

REFLECTOR

VOL. 55, No. 5

“Holding Forth the Word of Life”

May 2009

Transforming America through Prayer

Dr. Kevin Meador

John Hancock, one of the founding fathers of America said, “Let us humbly commit our righteous cause to the great Lord of the Universe... Let us joyfully leave our concerns in the hands of Him who raises up and puts down empires and kingdoms of the earth as He pleases.”

On November 1, 1777, the United States Congress called for a National Day of Thanksgiving and Prayer for the victory at Saratoga during the Revolutionary War. During this day of prayer, Congress urged the people to ask “...Jesus Christ mercifully to forgive and blot out (our sins)” and “to prosper the means of religion for the promotion and enlargement of that Kingdom which consists of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.”

Three years later on October 18, 1780, Congress once again called for a Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving for the discovery of **Benedict Arnold’s** treason plot. Again the people were urged to ask God, “...to cause the knowledge of Christianity to spread over the whole earth”.

In 1787, the year the American Constitution was framed, Congress urged the people to thank God for providing us “the light of the Gospel truth ...” and to ask Him to “raise up from among our youth men eminent for virtue, learning, and piety, to His service in the church and State; to cause virtue and true religion to flourish;... and to fill the world with His glory.”

Congress renegotiated and ratified the Treaty of Tripoli in 1805 only after repudiating and deleting the phrase. “The United States is not, in any sense, founded on the Christian religion.”

In 1854, the House of Representatives passed a Resolution proclaiming “the great and vital element in our system is the belief of our people in the pure doctrines and divine truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Congress and President Ronald Reagan proclaimed 1984 as the “Year of the Bible.”

Why have a history lesson in a newsletter on prayer? These words remind us of the glorious past of our nation. It shows us that America sought God and God blessed the nation. God established and has sustained this nation. Yet, it also reveals how far we have strayed from God. It points out the spiritual and moral decay of our nation. It magnifies the disregard for God and His Word that fills our society.

As I read these things, my heart grieves. I love this nation. Much of what I see and hear in our nation shatters me. I have great concern for the future destiny of our nation.

Yet, as I read these words, hope fills my heart. My spirit grows resolute. God reigns on His throne! If we will seek Him, God will hear and God will touch and bless our nation afresh and anew. America can have spiritual awakening. America can turn back to God and His Word. Pray that this will happen soon.

Perspectives

No day starts well without its morning prayer. We need to get the touch of God's hand upon us to give us calmness and strength as we go forth into the day. An interesting example is the story of the healing of a sick woman: "He touched her hand, and the fever left her; and she arose, and ministered unto them" (When you and I have that cool, healing touch on our hands, before beginning our day's work, the fever will leave us too and we can then minister sweetly to others. The first touch in the morning should be Christ's touch. We need His healing before we are ready for any true serving.

In an ancient psalm, **Psalm 143:8-11**, there is a prayer that is most fitting for the morning of a busy day. It is not new, but human hearts do not change over the centuries; therefore this prayer, which no doubt brought blessing to the one who first offered it so long ago, may bring blessing into struggling lives these days. When we make this prayer our own, it will bring blessing and peace into our innermost being through even the most troubled and challenging day we ever face. There are six petitions in the prayer that you and I can make our own.

1. To hear God's voice first. "Cause me to hear Thy loving kindness in the morning; for in Thee do I trust." This is a prayer that the first voice to sound upon our ear at the opening of the day shall be the voice of God, speaking in love. We ought to try to see the Lord Jesus Christ's face before we look upon any human face, when we awake in the morning. **Professor Henry Drummond** said: "Five minutes spent in the companionship of Christ every morning, aye, two minutes, if it be face to face and heart to heart will change your whole day, will make every thought and feeling different, will enable you to do things for His sake that you would not have done for

your own sake, or for any one's sake."

At this point, it will be good to encourage you to **use the Bible in your devotions**. It is not enough to speak to God, telling him of our wants, our dangers, our sins, our troubles, and to plead with Him for help, for favor, for comfort. We **must** also **let God speak to us**, and we must be quiet that we may hear what He has to say. We must feed our souls on His Word. Reading His Word will start in our minds inspiring thoughts. It will start a song in our heart in the early morning that we will be singing until nightfall. Reading Scripture will bring a bit of Heaven into our life, to brighten it, and to become cheer, comfort, encouragement, and hope for us when cares and duties come upon us. In the Word, we will find a lesson to master for the day, set a standard before us toward which to strive, speak to us a word of counsel to make the way plainer for our feet, and become a lamp to shine on our path to show us how to walk.

Then it is sweet to **look** into Christ's face in the first waking moment, to **thank** Him for His love, to **receive** His smile of forgiveness and peace and His benediction for the day before us. It prepares us for duty and gives us courage. "They that wait upon the Lord will renew their strength" (**Isaiah 40:31**). After our time with God in the morning, we will be ready for things a day brings.

