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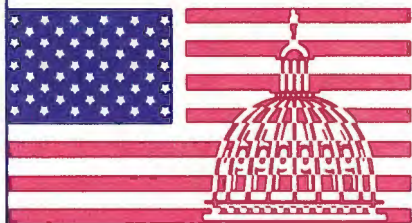
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A CALL FOR CHRISTIANS TO UNITE IN PRAYER AND FASTING FOR AMERICA

PRAY AND FAST FOR AMERICA JANUARY 1, 1982

PRAYER FOCUS: FATHERHOOD, CHURCH, TERRORISM, POLAND

INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

Newsletter

Vol. 9, No. 1

Jan. 1, 1982

Dear Intercessor,

Who of us could not feel a sense of apprehension as security tightened around President Reagan, his family and key staff members in December. Talk of "terrorists," "hit squads" and "trained assassins" made us realize again how vulnerable our leadership is to despots. Libya's Muammar Qadhafi certainly falls into this category. With numerous Libyan terrorist training camps fueling revolution in dozens of countries, this man and the killers he's producing are entirely capable of wanton, irrational acts of violence. He is a highly visible pawn on Satan's chessboard, part of an evil strategy to bring chaos to the free world. No nation, or leader is immune. None can say "It can't happen in America." The lone gunman who plunged our President to the brink of death in March proved that.

Against this backdrop, the recent tour I took through the White House was all the more remarkable. Our guide for the tour was a Secret Service Agent, one of the highly trained professionals pledged to give their lives at a moment's notice to protect the man they serve. I chatted at the tour's end with this 10-year veteran, eager for an insider's view into our President. "The Secret Service," he said, "is a pretty cynical bunch. We see the President under the worst circumstances - when he's tired, disappointed, away from TV cameras and the public view."

Then he said something I was totally unprepared to hear from this tough professional. He said, "We (in the Service) absolutely love this man!" I wasn't sure I was hearing correctly and asked him to tell me more. "We see his courage, his steadiness, his balance, his sense of humor. He's relaxed with us, interested in us, a person with obvious sincerity and genuine warmth." He went on to talk about trips he takes with the President where he sees a sense of purpose and order he failed to see in previous administrations. He concluded by saying again how much President Reagan is admired by those who work with him daily. Then he added, "I hope he still has confidence in us," obviously mindful of the assassination attempt in March.

This little vignette at the White House was over almost before it started, but I walked away with a new appreciation for the man God has raised up to lead our nation. More importantly, I have new resolve to pray for the Lord's mighty protection, that President Reagan, his family, and those who serve him would be kept safe and able to fulfill the destiny to which they've been called.

John Beckett
President, IFA

JANUARY PRAYER FOCUS

RESTORATION OF FATHERHOOD - (Mal. 4:5-6) "A new generation of American teen-agers is deeply troubled, unable to cope with the pressures of growing up in what they perceive as a world that is hostile or indifferent to them . . . Lack of clear moral standards now prevail to the point where individual lives, families and in some cases whole communities are threatened." (U.S. News & World Report, 12/14/81). Pray that the Spirit of the Father will pervade our nation, restore fatherhood and discipline, and produce a harvest of righteousness and peace in our families and communities. (Heb. 12:4-11)

CHURCH - Pray for an end to the fragmentation and division within the Church. Ask God to make us one united Body; give us renewed singleness of vision to establish His Kingdom; and ignite us with His Holy Spirit to press on to that for which Jesus Christ took hold of us. (John 17:20-21, Prov. 29:18 KJV, Phil. 3:12-14)

TERRORISM - With the recent hijackings and the threats originating in Libya to have President Reagan and other U.S. leaders assassinated, international terrorism is clearly intensifying. Pray for the protection of our national leaders and continue to war against the murderous spirit operating through terrorism. (I Cor. 10:3-6, Eph. 6:10-12)

