



LEGACY INSTITUTE

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Dear Friends and Fellow Laborers,

In God We Trust

This has been the official national motto of the United States since signed into law by President Dwight Eisenhower in 1956, but the words “In God We Trust” have appeared on U.S. coins since 1864. It was during the dark hours of the War Between the States that Treasury Secretary Salmon P. Chase pushed to adopt the motto and place it on U.S. money. He wrote to the Director of the Philadelphia Mint in an 1861 letter, **“No nation can be strong except in the strength of God, or safe except in His defense. The trust of our people in God should be declared on our national coins.”**



The National Motto of the United States of America flies over the White House on the Twenty Dollar bill.¹

Today there is a powerful effort to get this motto—which acknowledges the country’s dependence upon the God of our fathers—removed from all our money. In fact, the movement is to remove this motto and any other acknowledgment of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, completely from all aspects of our government and the American way of life. It is a great evil and will add even more fuel to the flames of destruction that are engulfing America.

God has always been an important part of the American way of life. President Ronald Reagan once said, **“If we forget that we are one nation under God, then we will be a nation gone under.”**

His words are proving prophetic. God has always been the most important thread woven into the fabric of every part of our American way of life. But America is going under because of a concerted effort to erase God’s name from our national lives.

America is in serious trouble. America is on the decline and deeply in debt—not to their friends, but to their enemies. When we need God the most is when evil men are working overtime to get God out of our way of life.

¹ All photos public domain courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.



Flag of the State of Georgia with motto



Flag of the State of Florida with motto

Recently the words “In God We Trust” had to be reaffirmed as our national motto by an act of Congress.

Why reaffirmed? Because this national motto is under attack!

An article from the *Christian Science Monitor* explains: *The House on Tuesday passed a non-binding resolution reaffirming “In God We Trust” as the national motto . . . The measure sponsored by Rep. Randy Forbes, R-Va., supports and encourages the motto's display in all public schools and government buildings.*²



National Motto prominently displayed in front of the Pennsylvania State Capitol

Congressman Forbes went on to give the reason he sponsored the resolution: *Forbes said the resolution was needed because President Obama had once called “E pluribus unum” the national motto, and the Latin phrase meaning “from many one” was engraved in the new Capitol Visitors Center until Congress ordered that it be corrected*³.

The Latin phrase *E pluribus unum*, meaning “Out of many, one,” appears on the Great Seal of the United States, but was never officially chosen as the National Motto. Only the motto “In God We Trust” was made the motto of the United States of America by enactment as law.

President Obama felt it was a waste of time to reaffirm the national motto, saying the passage of bills he introduced was more important for the country⁴.

But there is NOTHING more important than continuing to acknowledge God as the source of our blessings and protection—ABSOLUTLY NOTHING!

² Christian Science Monitor, Nov 3, 2011, article entitled, “*In God We Trust: Why Congress Reaffirmed the US Motto.*”

³ Ibid.

⁴ See same CSM article.

Jay Carney, White House Press Secretary, tried to defend his boss's position by quoting the Bible. The problem is, he obviously hadn't checked whether or not the scripture he was quoting was actually *in* the Bible. He said, "Well, I believe the phrase in the Bible is, 'The Lord helps those who help themselves.'" There is no such scripture in the Bible and it is unclear where the common saying comes from. This just shows how far we have descended into the abyss, when the spokesman for the President of the United States doesn't even care enough about God's Word to get it right.

Here is another recent action from the White House that does not bode well for retaining God in our national consciousness:

Republican lawmakers and conservative activists are expressing outrage after the Obama administration announced its objection to adding President Franklin Roosevelt's D-Day prayer to the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

The objection was noted during a congressional hearing on Rep. Bill Johnson's, R-Ohio, bill called the "World War II Memorial Prayer Act of 2011."

"It is unconscionable that the Obama administration would stand in the way of honoring our nation's distinguished World War II veterans," Johnson said. "President Roosevelt's prayer gave solace, comfort and strength to our nation and our brave warriors as we fought against tyranny and oppression."

Let's look at FDR's prayer:

My Fellow Americans:

Last night, when I spoke with you about the fall of Rome, I knew at that moment that troops of the United States and our Allies were crossing the Channel in another and greater operation. It has come to pass with success thus far.

And so, in this poignant hour, I ask you to join with me in prayer:

Almighty God: Our sons, pride of our nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our Republic, our religion, and our civilization, and to set free a suffering humanity.

Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith.

They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard. For the enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces. Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know that by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph.

They will be sore tried, by night and by day, without rest -- until the victory is won. The darkness will be rent by noise and flame. Men's souls will be shaken with the violences of war.

For these men are lately drawn from the ways of peace. They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate. They fight to let justice arise, and tolerance and goodwill among all Thy people. They yearn but for the end of battle, for their return to the haven of home.

Some will never return. Embrace these, Father, and receive them, Thy heroic servants, into Thy kingdom.