2. To know the way. "Cause me to know the way wherein I should walk" is the second petition. We cannot know the way ourselves. The path across one little day seems very short, but none of us can find it ourself. Each day is a hidden world to our eyes, as we enter it in the morning. We cannot see one step before us as we move into a day. We never know what a day will bring forth. It may have joys and blessings for us, or it may bring sorrows and trouble. **The day may bring tangles that our fingers cannot unravel.**

God alone knows all that is in the day for us. His eye sees ahead and He wants to be our guide. There is no promise given more often in the Bible than that of His divine guidance. We have it in the shepherd psalm, "He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness" (**Psalms 23**). Paths of righteousness are surely right paths, the best way for us.

God often reveals the right path through His Word. **The Bible is of use to us only when we read it and ponder its teachings, and set ourselves to obey it.** Sometimes He uses human voices to speak to us. Our wise, good and true, human friends are God's angels to us. Then, through the providence of circumstances, He leads us.

3. To be kept from evil. The third petition of this morning prayer is "Deliver me, O Lord, from mine enemies; I flee unto Thee to hide me." We can never know what evil is around us, so we need to put our frail lives into the hands of the mighty God for His protection. We are to cast our cares upon Him, the one who cares for us (**1 Peter 5:6-7**). We never know the perils before us, so we must ask God to keep us from harm and deliver us from evil.

4. To be taught to do God's will. The psalmist goes on to include in his morning prayer: "Teach me to do Thy will; for Thou art my God; Thy spirit is good, lead me in the land of uprightness." Knowing the way is not enough; we must also walk in it. When we ask God to show the way, we must ask Him then to teach us to go in the right path. It is not enough simply to know our duty, we must do it. Remember, there is a conflict within each of us between self, the flesh, and the Holy Spirit.

5. Life for the day. The fifth petition of this morning prayer is "Quicken me, O Lord, for Thy name's sake." We have no strength for the duties and challenges of a day. Life is too hard for us. Its burdens are heavier than we can bear. Its duties are too serious for our

unaided wisdom. Its sorrows would break us if no divine help or comfort comes. **We are not ready for the day until we have His divine quickening.** As you read and believe the Scriptures, there comes the blessing of strength and peace.

6. Deliverance from trouble. The last petition of this wonderful morning prayer is "In Thy righteousness bring my soul out of trouble." **We can never plan our life so as to miss trouble.** Sorrow is standing in the shadows and will sooner or later step out. There is much we learn when trouble comes. We learn that we are not sufficient within ourselves. We learn that God comes to our aid when we do not have the strength to help ourselves.

Dr. Arnold of Rugby used a daily prayer that you might make your own: "O Lord, I have a busy world around me; eye, ear, and thought will be needed for all my work to be done in this busy world. Now, ere I enter on it, I would commit eye and ear and thought to Thee. Do Thou bless them, and keep their work Thine, that as through Thy natural laws my heart beats, and my blood flows, without any thought of mine, so my spiritual life may hold on its course at these times when my mind cannot consciously turn to Thee to commit each particular thought to Thy service. Hear my prayer for my dear Redeemer's sake. Amen."

Yours in Calvary love,

J. Gordon Henry

An explanation

When I prepared copy for the April **Reflector**, I announced my intentions to share a nine-part series of articles entitled **PRAYING FOR AMERICA** written by **Dr. Kevin Meador**, Hickory, Mississippi. Developments since that time have caused me to change my mind. For several years, it has been apparent that our land is under serious attack. During the past few weeks, the attacks have intensified. In this issue, I am including a number of his insightful articles that could be incorporated into your praying for America immediately.

In speeches broadcast live throughout the Middle East by *Al Jazeera* and *Al Arabiya*, **President Barrack Obama** openly downplayed the terrorist threats that the United States has been facing since the infamous **9/11** open attack. Subsequently, a decision has been made to no longer use “terrorism” in our vocabulary. Has our president forgotten that Muslim nations persecute religious and other minorities? How many Muslim nations allow their women to vote and hold public office? Al Qaeda is not our only problem. Think about Hezbollah, Hamas, and Islamic Jihad. What about the madrasses and mosques all over the world, including Europe and even in the United States, that preach the jihadist philosophy telling Muslims that their duty to Allah requires them to kill the infidels (including Christians and Jews)? To downplay Islamic terrorism is irresponsible, confusing to Americans, and makes it more likely that there will be another **9/11** in our future.

The first Thursday in May has been proclaimed a National Day of Prayer. For eight years JGHM was the coordinator for Tennessee for this event. We organized prayer groups in each county, city, and town. It was a call to recognize God. We sponsored a Governor’s Prayer Breakfast as well. Now a group of atheists has brought suit against this federal law designating a National Day of Prayer. The cover story in the April 13th issue of **Newsweek** with headlines “The Decline and Fall of Christian America” and “The End of Christian America” should cause Americans to wake up to the reality that America needs our prayers. We are in trouble!