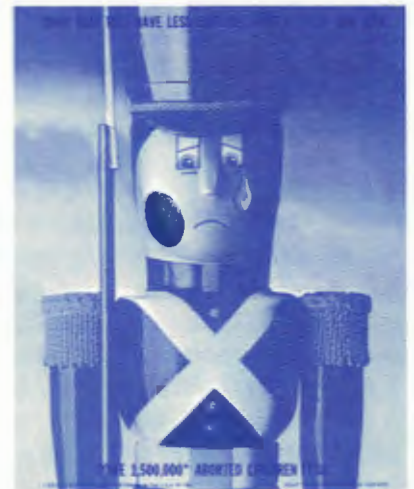
POLAND - The military intervention in Poland is causing widespread anguish among the brave freedom-loving people of that beleaguered nation. Pray that our government leaders will seek God's wisdom for a proper response, and that our Christian brothers and sisters in that nation will be kept in the Lord's protection. (Ps. 91)

THE HATCH-ASHBROOK AMENDMENT

On Dec. 12, the National Right to Life Committee Board of Directors endorsed the Hatch-Ashbrook Amendment by a vote of 30 to 24 in a specially-called meeting of state leaders, whose states had previously caucused to consider this legislation. In an interview by IFA following the vote, NRTLTC president, Dr. J.C. Willke, M.D., said, "I am in full agreement and am personally encouraged by our decision to support this amendment. Those who withheld endorsement did so based on strategy, feeling that passage might lessen chances of passing a full Human Life Amendment. We will now work together to promote its passage."

The intent of the Hatch-Ashbrook Amendment (SJR 110/HJR 372) is to overturn the effect of the **Roe vs Wade** decision and authorize Congress and the states to prohibit abortion. The proposed amendment presently reads: "The right to abortion is not secure by this Constitution. The Congress and the several states shall have the concurrent power to restrict and prohibit abortions, provided that a law of a state more restrictive than a law of Congress shall govern." The Hatch-Ashbrook Amendment is not viewed by NRTLTC as a substitute for a Human Life Amendment, but as the first step in a two-step process.

Significantly, it would bring matters concerning abortion back under democratically-elected legislative bodies, and away from the Federal judiciary. The amendment would require passage by two-thirds of both the Senate and House, and would then be submitted to the states for ratification. Thirty-eight states are required to ratify. IFA regards this as a highly significant and encouraging development in the battle to protect unborn life, and urges prayer for a positive response by our legislators to the Hatch-Ashbrook Amendment.



THE YEAR OF THE UNBORN CHILD

More than thirty leading pro-life, pro-family and religious organizations including IFA have joined in promoting 1982 as the "Year of the Unborn Child." They are asking that "1982 be set aside to reflect on the intrinsic worth and beauty of the unborn child, to commemorate all the victims of abortion worldwide, and to unite in the effort to stop the raging river of innocent blood that blights the face of the earth." For a press release, contact Tamarah Johnson at 703/569-3700.

PRAYER COVENANT

We want to encourage and coordinate an around-the-clock chain of unbroken prayer in 1982, with thousands of Christians taking 1/4, 1/2 or 1 hour time periods each week. Please complete the enclosed "Prayer Covenant" card and return it to IFA if you feel the Lord is moving you to commit to a regular time of prayer for America and the Church during the coming months. We'll log in your time on our master chart. Also, let us know if you have a special burden to pray for another country.

OUR DEBT TO ISRAEL

Gary Bergel

"Salvation is from the Jews." Jn. 4:22

"I ask then, did God reject His people? By no means! . . . at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace . . . the others were hardened . . . to this very day. If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root, do not boast over those branches. If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you." Romans 11:1f (NIV)

"Give everyone what you owe him . . . if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellow man has fulfilled the law." Romans 13:7,8 (NIV)

In October 1981, more than 3000 Christians, Hebrew believers and "church folk," traveled to Jerusalem from around the world to join with thousands of Jews to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles. Israel's Prime Minister Menahem Begin joined in the nightly festivities of dance, praise, teaching and worship. During an interview he commented to his advisors that these nightly services were the best "Zionist" meetings he had attended in his lifetime. Shocked, his advisors asked how he could say such a thing. Mr. Begin replied that it was so because "these people did not come to get anything from us, they have come only to give us their love."

