hit the ocean, and radioed Bush's position. The U.S.S. *Finback* submarine surfaced and pulled Bush out of the water.

"In the sub's cramped wardroom, I was given a second welcome aboard by three other Navy airmen, rescued by the *Finback* a short while before," Bush wrote. "Silently, I thanked God for having saved my life and said a silent prayer for the safety of my fellow crew members. Later, I learned that neither Jack Delaney nor Ted White had survived. One went down with the plane; the other was seen jumping, but his parachute failed to open."

Now, 45 years later, Bush will become the nation's 41st president when he places his hand on the Bible and recites the oath of office on January 20. Conservative Christian voters, who played a significant role in electing Bush, will be praying that the new President exercises wisdom and discernment as he assumes the reins of government. □

17TH CENTURY NUN'S PRAYER

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will someday be old. Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Release me from craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom it seems a pity not to use it all, but thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as the years go by. I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of other's pains, but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and lessening cocksureness where my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occassionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint - some of them are hard to live with - but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil. Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talent in unexpected people. And give me, O Lord, the grace to tell them so. AMEN

The Title of this prayer is traditional, the source is unknown.

I think prayers go with ones age. The is a lovely 63 year old prayer.

GWB 7-6-46 in New Haven

Job 2-11-53 in Midland

Neil 1-22-55 in Midland

Marion 10-22-56 in Midland

boro 8-19-59 ? in Houston

I look forward to working with the Congress in the weeks and months ahead to produce a budget that meets the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings target, advances the Nation's essential interests, and keeps the economy on the path of continued growth.

January 29, 1990

George Bush

Note: The President's message is printed in the report entitled "Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 1991."

Message to the Congress Reporting Budget Deferrals

January 29, 1990

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the Impoundment Control Act of 1974, I herewith report two new deferrals and four revised deferrals of budget authority now totalling \$8,251,604,695.

The deferrals affect International Security Assistance programs, as well as programs of the Departments of Agriculture, State, and Transportation.

The details of these deferrals are contained in the attached report.

George Bush

The White House,
January 29, 1990.

Remarks at the Annual Convention of the National Religious Broadcasters

January 29, 1990

Thank you all very much. Thank you President Rose. Thank you very much. Thank you for that warm welcome. And President Rose, Director Cook, new Director Gustavson, friend Pat Robertson, Dr. Robertson: my greetings to you all. And I certainly want to salute your leadership, all the leadership of the NRB. And ladies and gentlemen: it's often said of a group or indi-

vidual that he hasn't got a prayer. Well, I'm pleased to be with an audience about whom that will never be said. [Laughter]

This marks the fourth time that I've had the honor of addressing the annual convention of the National Religious Broadcasters. And once again, it is a delight to be back, and I know I speak for Barbara in that regard as well. In the spirit of the occasion, I want to make two vows. First, I'll be brief. And I know there's a mention in the Bible about the burning bush. [Laughter] But I also know—and I say this not with humility, but with objectivity—compared to most around me here, I'm not that hot a speaker. [Laughter] So, I won't burden you.

But the second promise is for those of you way off in the back of the room: I'll try to speak up. Pat Robertson warned me that the agnostics in this room are very bad. [Laughter]

Let me begin with some good news for modern man. There is no denying that America is a religious nation. And sure, differences exist over sect and theology. I'm reminded of what that French statesman Talleyrand once said of America, "I found there a country with 32 religions and only one sauce." [Laughter] Well, you know these Frenchmen. [Laughter]

And yet you know that what unites us eclipses what divides us. For we believe that political values without moral values, a moral underpinning, cannot sustain a people. And this afternoon I'd like to talk to you about those moral values. I speak of the qualities of tolerance and decency, courage and responsibility and, of course, faith. Values which remind us that while God can live without man, man cannot live without God. And today, amid political and economic upheaval, these values have not changed, nor will they be more crucial than in the 1990's.

I hope you know by now—you know me—I am an optimist, and after all, last year I had the experience that renewed my faith. I was running out of prayers. I had almost given up. Then a miracle occurred: I caught a fish. [Laughter] So, it won't surprise you that I'm convinced we can and will uphold the values that I'm referring to. For as Americans we always have. Consider that for more than two centuries America

has endorsed, properly so, the separation of church and state, but it has also shown how religion and government can coexist; and that, to paraphrase our founding document, "All men are endowed not by government but by their Creator with certain unalienable rights." And these rights include the freedom of expression and to think, dream and worship as we please; equal protection under the law and the right to choose our leaders and our destinies; the inherent dignity of the individual. And we must manifest that dignity by the policies that we pursue.