When **King Hezekiah** cried out to the Lord in the midst of serious attacks by Assyria, God assured him that Jerusalem would be safe. God Himself promised to protect them (**Isaiah 37:33**). We proclaim on our currency, ***In God We Trust*** and in our pledge of allegiance ***One nation under God***. **President Obama** also told the Muslim audience in Turkey, “We do not consider ourselves a Christian nation” contrary to the belief of 62% of the nation in a recent **Newsweek** poll. There is no doubt that America is a Judeo-Christian nation in the sense that we have been built on the values revealed in the Ten Commandments. America must choose the route that it is going to take. **PRAYING FOR AMERICA** is the proper response for Christians during these days of challenge.

Dr. Meador’s articles will guide you in praying for America by providing you with a variety of insights and prayer guides that you can use to intercede for our nation. These insights and guides can invigorate and renew your praying for the nation.

America needs intercessors — believers who will seek God for the nation.

Will you accept His call to stand in the Gap for our nation?

Will you make the commitment to pray regularly for the nation?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE TWELVE

planet. By seeking God for America, you call on the One who can bless, sustain and renew this nation. When you intercede for America, you seek the One who reigns over the nations. What an encouragement and challenge for us!

God's calling for the church provides encouragement to pray for America. God desires for the church to be a house of prayer. "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence" (1 Timothy 2:1-2) This verse reveals that **He has placed the church in the world to pray. God wants the church to intercede for all kinds of people with all kinds of needs.** God especially wants the church to stand in the gap for government leaders (2:2). This must also include the nation where those leaders govern. The church has the privilege and responsibility of praying for the nation. God desires that His church — every church in the nation — intercede for His work in and His blessings on America. This is His will for the church.

God has strategically placed you in this nation. You do not live in America by chance. God has put you here to pray for the nation. The Word of God says in **Jeremiah 29:7**, "And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace you will have peace." God told the captives to seek the peace of the place where He had put them; He wanted them to pray for that place. This principle applies to you. God has raised you up in America that you might pray for the nation. He has brought you up at this time that you might **stand in the gap for this country.** Remember you do not live in this



STANDING IN THE GAP

nation by coincidence; God has planted you here to bless and intercede for the country.

Intercession can deliver a nation. It can unleash God's blessings on the country. God reveals this in **Ezekiel 22**, "'So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. Therefore I have poured out my indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; and I have recompensed their deeds on their own heads,' says the Lord God" (**Ezekiel 22:30-31**). God declares that He would not have poured out His judgment on Judah if one person had stood in the gap for the nation. If only one person had prayed for the nation, God's judgment could have been averted. Do you see the power of intercession for a nation? **One person can make a difference!** Don't ever feel that your prayers for the nation have no value. God sees them as precious and uses them!

God's favor rests on the nation that seeks Him. The Word of God says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people He has chosen as His own inheritance" (**Psalms 33:13**). **When a nation seeks God, He will hear and respond.** He will act in behalf of a country the call on Him and puts their confidence in Him. As we seek God for the nation, we can experience

Tell others about the Prayer Seminar Ministry!

His favor. We can know the blessedness of trusting God for our nation.

Prayer enables us to exercise a righteous influence. God calls on His people to have this righteous influence, “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden” (**Matthew 5:13-14**). **Through prayer, you have limitless power to influence and bless this nation.** You may not ever get to Washington DC. Yet, when you get on your knees, we have more power than any politician or statesman to guide and transform this nation.

Praying for the Pastors of America

The pulpits of a nation have much influence in the direction of that nation. What flows from the pulpit will affect and shape the culture. For this reason, believers need to intercede for the pastors and evangelists of the nation. The following prayer guide can aid you in praying for the pastors and evangelists of this nation.

(1) Pray that the pastors of this nation will love God and His Word with all their beings (**Matthew 22:37**).

(2) Plead that the congregations of this nation will pray for, love, and support their pastors (**Hebrews 13:17**).

(3) Ask that the pastors of this nation will preach the Word of God with power and clarity (**2 Timothy 4:2**).

(4) Plead that the pastors of this nation will walk in holiness and integrity (**Psalms 101**).

(5) Plead that the pastors of this nation will not compromise the truth of worldly fame or finances (**2 Corinthians 4:5**).



**A LAMP
TO MY
FEET**

PSALM 119:105

NOTES from my BIBLE

Note 1106. When we walk by faith, rather than sight (**2 Cor. 5:7**), our lives are guided by the only One who sees, knows, and controls the future.

Note 1107. Compromise will dull the cutting edge of faith.

Note 1108. Faith is living without scheming.

Note 1109. God's sovereignty means that He has final say.

