



# Prayergram<sup>®</sup>



Challenging Christians to Pray — February/March, 2014

## The Rise and Fall of a Democracy



This progression and decline has happened to every democracy known to man. It would be foolish to think America will be different while we have been able to witness that America is in the last phases of the above mentioned quote. The martyred Christian Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote many years ago, "The Western world is eager to repudiate her Christian heritage." Is it any wonder that we are in the midst of a moral and social calamity? Morality and decency are quintessential to the survival of any civilization. British historian Arnold Toynbee says that "Western civilization rests

upon the foundation of Christianity." Americans should be proud of their Judeo-Christian heritage, not be embarrassed about it. Now in the name of prosperity, technology and secularism, we are eager to throw away the mantle of decency, faith and humility that made America the greatest nation on earth. America is drifting away from God, and cozying up to secularism. *Newsweek* magazine had this to say in one of its covers: "The American century is over; the world order is changing." Bishop Lesslie Newbigin has this to say: "Today's society is not secular but pagan."

Secularism leads to paganism; pagans do not believe in morals. America is adopting religious pluralism. She is becoming increasingly atheistic. Biblical morality, puritan ethics and faith are being undermined, and Christians are placed on the defensive all the time.

Secularism is on the rise in America today because many who were brought up supposedly in Christian homes have abandoned their faith, lost all hope and never saw the day-to-day practice of the Christian virtue and faith in their homes, and consequently caught in the trap of atheism. It is a disease that we catch by weird amalgamation of various cultures and beliefs. No Christian can take his/her faith lightly, and every Christian is needed in this crusade for the souls of men that Christ died for. It is no longer possible to be an uninformed Christian. This is the

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time to draw the line in the sand, to choose sides and show our true Christian character. Satan is very busy attempting to butcher Christianity into pieces, then to eat it at his leisure. Let us never forget that in Christ we have an anchor that can withstand against any recrimination from the enemy, and the only necessity is for Christians to be Christian in word as well as in deed.

It has been said that a nation rises and falls on its leadership. The Roman Empire that once stretched from England to India was destroyed, not by outside invaders, but from moral decay within its people. Today, America stands on the precipice of a moral and economical collapse.

God is never surprised at anything we do; we are surprised and perplexed, but not God. He needs no shock treatment. Many

today boast about the indispensability of their existence, not realizing the brevity of human life. Charles Deguald was profound when he said,

*"The grave-yard is full of indispensable men and women."*

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The words of Aristotle come to mind,

*"The basis of democracy is liberty; that government is the servant of man, and not man the servant of government."* Abraham Lincoln, our sixteenth President, called the Word *"the best gift God has ever given to man."* Andrew Jackson, America's seventh President, referred to the Bible as *"the rock on which our Republic rests."* He read from the Word daily—at least three to five chapters. Herbert Hoover, thirty-first President, said: *"The whole of the inspirations of our civilization springs from the teachings of Christ and the lessons of the prophets. To read the Bible for these fundamentals is a necessity of American life."*

Our fortieth President, Ronald Reagan, was profound when he said, *"When a nation ceases to be a nation under God; it will be a nation gone under."* Make no mistakes that the Bible has been one of the greatest influences in America's best-known, and most courageous leaders.

As a child of God, no matter what trials you may endure or what political party is in control, God is the indisputable preserver of life, liberty, truth, justice and mercy and compassion. Are

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we not always in His providence and under His matchless care? An aged Christian when asked if he ever feared death replied, “Yes, I sometimes tremble on the Rock, but the Rock never trembles under me.” Courage is the decision to put our faith above our fears. Do not give into unfounded fears. Never inspire fear; always inspire faith, hope and charity. “God begs you to leave the future to Him, and mind the present.” (George MacDonald) The God who heard the prayers of our godly predecessors will hear us as we call upon Him in true repentance and contrition. We are not to sanitize the culture; but to Christianize it. Our culture is badly wounded. We must rebuild it for the sake of next generation and the generations to come. Now is the time to “kneel in triumph” and voice our prayers in defiance of the enemy. May we travail until we prevail!

May we give adherence to the profound words of General Omar Bradley, one of America’s five-star generals, “We have become a nation of nuclear giants and moral infants. We have learned to develop the power of the atom, but refused to accept the Sermon on the Mount.” Can America survive as a viable and free nation without the

*May we give adherence to the profound words of General Omar Bradley, one of America’s five-star generals, “We have become a nation of nuclear giants and moral infants. We have learned to develop the power of the atom, but refused to accept the Sermon on the Mount.” Can America survive as a viable and free nation without the Judeo-Christian precepts? May God protect our beloved land from Satan’s plots! May she have the courage to return to the God of her fathers and walk humbly with her God and follow Him till the end! I believe America’s finest hour is yet to come, if she repents and returns at once to the God of her fathers. Let’s not give any credence to our negative circumstances!*

Judeo-Christian precepts? May God protect our beloved land from Satan’s plots! May she have the courage to return to the God of her fathers and walk humbly with her God and follow Him till the end! I believe America’s finest hour is yet to come, if she repents and returns at once to the God of her fathers. Let’s not give any credence to our negative circumstances!