For example, I believe that we should help parents obtain the best child care for their kids, and so we have sent legislation to Congress to make good that goal. But I want to ensure that parents, not bureaucrats, are the ones who decide how to care for these children. I will not see the option of religious-based child care restricted or eliminated. I will fight that every inch of the way.

And next there is the concern of every child, the quality and the diversity of America's schools. Our pioneering legislation, the Education Excellence Act of 1989, will spur excellence and demand accountability. For our kids' sake, let's help American education make the grade.

We come next to an issue on which many Americans disagree, but for my part let me be very clear: I support the sanctity of life. We need policies that encourage adoption, not abortion. And that comes right from the heart.

Finally, I continue to support a belief held by the overwhelming majority of Americans: the right to voluntary school prayer. And so, I continue to support a constitutional amendment restoring voluntary prayer. You see we need the faith of our Fathers back in our schools.

So, as we struggle to find answers to our pressing social problems, I will endorse policies that reflect the rights of the individual, a concept as old as the scriptures. Rights which form the essence of America and that to other nations have become the message of America. for our freedoms have been carried to every corner of the Earth. One year ago in my inaugural address I said, "the day of the dictator is over." And indeed, the last year has been a victory for

the freedoms with which God has blessed the United States of America. We've seen the rights of men move mountains or, as in East Berlin, even move a wall. And think of Central America, where men and women facing great personal risk work for human rights and against tyranny of any ideology. And let me add, I am especially proud of our troops in Panama. Americans supported Operation Just Cause for a lot of reasons, but because democracy is a noble cause. And to the young soldiers who serve this country, every American thanks you.

Think next of South Africa and the Philippines where the values of church leaders have been a force for democratic change. And, yes, in Eastern Europe too, where for centuries, faith has sustained those striving for freedom amid adversity. You know, 8 years ago, one of the Lord's great ambassadors, the Reverend Billy Graham, went to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, and upon returning, spoke of a movement there toward more religious freedom. And perhaps he saw it before many of us, because it takes a man of God to sense the early movement of the hand of God. And yet, who could predict that in 1989 freedom's tide would also be economic, political, and intellectual? Or that the walls of bayonets and barbed wire, the walls of tyranny, would come tumbling down?

Look, first, at East Germany, where in 1982, long before last November's mass demonstration, members of Leipzig St. Nicholas Church—1982—members of that church began a weekly prayer for peace. In the services, students were taught nonviolence, and started the candlelight vigils that one day would rouse a continent. And the police came and threatened them. But the students vowed to stay, and did, becoming a light unto the world. And ultimately, that light spread to Dresden and East Berlin. And as it shone, a Wittenberg pastor said, "I would rather see a thousand drops of candle wax on the marketplace than one drop of blood." And there was no blood. Only the stirring sight last October of 70,000 workers in the streets and squares of Leipzig. And weapons? They carried candles. And their light was likened to a blizzard of fireflies in the night. Ask anyone that evening. They

sought what we Americans enjoy: free markets, free elections, and the exercise of free will unhampered by the state. And they were propelled by many things; faith not the least of them. And as they and others marched across Eastern Europe, the day of the dictator did end, and the day of democracy began.

Look at Bulgaria, where last month the state press agency conceded. People were wishing Merry Christmas to each other maybe for the first time without fear they would be accused of being religious. And Czechoslovakia. There too, a victory for the rights of man. For years police chased carolers from Prague's Kings Road. And this Christmas, carols warmed the heart of the city and there was wonder in the air. In the Soviet Union last year, Moscow hosted the first nationwide gatherings of Jews since the fall of the Czar. And in Romania, still further victories. Christmas songs on the radio for the first time since 1946. And heroes who showed that you can't lock people behind walls forever, when moral conviction uplifts their hearts.

And let me close, then, with a story of two such heroes, both Romanian. And how their example illumined decency, courage, and love. The first was a Lutheran minister, Laszlo Tokes, who dared to speak of freedom. So last November in Timisoara, masked thugs broke into the small apartment of Tokes and his pregnant wife. And they beat him. And they stabbed him. And the Government allowed them no food, and even parishioners were not permitted to bring bread. And finally, the police arrived to deport the pastor, but the flock protected him, forming a human chain around his apartment. And in time, the chain grew across the land until, as we celebrated Christmas, Romania's quest for freedom summoned lightness against the dark. Today, Laszlo Tokes ministers to ever larger numbers preaching his faith, but now preaching it without any fear at all.