Note 1110. God's sovereignty means nothing takes God by surprise.

DOORKEEPER REPORT

“We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers.”

1 Thessalonians 1:2

March 6-April 20, 2009

Regular	58	\$3,550.00
Africa--2009	65	5,133.76
Total	123	\$8,683.76



THANKS, DOORKEEPERS!

(6) Ask God to unleash a spirit of prayer among the pastors of our country (**Galatians 4:6**).

(7) Plead that the pastors of this country will not lose heart; ask God to give them fresh strength and confidence (**2 Corinthians 4:1**).

(8) Ask God to unleash a spirit of revival in the churches of our land (**Psalms 86:6-7**).

PRAYER CALENDAR

MAY 2009

"I will give myself to prayer..."

Psalms 109:4b



FRIDAY, MAY 1

EZRA 1-3 (Cayman Isl 47,662)

Wayne & Edie Aardsma (IL)
Burnace Abrams (OH)
Marie Adams (VA)
Robert & Susanne Adams (TN)
Wayne & Jennie Agee (VA)
Norma Ailes (NJ)
Clyde & Kathryn Allen (VA)
Tommy & Pat Apple (NC)
Milcie Arnold (VA)

SATURDAY, MAY 2

EZRA 4-6 (Cen Africa Rep 4.4M)

Leonor Avila (MD)
Bill & Karen Baker (VA)
Carolyn Barkley (NY)
Stan & Emily Baskin (TN)
Carter Mylam Baynes (NC)
Jean Beasley (TN)
Tommy & Sue Bell (TN)
Wayne & Barbara Belt (TN)
Johnny & Juanita Bernard (FL)
Ron & Teri Bernardi (IL)

SUNDAY, MAY 3

Charles & Andrea Black (VA)
Ed & Loretta Bolen (VA)
Everett & Deborah Boston (MD)
Bob & Jewel Bouchard (KY)
William & Debbie Bowden (MD)
Curtis & Carol Bradbury (NJ)
Emilee & Kimberlee Bradshaw (VA)
Nancy Bretz (PA)
Clint & Dorothy Brooks (VA)

MONDAY, MAY 4

EZRA 7-8 (Chad 10.1M)
Henry & Ruby Brown (AZ)
Shirley Brown (VA)
Jack & Arretta Bruce (KY)
Joe & Martha Bruno (AL)
Freddie & Yvonne Brunson (DE)
Don & Gayle Buchanan (KY)
Janice Bugg (TN)

Ruby Burger (TN)
Sunday & Grace Bwanhot (IL)
Don & Lucy Campbell (VA)
Lew & Mary Campbell (ID)
Cliff & Laura Cannon (FL)

TUESDAY, MAY 5

EZRA 9-10 (Chile 16.5M)
Joreatha Capers (FL)
David & Martha Cecil (VA)
Mary Clarke (VA)
Harry & Nancy Coffee (VA)
Margarie Coffee (VA)
Jim & Kathy Connolly (VA)
Joe & Carol Coulter (VA)
Foster & Georgia Covington (VA)
Terry & Sonja Craig (TN)
Robert & Charlotte Crout (SC)
Dufrene Cummings (NC)
Bill & Beverly Curtis (PA)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

NEHEMIAH 1-2 (China 1.3B)

Lin & Barbara Custalow (VA)
Ida J. Davis (GA)
John & Margaret Davis (VA)
Mark & Charmaine Davis (VA)
Lelia Dean (FL)
Harold & Tama Decker (NY)
Nick & Wilma DeGroot (IL)
Delmarva Evangelistic Church (MD)
Ruth Chamberlain, Pastor
Alan & Rebecca Dockrey (KY)
Mary J. Dugans (LA)
Walt Edwards (NC)

THURSDAY, MAY 7

NEHEMIAH 3-4 (Christmas Isl 1,402)

Paul & Joyce Eggleston (VA)
Grace Eldridge (NJ)
Lynn Elkins (TN)
Evalena Enoch (VA)
Lynne Farrow (NJ)
Larry & Cara Fields (VA)
June Fisher (TN)
Josephine Fitzgerald (AL)
Makeva Flowers (VA)
Claire & Mary Ann Fredstrom (NE)
Ronald & Brenda Fristoe (VA)
Raymond & Estelle Gabbard (KY)

FRIDAY, MAY 8

NEHEMIAH 5-7 (Cocoa Isl 596)

Frank & Pauline Garrett (NJ)
Frank Geiger (HI)
Robert & Sara George (GA)
Frances Glass (AL)
Gloucester Co. Community Church
Bruce Sofia, Pastor (NJ)
Ronald & Maryann Gold (ND)
Odether Gray (GA)
Linda Gregory (NJ)
Charles M. Hale (VA)
Uel & Hazel Hartless (VA)

SATURDAY, MAY 9

NEHEMIAH 8-10 (Colombia 45M)