As a servant of Jehovah God, I am not conceding defeat to anyone. “O where are kings and empires now of old that went and came? But, Lord, Thy Church is praying yet, a thousand years the same.” God is ahead of every age, calling mankind to hear His Word and turn from the temporal to the eternal, from the changing to the changeless. His voice is being thundered across the world confronting man with a divine challenge and calling him to take up the Cross and follow Him. Rise up, O, my fellow Americans! Let our song of victory be that grand old song of hymn writer, Isaac Watts:

“When mountain walls confront thy way,  
Why sit and weep? Arise and say,  
Be thou removed, and they shall be,  
By power of God cast in the sea ”

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*“Blessed is the Nation whose God is the Lord.” (Ps. 33:12)*

## SPEAKING PRAYERFULLY

by Matthew Skariah

As preachers, we all aspire to have power in our pulpit ministry, but leave out the most essential fact which is the ‘anointing/unction of the Holy Spirit’ through personal communion with God. Today some say, “Follow me on twitter,” but Jesus says, “Follow me to Gethsemane.” Interesting, isn’t it? Beloved, the best sermons are not made in the pastor’s study; they are made in his prayer closet. The immortal words of Sadhu Sundar Singh come to mind, “The feet of my Lord Jesus Christ is the greatest theological seminary in the world.”





Matthew Skariah



Revival with  
Larry Sauvageot  
and Matthew Skariah

**March 21-27**

**Friendship Baptist Church**

Highland, Arkansas

Mike Stanley, Pastor

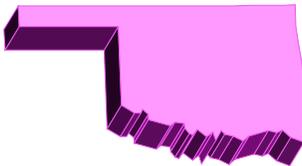
Prayer Conference

**March 28-29**

**East Indian Fellowship  
of Northwest Arkansas**

Rogers, Arkansas

Moderator: Samuel Thamburaj



**March 30**

Sunday Morning/Evening

**Cornerstone Baptist Church**

Westville, Oklahoma

Billy Craig, Pastor

## The Confession of a Busy Christian

By Matthew Skariah

### Lord, please excuse me!

**L**ord, please excuse me, I must be going. My favorite TV show is about to start. I will talk to you next time when I have a need. I hope you understand my need for a little entertainment. By the way, if it makes any difference, I am a member of a local church and once in a great while, I attend a prayer meeting and Bible study session. After all, Lord, you can't expect me to pray all the time. I have other responsibilities, and I am under a lot of stress lately. Again, nothing personal, Lord! It is just the way things are and I am a casualty of the culture in which I live. I will be calling on you when something unexpected happens and need your help.

Dear friend, we should never look upon prayer as drudgery or a duty or a morbid experience, but a delightful and heart-warming exercise that transcends all other spiritual exercises. Visit the grand-galleries of the celestial city as often as you can. Believe me; you'll come away with the stunning discovery of the magnificent and life-changing power of God. Beloved, don't be hardened by philosophical, technocratic, and religious smoke-screens! Sad to say, to many, God has become a fixer-upper, and a blessing machine, nothing more and nothing less!

We expect the Lord to be faithful to us; but doesn't it take the same commitment on our part to be faithful to Him? Think about it, dear ones!

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### Voice from the Past

**N**o amount of money, genius, or culture can move things for God. Holiness energizing the soul, the whole man aflame with love, with desire for more faith, more prayer, more zeal, more consecration—this is the secret of power. God's advance has been stayed. His cause crippled, His name dishonored for their lack. Genius, education, position, dignity, place, honored names, cannot move this chariot of our God. It is a fiery one, and fiery forces only can move it.

The genius of Milton fails. The imperial strength of Leo fails. David Brainerd's spirit can move it. Brainerd's spirit was on fire for God, on fire for souls. Nothing earthly, worldly, selfish came in to abate in the least the intensity of this all-impelling and all-consuming force and flame. Man is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men. Man is God's method.

**Edward McKendree Bounds (1835-1913)**

Lawyer, Pastor, Intercessor and Author



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# The WPB Ministries

*PRAYER IS THE MIGHTIEST FORCE — 2 Chronicles 7:14*



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World Prayer Band • P. O. Box 686 • Roswell New Mexico 88202-0686 • U.S.A.  
(575) 623-6925 • E-mail: mwpbs@yahoo.com • Website: www.worldprayerband.com