As does another, Gheorghe Calciu, a Romanian Orthodox minister. His story proves you can't kill an idea. Or you can't destroy the human will. Father Calciu has spent 21 of his 64 years in jail—21 of his 64 years—a third of his entire life in prison. And in fact, he found God there while in prison for opposing the Government. Released, he risked

his freedom by preaching a series of Lenten sermons. And for that he was imprisoned again, tortured beyond belief. Yet Father Calciu had faith. He refused to break and was sentenced to death. And as he stood in the corner of the prison yard praying for his wife and son, awaiting death, it was then something remarkable occurred. His two executioners called to him, and surely he thought, this was the end. But instead they said, "Father,"—that was the first time they had called him that—"we have decided not to kill you." And 3 weeks later he asked permission to celebrate the Divine Liturgy, and while making preparations heard these same 2 men approach. And he turned around and was astonished—his would-be executioners were on their knees on the cold concrete of the cell.

Father Calciu is with us today. Father, it is an honor to salute you, and I'm sure you're glad to be here, but I know, too, you hope to return to your native land. And in the season of miracles, who can doubt you will? For today, the times are on the side of peace because the world increasingly is on the side of God.

For my own part, I know this is true. For although I've been President for barely a year, I believe with all my heart that one cannot be America's President without a belief in God, without the strength that your faith gives to you. Another President, Dwight Eisenhower—beloved Ike—once said, "Free government is the political expression of a deeply felt religious faith." Let each of us use his faith to express the noblest values of America so that together we can then serve the inalienable rights of man.

Thank you for your work, for your kindness to Barbara and me, and God bless you. And God bless our beloved land, the United States of America. Thank you very, very much.

Note: The President spoke at 2:13 p.m. in the Sheraton Washington Ballroom at the Sheraton Washington Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to the following officials of the National Religious Broadcasters: Robert Cook, interim executive director; Brandt Gustavson, newly appointed director; and Pat Robertson, member of the board of directors.

Statement by President Bush on President With President Buckard of
January 29,

President F. Alfredo Cristoforo, day, February 1990, President Cristian, United States leaders, and v. tary-General possible U.N. with the FML, Liberation Fr. and President cuss prospects the context of process, and tion into the

Nomination of an Assistant
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Arab Proverb

PRAYER

Know that thou art freed from all desires
when thou hast reached such a point that
thou prayest to God for nothing except what
thou canst pray for openly.

Athenodorus: *Fragment: De Superstitione*

/// Grant us grace, Almighty Father, so to pray
as to deserve to be heard.

Jane Austen

/// Our prayers must mean something to us if
they are to mean anything to God.

Maltbie D. Babcock

Prayer is the spirit speaking truth to Truth.

Philip James Bailey: *Festus: Elsewhere*

"Oh, God, if I were sure I were to die tonight
I would repent at once." It is the commonest
prayer in all languages.

Sir James Matthew Barrie: *Sentimental
Tommy*, p. 98, Charles Scribner's Sons

Seven days without prayer makes one weak.

Allen E. Bartlett

The man who says his prayers in the evening
is a captain posting his sentries. After that,
he can sleep.

Charles Baudelaire

If you are swept off your feet, it's time to get
on your knees.

Fred Beck: *Evangelical Beacon*

I pray on the principle that wine knocks the
cork out of a bottle. There is an inward
fermentation, and there must be a vent.

Henry Ward Beecher

Prayer covers the whole of a man's life. There
is no thought, feeling, yearning, or desire,
however low, trifling, or vulgar we may deem
it, which, if it affects our real interest or
happiness, we may not lay before God and
be sure of sympathy. His nature is such that
our often coming does not tire him. The
whole burden of the whole life of every man

PRAYER

may be rolled on to God and not weary him,
though it has wearied the man.

Henry Ward Beecher

It is not well for man to pray cream, and live
skim milk.

Henry Ward Beecher

To labor is to pray.

Motto of the Benedictine Order

He who ceases to pray ceases to prosper.

Sir William Gurney Benham: *Proverbs*,
p. 783

Pray devoutly, but hammer stoutly.

Sir William Gurney Benham: *Proverbs*,
p. 827

Do you know what is wrong with the world
today? There's too much theologian and not
enough kneeologian.

Dallas F. Billington: *Akron Baptist
Journal*

Prayers plough not! Praises reap not!

William Blake: *Proverbs of Hell*

Prayer is not conquering God's reluctance,
but taking hold of God's willingness.

Phillips Brooks

Prayer, in its simplest definition, is merely
a wish turned God-ward.

Phillips Brooks

O, do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be
stronger men. Do not pray for tasks equal
to your powers. Pray for powers equal to
your tasks.

