

Montgomery County Eagle Forum (MCEF)  
National Day of Prayer – March 4, 2023  
Prayer for Our Churches & Pastors  
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Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the head of the Church and we as Christian believers are the body of His church. *Colossians 1:15-18* “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church...” In Matthew 16:18 Jesus further states “And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build My church and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”



- 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment – **Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;** or abridging the freedom of speech; or of the press; or the right of the people to assemble; and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.
- 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment – The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are **reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.**

God describes how we are to relate to authority in Roman 13:1 *“Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.”* The Bible teaches that we are to obey the governing authorities. It **does not teach** that we should ignore, accept, and embrace evil or that we should not use all **legal means possible** to resist and oppose evil. When the Jewish religious authorities ordered Peter and John to stop preaching about Jesus’s resurrection Peter replied in Acts 5:29 *“...We ought to obey God rather than men.”* James 4:7 *“Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”* God and the Word of God are the ultimate authorities and must be obeyed above all other authority.

America was founded on a constitution that outlines personal freedoms based on biblical Judeo-Christian values and a system of checks and balances that limited the power of government. The concept of the separation of church and state is not spelled out in the Constitution or in the Declaration of independence. It is implied by the first Amendment of the United States Constitutions which basically says congress will make no law establishing a **state religion** and congress will make no laws against the free exercise of religion



- 1962 – Engel vs Vitale removed prayer from school
- 1970 – California first state to pass no fault divorce (1 in 17 marriages end in divorce)
- 1973 – Roe vs Wade made abortion the law of the land. (70 million babies murdered)
- 1985 - Breen vs Runkel disallowed teachers from praying or reading the bible in class
- 2003 - Lawrence vs Texas legalized homosexuality
- 2010 - New York last state to pass no fault divorce (now 1 in 2 marriages end in divorce)
- 2013 – United States vs Windsor struck down Defense of Marriage act.
- 2015 – Obergefell vs Hodges struck down definition of Marriage between a man and woman
- 2015 - McCreary County vs ACLU remove 10 Commandments from federal buildings
- 2020 - COVID restricts and locks down churches, but allows liquor stores and retailers to stay open
- Jan 6, 2021 – Constitutional rights of January 6<sup>th</sup> election protestors suspended
- Feb 17, 2023 – first After School Satan Club meets in primary school in Virginia
- May 1, 2023 – Federal court rules Saucon Valley School District, must allow After School Satan Clubs to meet in school facilities

Above is a slide of Supreme Court decisions and events that have taken place in the United States since 1962 when prayer was removed from schools. Ask yourself how does this stack up against “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof”?

We are in a spiritual war with demonic forces of evil, Ephesian 6:12 *“for we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.”* When the spiritual leadership of a nation fails to resist evil the nation cannot help but become corrupt. We are seeing this play out today in American as the church has stood by idly for 60 years as demonic forces-built strongholds in every corner of our society; in our schools, our universities, media, big tech, entertainment, sports, business, executive, legislative and judicial branches of local, state, and federal government. When the church fails to resist evil or compromises the Word of God it results in moral and political corruption and decay of the nation.

Based on Jesus’s statements in Revelation chapters 2 & 3 many American churches are at risk of losing their platforms forever. Jesus warns the compromised, corrupt, dead, and loveless churches that if they did not repent that he would come quickly and remove their lampstand. To the lukewarm church which accounts for most of America’s churches Jesus says that because you are neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of My mouth. The church is God’s preeminent institution for fighting the spiritual forces of evil in this world. It needs to take heed of Jesus’ warnings in Revelation, awaken from its slumber, resist evil, and fearlessly fight the spiritual forces of evil based on the Word of God.

### **Let’s pray for our churches and pastors**

Lord in Isaiah 55: 10-11 you say *“For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, So shall My Word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the things for which I sent it.”*

James 4:3 says, *“You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.”* Lord, we come before you and ask You to send forth Your word from Your mouth that America would have a great awakening, a great revival like none seen before, and that your church in America would wake from its slumber and take its rightful role in leading the war against the spiritual forces of darkness that have engulfed our nation. Lord, we ask that you send forth Your

Word to destroy the demonic strongholds that have gripped this nation. Lord, we ask you to protect our future generations that they might grow up knowing, believing, and obeying your Word. That they would prosper in a Godly culture surrounded by Godly peer pressure from a revived America. Lord, we ask that we put away our idols of wealth, greed, fornication, and illicit pleasure and follow you with all our hearts, minds, souls, and strength. Lord, we ask you to raise up church leaders that are obedient to Your Word that equip and lead their congregations in this spiritual war. Lord place Isaiah 41:10 in the hearts and minds of our pastors, elders, and deacons. *“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.”* Lord fill our churches with 2 Chronical 7:14 members so that we might take this nation back from the spiritual forces of evil. *“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.* Lord, we lift up the American church and pray that it would take its rightful position in fighting against the evil and corruption that permeates our society. We pray that the Word of God and the church would once again become the moral compass of America.

Lord, we pray that you would raise up watchmen for every one of the churches attended by individuals in this room. Men and women who would sound the alarm and warn their church’s leadership that we must take back our immoral and depraved culture from demonic forces of evil and the church **must engage** in this war if we are to take back America and once again be known as a Christian nation. Lord raise up men and women who understand we cannot cede Satanic strongholds in every corner of our society and expect that our next generation will grow up knowing and following Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Lord, we ask that your spirit stirs in the hearts of men and women in this room to make a commitment before You and the Holy Spirit to become watchmen for their church.

Lord, let us all ask, is my church actively engaged in this spiritual war? Does my paster preach about the social issues of the day, abortion, homosexuality, pornography, fornication, greed, adultery, transgender? Does my pastor sound the alarm about boys in girl’s bathrooms or boys competing in girls’ sports? Does my church have an effective get out the vote program? Does my church have a faith vote organization? Does my church distribute and encourage voting based on Christian values and God’s Word? Does my church give a platform to Godly Christian candidates running for local, state, and national elections? Does my church oppose political platforms that go against the Word of God? If your

answer to many of these questions is no, then we are asking you to make a commitment to become watchmen for your church. To sound the alarm by confronting your pastors and church leadership on the need for your church to become more involved in this spiritual battle against the demonic forces of evil that are controlling our culture.

Would everyone bow their head and close their eyes.

Heavenly Father we ask that your spirit moves in the hearts and minds of many individuals in this room. That many would commit to being your watchmen in their church. That they would commit to sounding the alarm and speak with their pastors and church leadership on the need to be more actively involved in building and maintaining a God-fearing culture.

If you will make that commitment to being a watchman for your church to speak with your pastors and elders about being more actively opposed to the evil that engulfs our culture, please look up and raise your hand until we can acknowledge your commitment.

If there is anyone else who feels led to make this commitment, please look up and raise your hand until we can acknowledge your commitment.

If you are in a church that already supports getting out the vote based on the Word of God, distributes Christian voter guides, or has a faiths vote team, whose pastor preaches on the social issues of our time, that endorses God fearing school board members and local election officials, then we are asking you to be watchmen committed to thanking, encouraging and supporting your pastors and church leadership for being faithful stewards trying to build a society where the next generation can grow up and thrive on the Word of God. If you would make that commitment to encourage, thank and support your pastors and church leadership look up and raise your hand until we can acknowledge you.

Lord thank you for these men and women who committed to being your watchmen for their church. Be with them Lord, strengthen them, strengthen their churches, strengthen their pastors and their church leadership. Open the eyes and hearts of their congregation and build an army of Ephesian 6 warriors in their church that stand where You place them, Lord. We ask these things in Jesus' name.

Amen