

A CALL TO PRAYER FOR AMERICA

*T*HROUGHOUT THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES, ITS CITIZENS AND INHABITANTS HAVE DRAWN STRENGTH, HOPE, AND GUIDANCE FROM PRAYER. FROM THE VERY FIRST CONTINENTAL CONGRESS THROUGH EVERY FORM OF ADVERSITY AND BLESSING, AMERICANS HAVE FALLEN TO THEIR KNEES AND IMPLORED GOD ALMIGHTY TO PROTECT THEIR FAMILIES AND TO HEAL THEIR LAND.

THE FREEDOM UPON WHICH AMERICA IS FOUNDED AFFORDS THE RIGHT TO ANY INDIVIDUAL TO DECLINE TO PRAY IF HE OR SHE SO DESIRES. HOWEVER, THAT SAME FREEDOM ALLOWS THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF PRAYER TO UTILIZE THAT GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO ASK GOD TO BLESS AND SUSTAIN OUR NATION.

THAT FREEDOM IS NOT DIMINISHED MERELY BECAUSE ONE IS ELECTED TO PUBLIC OFFICE. QUITE THE CONTRARY, THE CLOAK OF AUTHORITY PLACED UPON THE SHOULDERS OF A PUBLIC SERVANT SHOULD BE AN INSPIRATION FOR THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF PRAYER TO USE THAT GREAT POWER TO ASK GOD TO BLESS AND SUSTAIN THE NATION THEY LOVE AND SERVE.

CENTURIES AGO, THE BIBLE RECORDS IN 2 CHRONICLES 7:14 THAT GOD TOLD KING SOLOMON:

"If my people who are called by my Name humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

IN EARLY 2005, A SMALL GROUP OF MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BEGAN MEETING IN ROOM 219 OF THE U.S. CAPITOL TO PRAY FOR OUR NATION. THE LOCATION WAS NOT IMPORTANT, NOR WERE THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO GATHERED THERE TO PRAY. THE GRAVITY OF THEIR MEETING WAS DERIVED FROM THE HUMBLE SINCERITY OF THEIR BELIEF THAT GOD COULD HEAL AMERICA.

SOON THEREAFTER, THESE MEMBERS FORMED THE CONGRESSIONAL PRAYER CAUCUS TO VIGILANTLY WATCH AND TO PROTECT THE RIGHT OF INDIVIDUALS IN AMERICA TO PRAY. THEIR VISION FOR THE CAUCUS INSPIRED THEM TO FORM THE CONGRESSIONAL PRAYER CAUCUS FOUNDATION, INC. WHICH IS A NON-PARTISAN, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DESIGNED TO SUPPORT THE CALL OF AMERICA BACK TO PRAYER.

AS OTHER AMERICANS LEARNED ABOUT WHAT WAS GOING ON IN ROOM 219, THEY BEGAN TO JOIN THE MEMBERS IN PRAYER. ACROSS THE COUNTRY, CHURCHES AND FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES UNITED WITH THEIR LEADERS TO FORM LOCAL 219 GROUPS. INDIVIDUALS MADE PERSONAL COMMITMENTS TO PRAY FOR DESIGNATED FIVE-MINUTE INCREMENTS WHICH SERVED AS THE FOUNDATIONAL SPIRITUAL BRICKS TO ENSURE ROUND-THE-CLOCK PRAYER FOR THE NATION. AS THE NUMBERS GREW, THESE SPIRITUAL BRICKS BEGAN TO FORM A WALL OF PRAYER AROUND AMERICA.

AS THIS RESPONSE CONTINUES, IT BECOMES MORE AND MORE EVIDENT HOW IMPORTANT PRAYER IS TO OUR NATION. WE REALIZE THE NEED TO CALL AMERICA BACK TO PRAYER, NOT FOR A SINGLE DAY OR A SINGLE MONTH, BUT TO PRAY "WITHOUT CEASING." ACCORDINGLY, THIS DAY WE RESPECTFULLY AND HUMBLY ISSUE THIS "CALL TO PRAYER FOR AMERICA" AND INVITE YOU TO JOIN US BY BECOMING A 219 PRAYER MEMBER OR BY FORMING A 219 GROUP IN YOUR COMMUNITY OR WITH YOUR FAMILY. ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL PRAYER CAUCUS FOUNDATION, INC., WE ASK YOU TO PETITION GOD FOR THE CONTINUED BLESSING OF THIS COUNTRY AND THE FREEDOM FOR WHICH IT STANDS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS AND FOR STANDING WITH US. IT IS OUR SINCERE BELIEF THAT GOD WILL HEAR THE PRAYERS OF HIS PEOPLE AND HEAL THIS LAND. MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND MAY HE CONTINUE TO BLESS AND SUSTAIN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

*W*ITNESS THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURES OF MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AS OF THE 18TH DAY OF NOVEMBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 2005.

<i>Randy Forbes</i>	<i>Jeff A. Jamin</i>	<i>Strom Thurmond</i>
<i>John R. Carter</i>	<i>Jeff Miller</i>	<i>Jim Eym</i>
<i>Robin Hayes</i>	<i>Andrius Cenaslav</i>	<i>Tom Coburn</i>
<i>John Davis</i>	<i>Candace Myer</i>	<i>Robert B. Anderson</i>
<i>Barbara Culkin</i>	<i>Marilyn Musgrave</i>	<i>John Boozman</i>
<i>Katherine Harris</i>	<i>Mike McIntyre</i>	<i>K. J. Hyatt</i>
<i>Joseph R. Pitts</i>	<i>Stik Peris</i>	<i>Walter B. Jones</i>
	<i>Tom Davis</i>	