Phillips Brooks: *Going Up to Jerusalem*

Prayer crowns God with the honor and glory
due to His name, and God crowns prayer
with assurance and comfort. The most pray-
ing souls are the most assured souls.

Thomas Benton Brooks

God hears no more than the heart speaks;
and if the heart be dumb, God will certainly
be deaf.

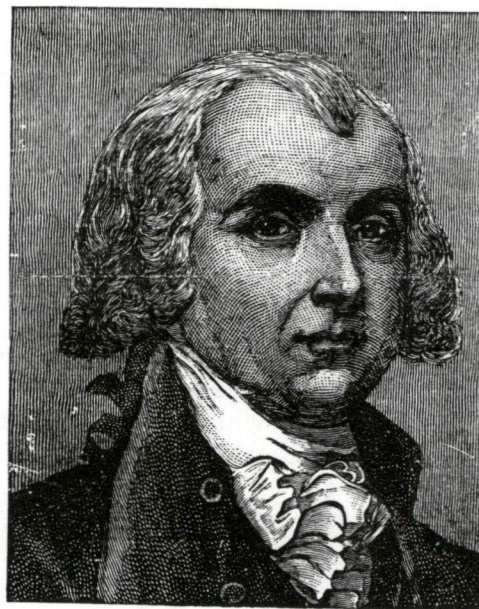
Thomas Benton Brooks

JAMES MADISON,

Fourth President of the United States. (1751-1836.)

AMONG his manuscripts are minute and elaborate

notes made by him on the Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles, which evince a close and discriminating study of the Sacred Writings. In one of these notes, referring to the Bereans as more noble than those of Thessalonica, he commends their conduct "as a noble example for all succeeding



Christians to imitate." In another place, speaking of the words of Jesus to Paul at his conversion, he says, "It is not the *talking* but the *walking* and *working* person that is the true Christian." Again, "Christ's Divinity appears by St. John, chapter xx, 2: 'And Thomas answered and said unto Him, my Lord and my God!' Resurrection testified to and witnessed by the Apostles, Acts iv, 33: 'And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.'"—Pages 33 and 34, Volume I, in "*Biography of James Madison*," by William C. Rives.

I have summoned you that you might see in what tranquillity a Christian can die.—*Joseph Addison.*

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development of the United States. One thinks of Dr. Daniel Hale Williams performing the first successful heart surgery and of George Washington Carver revolutionizing southern agriculture with his countless innovations.

There have been so many more. This month gives us all a chance to reflect on how much Afro-Americans have contributed, a chance to learn from the past in order to look confidently toward a new century, with a commitment to lasting harmony between the races and a bright future for Americans of every background.

Barbara joins me in commending all of you for your observance of Black History Month 1989, and in sending you our best wishes.

George Bush

Nomination of Kenneth Winston Starr To Be Solicitor General of the United States

February 1, 1989

The President today announced his intention to nominate Kenneth Winston Starr to be Solicitor General of the United States. He would succeed Charles Fried.

Since 1983 Judge Starr has been a judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. Prior to this he was Counselor to the Attorney General at the Department of Justice, 1981-1983. He was an associate partner with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in Washington, DC, 1977-1981, and a law clerk to Chief Justice Warren E. Burger of the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, DC, 1975-1977. From 1974 to 1975, Judge Starr was an associate with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in Los Angeles, CA.

Judge Starr graduated from George Washington University (B.A., 1968), Brown University (M.A., 1969), and Duke University (J.D., 1973). He was born July 21, 1946, in Vernon, TX. He is married and has two children.

White House Statement on John W. Vessey, Jr., Special Presidential Emissary to Hanoi for POW/MIA Affairs

February 1, 1989

The President has asked General John W. Vessey, Jr., USA, Ret., to continue in his role as Special Presidential Emissary to Hanoi for POW/MIA affairs. General Vessey has served in this capacity since being named to the position by President Reagan in February 1987.

Beginning with his initial visit to Hanoi in August 1987, General Vessey's efforts have resulted in substantial progress in resolving this pressing humanitarian issue and ending the uncertainty for the families of our missing in Southeast Asia. The President is pleased that General Vessey has agreed to continue to serve his country in this position of great importance to all of us.

Remarks at the Annual National Prayer Breakfast

February 2, 1989

My special thanks to Bob Stump and Doug Coe, to our honored guests throughout this country and from our foreign lands, and it is a pleasure for Barbara and me to be here once again.