And for us at home -- fathers, mothers, children, wives, sisters, and brothers of brave men overseas, whose thoughts and prayers are ever with them -- help us, Almighty God, to rededicate ourselves in renewed faith in Thee in this hour of great sacrifice.

Many people have urged that I call the nation into a single day of special prayer. But because the road is long and the desire is great, I ask that our people devote themselves in a continuance of prayer. As we rise to each new day, and again when each day is spent, let words of prayer be on our lips, invoking Thy help to our efforts.

Give us strength, too -- strength in our daily tasks, to redouble the contributions we make in the physical and the material support of our armed forces.

And let our hearts be stout, to wait out the long travail, to bear sorrows that may come, to impart our courage unto our sons wheresoever they may be.

And, O Lord, give us faith. Give us faith in Thee; faith in our sons; faith in each other; faith in our united crusade. Let not the keenness of our spirit ever be dulled. Let not the impacts of temporary events, of temporal matters of but fleeting moment -- let not these deter us in our unconquerable purpose.

With Thy blessing, we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogances. Lead us to the saving of our country, and with our sister nations into a world unity that will spell a sure peace -- a peace invulnerable to the schemings of unworthy men. And a peace that will let all of men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil.

Thy will be done, Almighty God.

Amen.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt - June 6, 1944⁵

This prayer was led by the President of the United States at a pivotal time in the history of the world. It is one of the most important prayers ever made during a time of great sacrifice and the imminent death of young American men and women. 1,465 young American boys were killed on the beaches of France on that single day alone⁶. Many more young men and women lost their lives in the years of fighting across Europe and Asia that followed.

What do you think the excuse is for not wanting to add FDR's prayer to the World War II monument in Washington, D.C.?

Robert Abbey, the director of the Bureau of Land Management, said: *altering the Memorial in this way, as proposed in HR 2070, will necessarily dilute this elegant memorial's central message.*

⁵ <http://www.historyplace.com/speeches/fdr-prayer.htm>

⁶ <http://www.ddaymuseum.co.uk/faq.htm> <http://www.ddaymuseum.co.uk/faq.htm>

President Roosevelt's prayer WOULD, more than anything else, clearly express the central theme of the entire purpose of the memorial—to honor the sacrifice of so many Americans who gave their lives and the lives of their children to defeat those who would destroy the American way of life at a critical moment in history. What better way to add to the honor of those young men and women who deserve to receive it than to add President Roosevelt's prayer.

The real problem is this: President Roosevelt talked too much about how much we needed God to see us through!

My father was a World War II veteran. He joined the Navy when he was just 19. He survived, but many of his friends at home and fellow sailors did not. Over 40,000 young Americans never returned home.

This rejection of a president's prayer to honor our war dead alone should demonstrate how God is being stricken from our national public acknowledgment.

It doesn't end with just the White House. The high courts of the land appear to be advocating the removal of God and His laws from our courts. In a recent high profile case, the Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal by an Ohio judge who kept a poster in his courtroom supporting God's moral laws instead of moral relativism:

Ohio Common Pleas Court Judge James DeWeese had labeled the poster "Philosophies of Law in Conflict" and included personal commentary:

He declared his preference for the moral absolutism of the Ten Commandments [forbidding murder, theft, adultery, etc.] rather than what he called the moral relativism of humanists.

The cases passing through this courtroom demonstrate we are paying a high cost in increased crime and other social ills for moving from moral absolutism [like the Ten Commandments] to moral relativism [favored by humanists].... Our Founders saw the necessity of moral absolutes, Judge DeWeese is quoted on the poster.

He added: "I join the Founders in personally acknowledging the importance of Almighty God's fixed moral standards for restoring the moral fabric of this nation."⁷

A federal judge from the 6th U.S. Court of Appeals ruled that Judge DeWeese violated the separation of church and state. By refusing to hear the appeal, the Supreme Court allowed the lower court ruling to stand.

Who is standing up for God and His Laws? Judge DeWeese tried, but got shot down by the highest court in the land. Obviously, God and His Universal and Absolute Laws are getting kicked out. What are the results? Like Judge DeWeese said, increased crime and moral degradation. The more God is removed, the closer we get to Sodom. At what point does God say enough is enough? Is He now searching for the 10 who will stand up for Him?

⁷ The Christian Science Monitor, October 3, 2011, Warren Richie, Article entitled, "Ban on Judge's Ten Commandments Poster Stands as Supreme Court Declines Case."

The founders of our nation believed it was necessary to invoke the help of The Almighty to preserve and protect our republic. Today's leaders do not feel the same way. The result will be the destruction of America.

The Prayer below was written by George Washington in New York at the end of the Revolutionary War and sent to the thirteen governors of the new states:

*Circular Letter Addressed to the Governors of all the States on the Disbanding of the Army,
June 14, 1783*

I have thus freely declared what I wished to make known, before I surrendered up my public trust to those who committed it to me. The task is now accomplished. I now bid adieu to your Excellency, as the chief magistrate of your State, at the same time I bid a last farewell to the cares of office and all the employments of public life.