Jim & Joyce Hengood (FL/CT)
Bruce & Gina Henry (VA)
Doug Henry (TN)
J. Gordon & Sue Henry (VA)
Jacqueline Henry (VA)
Mark Henry (TN)
Melody Henry (VA)
Roger Henry (OH)
Sean Henry (VA/Iraq)
Susan & Jamey Henry (TN)
Wendy Henry & Caleb (OK)

SUNDAY, MAY 10

Jerry & Sandra Hodge (VA)
Joanna Holland (VA)
John & Glenda Holland (VA)
Jayson & Marylynn Hooker (VA)
Russ & Dorothy Hornbaker (MI)
Mike & Sonya Hosick (VA)
Sam & Linda Hough (VA)
Bonnie Houston (TN)
Coy Hunsucker (NC)
Joyce Hunt (TN)

MONDAY, MAY 11

NEH 11-13 (Congo D.R. 66.5M)

Wilbert & Almarett Hupp (PA)
Ed Hurlow (IN)
Oliver & Janie Jackson (NY)
Louis & May Jenkins (DC)
Vernelle Jenkins (MD)
Paul & Suzanne Jennings (TN)
Peter & Millicent John (NY)
Dan & Jayne Johnson (KY)
Gwendolyn Johnson (AZ)
Jim & Penny Johnson (KY)

TUESDAY, MAY 12

ESTHER 1-2 (Congo, Rep 3.9M)

Paul & Deanna Jones (KY)
W I & Eloise Jones (SC)
Mohan Katta (IL)
Howard & Suzie Kauffmann (GA)
Harper & Shelia Keebaugh (PA)
Joyce Kelley (OR)
Kerby Knob Baptist Church (KY)

Bruce Kirby, Pastor
Archie & Mary King (TN)
Robert & Andrea Klepper (TN)
Sherry Klutz (WA)

Quentin & Mary Knauer (OH)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

ESTHER 3-4 (Cook Isl 21,750)

Kenneth & Amy Kollar (NY)
Irwin & Joyce Koopman (MI)

Korean Branch:

Dr. Shin Kwang Suk
Joel & Jackie Kramar (VA)
David & Cathy Laing (FL)
Phil & Loetta Landers (OK)

THURSDAY, MAY 14

ESTHER 5-7 (Costa Rica 4.2M)

Charles & Cynthia Larson (MI)
 Bob Lawrence (MD)
 Raymond & Janet LeMay (VT)
 Mike & Earlene Lips (MS)
 Vincent & Mary Lobisco (MI/FL)
 Ray & Bobbie Long (WV)
 Brian & Stacey Loomis (VA)
FRIDAY, MAY 15
ESTHER 8-10 (Ivory Coast 18.4M)
 Kenneth & Debra Magee (SC)
 Manship Chapel (DE)
 Bud & Wilma Marcum (KY)
 Larry & Sue Mason (VA)
 Dan & Meribeth Martin (VA)
 Reginald & Gloria Martin (OH)
 Bill & Mirle Matheny (VA)
 Dan & Fay McConville (VA)
 Leonard & Martha Meador (VA)
 Murray & Loretta Mathis (TN)
SATURDAY, MAY 16
JOB 1-2 (Croatia 4.5M)
 Don & Barbara Meduna (CO)
 Mona Merry (SC)
 Memorial Christian Church (VA)
 Ken & Betsy Miedema (MI)
 Terry & Sandra Metzgar (VA)
 Lewis & Martha Miller (IN)
 Lowry & Marjorie Miller (VA)
 Mike & Cherylann Miller (CO)
 Earl & Marvel Mills (VA)
 French & Laura Moore (VA)
 Ronald & Wilma Moore (NC)
SUNDAY, MAY 17
 Katherine Morgan (VA)
 Chet & Betty Nichols (WA)
 Craton & Helen Noyes (KY)
 Ann Palumbo (NJ)
 Jim & Barb Peterson (MI)
 Willis & Joyce Pillow (VA)
 Luther & Leslie Poellnitz (MD)
 Ben Poplin (VA)
 Ayers Porter (TN)
 Marshall & Lois Powell (KY)
MONDAY, MAY 18
JOB 3-4 (Cuba 11.4M)
 Brandon Jeanne, Maggie Pribble (VA)
 Paul & Donna Quetsch (VA)
 James & Jeannette Ralph (VA)
 Mike & Joyce Riley (KY)
 Cynthia Roach (VA)
 Dudley & Isabel Robotham (NY)
 Clark & Marie Rogers (VA)
 Fred & Jeannette Rolater (TN)
 Bob & Shirley Rose (MI)
 David & Amy Ross (KY)
 Sandra Rumore (VA)
TUESDAY, MAY 19
Job 5-7 (Cyprus 792,604)
 Denise Russell (OR)
 John Saint (PA)
 Tyler & Rebecca Scarlett (VA)
 Gary & Sandy Schnittjer (PA)