There is no greater peace than that which comes from prayer and no greater fellowship than to join in prayer with others. And coming to the prayer breakfast is, for us at least, like coming home. The Lord works in mysterious ways. There is nothing mysterious, however, about His priorities. I'm the one with the laryngitis, and Sandy Patti is the one that lifted our spirits with that magnificent voice, clear as the finest crystal. We're grateful to her. And the Lord works in very mysterious ways, but I wonder why it is that under the protocol sense of things I always have to follow my friend Al Simpson. [Laughter]

Let us all thank the Lord for having granted us this day, making it possible for us to spend this time together. Billy Graham, my dear friend, tells me that when he was a boy living on a farm in North

Carolina one of his jobs was milking cows. And one day he was sent out to milk one of their cows named Brindle, a cow he'd never milked before. And he was told that it was a gentle cow, that it would be very cooperative. When he sat down on the stool to milk the cow, she switched her tail, slapped him in the face, nearly put his eye out, a few minutes later kicked the bucket all the way across the barn, and then tried to kick him. And at that point, he began to wonder if the person who described this kind and gentle cow had ever sat down next to her in the barn. [Laughter] And I've thought of that story in the light of my request for America to become a kinder and gentler nation. It's one thing to request it, and it's another thing to see it actually happen. And maybe a lot of folks out there, cynics, are thinking, Well, if you people in Washington will stop trying to milk us, we'll stop kicking. [Laughter]

But we're facing some serious opportunities and some great opportunities in our country—tough problems and great opportunities. And I believe that a wonderful resource in dealing with them is prayer—not just prayer for what we want but prayer for what is in the heart of God for us individually and as a nation. And shouldn't we also remember, with all that we have to be grateful for, to pause each day to offer a prayer of thanksgiving. All of us should not attempt to fulfill the responsibilities we now have without prayer and a strong faith in God. Abraham Lincoln said: "I've been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I have nowhere else to go." Surely he was not the first President, certainly not the last, to realize that.

It's not just Presidents. I heard about a little boy whose elderly grandmother came to live with them for the winter. And the first day the little boy played hard inside the house, and he wanted to turn the heat down. But grandmother insisted on keeping it high. And when he opened the windows, she closed them. And for several days it went on like this, up and down, back and forth, with the little boy too hot and the grandmother too cold. After about a week, the little boy knelt beside his bed one night

and prayed, "Lord, bless mother and daddy, and make it hot for grandmother." [Laughter]

Well, I suppose there may be some people in Washington, around the country, who have already begun to pray, "Make it hot for George." [Laughter] Those prayers will be answered over time. Be patient. [Laughter] But I can also tell you from my heart that I freely acknowledge my need to hear and to heed the voice of Almighty God. I began my Inaugural Address with a prayer out of a deep sense of need and desire of God's wisdom in the decisions we face. And if we're to walk together toward a more caring, more generous America, let us all share in paving the way with prayer.

Thank you all, and God bless you.

Note: The President spoke at 9:18 a.m. in the International Crystal Ballroom at the Washington Hilton Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Representative Bob Stump; Doug Coe, an associate of the National Prayer Breakfast Movement; gospel singer Sandy Patti; Senator Alan K. Simpson; and evangelist Billy Graham.

Remarks Following Discussions With Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita of Japan

February 2, 1989

The President. Mr. Prime Minister, ladies and gentlemen, let me begin by expressing once again on behalf of the American people the condolences on the passing of Emperor Showa, a most gentle man of great learning. And I look forward to calling on the new Emperor when I visit Japan later this month.

It has been a pleasure and honor for Barbara and me to welcome you, Mr. Prime Minister, Mr. Takeshita, to the White House. You are one of our first official visitors, and this reflects the importance I place on the relations between our two countries, the strength of our nations' ties, and the promise that our relationship holds for the future of the world.

Two weeks ago, here in Washington, the United States conducted a ritual that spoke of both continuity and change. For the 41st

ANYWAY

**People are unreasonable, illogical and self-centered.
Love them anyway.**

**If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.
Do good anyway.**

**If you are successful, you win false friends and true enemies.
Succeed anyway.**

**The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow.
Do good anyway.**

**Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable.
Be honest and frank anyway.**



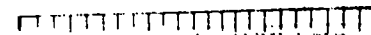
**People favor underdogs but follow only top dogs.
Fight for some underdogs anyway.**

**What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight.
Build anyway.**

**People really need help but may attack you if you help them.
Help people anyway.**

**Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth.
Give the world the best you've got "Anyway."**

"AS GOD HAS PROSPERED US..."



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

welcome - Pres.

opening prayer?

intro Sonny

Bible reading which?
verse?

song

discussion
leader

Henry Hyde

question

prayer