It remains, then, to be my final and only request that your Excellency will communicate these sentiments to your legislature at their next meeting, and that they may be considered the legacy of one, who has ardently wished, on all occasions, to be useful to his country, and who, even in the shade of retirement, will not fail to implore the divine benediction on it.

I now make it my earnest prayer that God would have you, and the State over which you preside, in his holy protection; that he would incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government, to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow-citizens of the United States at large, and particularly for brethren who have served in the field; and finally that he would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind, which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation.⁸

General Washington understood the need for American leaders to acknowledge God and the importance of invoking His help if we want to prosper and stay free. After a bloody and seemingly hopeless war against a powerful and determined enemy, he remembered to seek God and encouraged the leaders of the 13 new states to do the same. Too bad many of our leaders today have forgotten what Washington never failed to remember.

The attacks against God are aimed at government institutions at the federal, state, and even local levels. No one is exempted.

A North Carolina pastor was relieved of his duties as an honorary chaplain of the state house of representatives after he closed a prayer by invoking the name of Jesus.⁹

The article goes on to describe the incident.

⁸ <http://www.ushistory.org/valleyforge/washington/earnestprayer.html>

⁹ FoxNews.com, Todd Starnes, Sept. 7, 2010, article entitled: "Pastor Yanked from Capitol over 'Jesus' Prayer."

Baity's troubles began during the week of May 31. He said a House clerk asked to see his prayer. The invocation, including prayers for our military, state lawmakers, and a petition to God asking him to bless North Carolina.

When I handed it to the lady, I watched her eyes and they immediately went right to the bottom of the page and the word Jesus," he told FOX News Radio. "She said, 'We would prefer that you not use the name Jesus. We have some people here that can be offended.'"

Offended!?

Let's look at the preamble of the North Carolina State Constitution:

Preamble: "We, the people of the State of North Carolina, grateful to Almighty God, the Sovereign Ruler of Nations, for the preservation of the American Union and the existence of our civil, political and religious liberties, and acknowledging our dependence upon Him for the continuance of those blessings to us and our posterity, do, for the more certain security thereof and for the better government of this State, ordain and establish this Constitution."¹⁰

What's next? Are they going to strike the entire preamble of the State of North Carolina from its founding document because "somebody might get offended?"

ALL OF US SHOULD BE OFFENDED that God and His Son Jesus are being kicked out of America by godless men and women who refuse to acknowledge the source of the freedoms and prosperity they enjoy as Americans.

Don't expect our courts to defend God's way of life. Don't expect our schools to teach it. God is being removed in every institution of our society by a vicious onslaught of attacks by the godless.

*An Alabama school district has been accused of allowing prayers that invoke the name of Jesus during high school football games, according to a complaint filed by a national atheist organization.*¹¹

How many times have you attended a high school football game where coach and players knelt down and acknowledged God and asked for His blessing? While the coach and players may not be keeping God's laws as they should, collectively they are acknowledging the God of Our Fathers and the God of this American nation. Now the godless want to remove the name of Jesus from a simple high school football game. Every part of the society, no matter how small or insignificant, is under attack. It is relentless.

I could go on and on. There is no end to the incidents all across America that I could bring to your attention. These incidents are on the increase and are now reaching into every corner of the

¹⁰ <http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Legislation/constitution/ncconstitution.html>

¹¹ FoxNews.com, October 26, 2011, "Atheist Group Tries to Stop Prayers at High School Football Games That Include 'Jesus'", Todd Starnes.

American way of life. The United States was founded by men who believed in God and believed it was necessary to include Him in all operations of all three branches of government. The first amendment of the constitution was added to protect the people from the government, not protect the people from belief in God and His laws as a guide to governing the nation.

The amendment reads, "*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.*"

This concept was championed by Thomas Jefferson who deemed it essential that the constitution bar the government from interfering in the free exercise of one's religious beliefs. This was to prevent the creation of a state religion. Somehow this has gotten turned completely around where now the first amendment somehow means that the administration and judiciary must somehow prevent any reference to and invocation of Almighty God in any and every department of federal, state, and local government, including any institution that might receive federal monies.

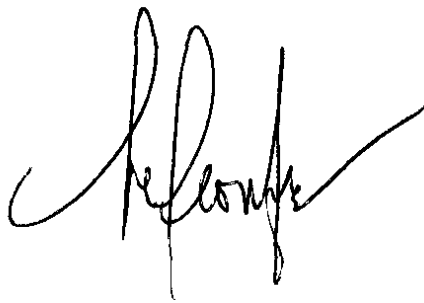
Is this what Thomas Jefferson and the other drafters of the Constitution intended? Absolutely not! It reminds me of the scripture pronouncing a curse on evil men that turn light into darkness.

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Isaiah 5:20

America is changing—and not for the better. At this rate, in just one or two decades, God will be erased from America's national consciousness entirely and we become like Russia, China, or the godless nations of Europe.

It is up to all who read this letter to make a point to continue to fight this trend in our own lives and in our own families.

A servant of the Almighty and His Son Jesus Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Leon Sexton', with a stylized, flowing script.

T. Leon Sexton

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