Frank & Alta Schollaert (PA)
 Philip & Wendy Schrank (IL)
 John & Peggy Seibert (AL)
 Dennis & Monica Shannon (OH)
 Shenandoah Valley Baptist Ch (VA)
 Eric Farel, Pastor
WEDNESDAY, MAY 20
JOB 8-10 (Czech Rep 10.2M)
 Nellie F. Shepard (CT)
 Mary Siegner (VA)
 Sam & Lola Simpson (NY)
 His Highest Praise (HI)
 Lori Siri, Pastor
 Mary Skiles (KS)
THURSDAY, MAY 21
JOB 11-14 (Denmark 5.5M)
 Paul & Mary Smith (TX)
 Walt & Betty Sommers (VA)
 John & Helen Sourlis (MD)
 Leroy & Suk Hi Standifer (WA)
 Marion J. Stansell (TX)
 Tim & Pam Steger (ID)
FRIDAY, MAY 22
JOB 15-17 (Djibouti 506,221)
 Jerry & Reba Stinnett (VA)
 Charles & Irene Stinson (VA)
 Johnny & Rose M. Street (AR)
 Clarence & Roselin Stringfield (VA)
 Bob & Sandy Swain (VA)
 Tabernacle Baptist Church (DC)
 William Stroman, Pastor
SATURDAY, MAY 23
JOB 18-19 (Dominica 72,514)
 Taylor's Chapel Baptist Church (TN)
 Ron & Mazie Taylor (VA)
 Stephanie Taylor (GA)
 Temple of Praise (TX)
 Gilbert Perez, Pastor
 Earlene Thigpen (TN)
SUNDAY, MAY 24
 Mona Henry Thomas (VA)
 Mildred V. Thompson (GA)
 Paula Tipton (TN)
 Virginia Trask (VA)
 Carrol & Ouida Troutman (KY)
 Clay & Lisa Troutman (KY)
 Kelly & Janice Troutman (KY)
 Malcom Troutman (KY)
 Marshall & Mary Troutman (KY)
MONDAY, MAY 25
JOB 20-21 (Dominican Rep 9.5M)
 Tommy & Frances Turpin (VA)
 Sara Underwood (TN)
 Patrick & Patricia Vaden (TN)
 Harris & Jane Verkaik (MI/FL)
 George & Jeanette Vernarchik (NY)
 Sam & Rita Verghese (NJ)
 Doris Snyder Verrall (FL)
TUESDAY, MAY 26
JOB 22-24 (Ecuador 23.9M)
 Tommy Waddell (TN)
 Horace & Becky Ward (NC)

Michael & Sandra Ward (IN)
 Beau Ware (VA)
 Kay Warmerdam (TX)
 Don & Joyce Warpoole (TN)
 Rodger & Jean Watts (WI)
WEDNESDAY, MAY 27
JOB 25-28 (Egypt 51.7 M)
 Gale & Nancy Wetzel (KY)
 Allan & Judy Whitmore (VA)
 George & Virginia Whitner (FL)
 M/M Herbert Wice (TN)
 Paul & Diane Wieland (PA)
 Edward Williams (NC)
 Elijah Williams (NJ)
 Julie L. Wilson (PA)
 Neil & Melinda Wilson (VA)
THURSDAY, MAY 28
JOB 29-31 (El Salvador 7.1M)
 Tim & Merry Gregory (Thailand)
 Mulamba Placide Kituta (Congo)
 Stephen Latong (Nigeria)
 John & Egberta McSween
 (Trinidad)
 Leslie & Tabitha Motsalane (South Africa)
FRIDAY, MAY 29
JOB 32-34 (England 7.1M)
 Adam & Dianna Nathanson
 (Venezuela)
 Andrew J. Sakari (Kenya)
 Martin & Anne Shikuku (Kenya)
 Onesimus Sule (Nigeria)
SATURDAY, MAY 30
JOB 35-39 (Eq Guinea 616,459)
 Cliff & Marcia Vincent (Brazil)
 Silas & Alice Yashim (Nigeria)
 Roy & Eva Winebarger (VA)
 Dot Winfield (MD)
SUNDAY, MAY 31
JOB 40-42 (Eritrea 5M)
 The Word Church (NJ)
 Buz Offenbacker, Pastor
 Bert & Teresa Worley (VA)
 Greg & Lori Worley (GA)
 Lili Wykle (VA)
 Robin & Deborah Yohee (PA)



**PRESENTATION
 TRADITIONAL CONGO GIFT
 A ROOSTER**

Praying the Ten Commandments for America

Dr. Kevin Meador

What does God require of America? It is obedience to His revealed will. God has made His will known in the Ten Commandments. He shows us how to relate to Him and to each other in these commands. For this reason, it serves as a rich resource of praying for the nation. **Read the Ten Commandments asking God to give you insight on how to pray for the nation.** Yield yourself to the leading of the Spirit as you read. You can use the following prayers in your **praying for the nation**. You can also adapt them or put your own together. God desires obedience from America. Because of this, we need to make this a part of our praying for America.

The First Commandment No other gods before the one true God (Exodus 20:3). O God, I plead in the name of Jesus that America will turn to You and worship You alone. I pray that America will love You and worship You above everything else. Forgive us placing other things above You. Have mercy on us; our sin of having other gods displeases and grieves You. Turn us to Yourself that we might serve, worship, and love You as our God.

The Second Command No graven images (Exodus 20:4-6). O God, forgive this nation of its ignorance of You. Forgive us of our lack of knowledge of You as You have revealed Yourself in the Word. Fill this nation with a hunger and thirst for You. O God, teach us Your character and Your ways. I ask that this nation will forsake all other gods and will turn to You, the living and true God, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Third Commandment Do not take God's name in vain (Exodus 20:7). O God, forgive this nation of its irreverence. I pray that we will not take You or Your Word lightly.

I plead that You will fill this nation with a holy reverence for You, Your Word, Your church, and Your pastors. Forgive us of our hypocrisy. I ask that our lives will back up our profession of You as our God, Father, and Refuge. I pray that America will reverence, exalt, and cherish You and all those things by which You make Yourself known — the Word, the church, and its spiritual leaders.

The Fourth Commandment Honoring the Lord's Day (Exodus 20:8-11). O God, I ask that we will worship and honor You on the Lord's Day. Forgive us for our neglect and disregard of this day. I plead that we will spend the day in public and private worship of You. Enable us to use this day to show mercy and to bless others. I pray that this nation will set this day apart to honor You, seek You, and bless You with all our beings.

The Fifth Commandment Honor your father and mother (Exodus 20:12). O God, I pray that You will unleash Your blessing on the families of this nation. I ask that children will honor their parents. Grant them the power to cherish, bless, and submit to their parents. Cause the children of this nation to honor their parents as long as they live. Grant Your strength and grace to fathers and mothers throughout this nation. Help them raise their children in a wise and godly way.

The Sixth Commandment Do not kill (Exodus 20:13). O God, have mercy on America. I plead for You to fill our nation with a renewed commitment to the sanctity of life. Cause us to honor and respect each other as people made in the image of God. Forgive this nation of the abomination of abortion. I ask You to root this evil out of our land. Bring it to an end, O God, the Giver of life.

The Seventh Commandment Do not commit adultery (Exodus 20:14). O God, have mercy on America. I pray for the destruction of the immoral spirit that pervades our land. I call on You for the obliteration of pornography from our society. Forgive us for giving ourselves over to sexual sin in all forms. I plead that America will seek for sexual purity. I ask that the people of this nation will strive for purity in their thoughts, words, and actions. Deliver and protect marriages from the spirit of adultery that has gained a foothold in our society.

The Eight Commandment Do not steal (Exodus 20:15). Holy Father, have mercy on America. I plead that You will forgive us of our greed and pleasure seeking. I plead for the annihilation of the spirit of greed that fills this nation. I call on You to unleash a spirit of compassion and ministry in this nation. Stir us to help one another. Touch us that we might seek to bless others. I plead that the companies and businesses of this nation will do what is right in Your sight. I pray that employees of the companies and businesses will work diligently and give their best. I ask for this that You might unleash economic blessing on

this nation unprecedented blessing because of obedience to Your commands.

The Ninth Commandment Do not give false testimony (Exodus 20:16). Father, I plead that this nation will love the truth and will seek after what is true. I ask that this nation will maintain and promote what is true. Destroy the ungodly concept of relative truth that fills this land. I pray that America will believe the truth, speak the truth, and live the truth. Cause us to love the truth of Your Word. Let it become our meditation all the day and all the night

The Tenth Commandment Do not covet (Exodus 20:17). Father, have mercy on America. Deliver us from the spirit of covetousness that grips our nation. Set us free from the need to have increasingly more. O God, grant us the power and grace for contentment with what You provide. I plead that we will acknowledge You as our good and gracious Provider. Enable us to rejoice in You and Your blessings. Forgive us for taking for granted that You are our wise and faithful Provider. Unleash a spirit of giving in this nation that will enrich Your church and advance Your kingdom.

**Fifty-eighth Annual Observance
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
Thursday, May 7, 2009
PRAYER . . . AMERICA'S HOPE**

TAKE FIVE MINUTES AT NOON TO PRAY FOR AMERICA!

Father in Heaven, we lift our eyes toward Your Throne, where You reign in righteousness. Your Word assures us that when Your people cry out in sincerity and humility, You will never turn a deaf ear to us. We call upon You now, seeking Your forgiveness and favor. Look over this fevered landscape and heal us, Lord. Drop knees to the floor and raise eyes to the sky, for we know where our help comes from. Unite these States again in devotion to You, and blur every dividing line. Do not give us over to our sins. Give us, instead, over to passionate prayer that moves Your heart. "May Your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord, even as we put our hope in You" (Psalm 33:22). In the Name of our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Beth Moore, Honorary Chairman

VENTURE OF FAITH REPORT

March 12 April 1, 2009

Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo



WELCOME RECEPTION--KENYA AIRPORT

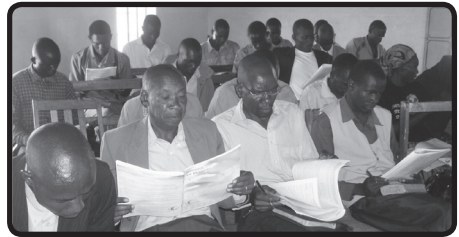
After three intensive weeks on the road, I am glad to be home and settled back into the routines of daily ministry. There was abundant evidence of the Lord's presence and provision each step of the way. From the time I left home in Lynchburg until I returned, I traveled 23,769 miles (1,220 ground). There were twelve prayer seminars and I preached in one Sunday morning service with 700 present from ten churches. That service began at 7:30 a.m. with a baptismal service for twenty-five new believers; it ended after 3 p.m., the longest service that I have ever attended. When I gave an invitation at the end of my message, several hundred "repented" and a large number trusted Christ as Savior. The presence of the Holy Spirit was vividly real as lives were drawn to higher ground.

Seminars began at 9 a.m. and ended at 4 p.m. We gave each participant a prayer seminar workbook and a pen. Although **3,307 registered for the seminars, all 3,400 Swahili workbooks were used**. With the 700 in the preaching service, the **total attendance came to 4,007**. We fed all of them a meal of beans, rice, and a drink. The interpretation was in seven languages: Swahili, Adhola, Basoga, Luganda, Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, and Kimbembe. There were 444 pastors in attendance and 187 churches represented. There were 220 professions of faith; hundreds of Christians "repented."

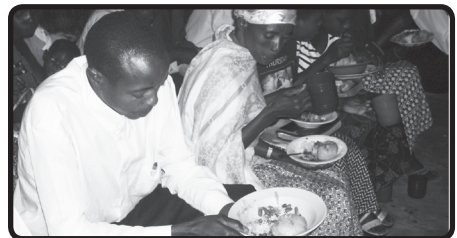
Financial Report. The budget was set at

\$14,980. One-hundred forty-two contributed \$14,913.64—\$66.36 short of the budget. Expenditures totaled \$16,222.64 (\$1,309.00 over income). Since we provided for over four thousand and there was much travel required, the cost exceeded the budget that we had established. We rejoice in the excellent support given to allow the seminars in five nations.

Again, **thank you for your partnership in the prayer seminar ministry**. Since Uganda, Rwanda, and Burundi were new nations for us, you have now helped us provide prayer seminars in fifty-three nations. Pray for wise use of our time as we go forward in other **ventures of faith**.



444 PASTORS TAUGHT



4,007 FED: RICE, BEANS, DRINK



4,007 PLUS HUNDREDS OF CHILDREN

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TEACHING IN THREE LANGUAGES
USING TWO INTERPRETERS



KENYA, UGANDA, RWANDA, BURUNDI,
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
VENTURE OF FAITH REPORT
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TOTAL ATTENDANCE 4,007
(444 PASTORS FROM 187 CHURCHES)
220 TRUSTED CHRIST, HUNDREDS" REPENTED"

Why pray for America?

Dr. Kevin Meador

People frequently ask me if praying for the nation makes any difference. They wonder if their intercession for America actually has any impact. Your prayers for America do matter. God uses your intercession for this nation. He responds when you cry out to Him about this land. How can we know this with certainty? The Word of God gives us some reasons why we can trust that God will hear and use our intercession for the nation.

The first reason is that ***God is the ruler of the nations***. God reigns over all nations. He is the One who raises nations up and puts them down. He sustains and blesses nations. When you pray, you seek the God who is Lord of every nation and people group in the world. The Word of God says:

"Behold the nations are a drop in the bucket, and are counted as small dust on the scales; look, He lifts up the isles as a very little thing" (**Isaiah 40:15**).

"All nations before Him are as nothing, And they are counted by Him less than nothing and worthless" (**Isaiah 40:17**).

"All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and *among* the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, 'What have you done?'" (**Daniel 4:35**).

"The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the people of no effect" (**Psalms 33:10**).

"Whatever the Lord pleases He does, in heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deep places" (**Psalms 135:6**).

Our God is the sovereign Lord over the nations of the world! He alone can bless, sustain, awaken, stir, judge, or destroy any nation on this

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