This recent demonstration of love and honor toward the Jewish people indicates the ongoing and deepening realization which the Holy Spirit is working into the body of Christ - that we owe Israel, the "root of our faith," an eternal debt. Everywhere, God is awakening Gentile believers with fresh revelation that once we "were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel, and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now (we) who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made the two (Jew and Gentile) one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility. Consequently, (we) are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people (the Jews) and members of God's household." (Eph. 2:11-22) Gently, the Holy Spirit is washing away 23 centuries of anti-Semitism and freeing the church to fulfill its covenantal destiny with Israel. Lovingly, God's people are responding. A historic watershed is occurring before our eyes!

The Bible clearly admonishes all peoples and nations to bless, honor, serve and handle the Hebrew descendants of Abraham, all who have converted to Judaism, and the God-appointed land of Israel, with tender respect. When God called Abram, later to become Abraham, the father of many nations, He emphatically stated, "I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse." The Lord's attitude has never changed. (Genesis 12:3;27:29 Num. 24:9 Deut. 11:12) The prophets continued to make plain the heart of God in this matter and Christ Himself declared that all nations would be judged on the basis of how they treated His brethren, the Jews! (Is. 60:12 Zech. 2:8 Mt. 25:31-46) Christ, our Savior, Messiah, is still a Jew at the right hand of God the Father. No good thing ever comes when anyone disrespectfully touches the Jewish people, "the apple (pupil) of God's eye." Scores of individuals, institutions and nations lay cursed by the waysides of history. Spain, once the dominant nation of Europe with powerful armed forces, fell quickly to a struggling second-rate power after expelling all Jews from her territories in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Great Britain, after emerging victorious from two World Wars, declined rapidly after it opposed and tried to thwart the re-emergence of Israel in 1947-48 as a sovereign nation with statehood. The destinies of nations are hinged upon their treatment of Israel.

As God continues to fulfill His covenants with the nation of Israel, the Jewish people, and the Church, all believers must be careful to prayerfully and objectively consider the "daily news" as led of the Spirit and according to the light of the scriptures. As we set our hearts, and pray regularly for the "peace and prosperity of Jerusalem," let us ask God to bring forth and uphold His appointed leaders for Israel and for the Church in Israel at this time. (Ps. 122, Isa. 9:6&7) The spiritual, political, and sociological events occurring among the Jewish people and in the state of Israel impact the Church and all nations - daily. As events in the "navel of the earth" unfold, individual believers should remember that they are affecting not only their own lives, but also the corporate destiny of the Church and of their homelands.

The following seven points illustrate ways that we, as believers and intercessors, can fulfill the scriptural commands to bless the Jewish people and the nation of Israel:

• **Repent of wrong attitudes and actions.** Line up with the commands and will of God as revealed in the scriptures we've discussed. Avoid entering into heated and angry discussions concerning histories and genealogies and simply determine to bless the Jew. Reading about and meditating upon the Jewishness of Jesus and of the early church will help free us. Consider restoring a little Hebrew flavor to your home decor or to your local church services. Jewish friends feel much more "at home" when they visit.

• **Pray for the good of Israel and for the peace of Jerusalem.** (Ps. 122:6) Intercede against strongholds of anti-Christ and anti-Semitism and ask that God restore unity to the believers in Jerusalem and in the Middle East. Pray according to the will and purposes of God as revealed in scripture.

• **Practice a "witness" of love and compassion.** As we have received mercy through the Jewish people, we are expected by God to return mercy to the Jew and the nation of Israel. Too often we "witness" by "preaching" a strong "conversion" message, and too often we are ineffective. We fail to realize that the hearts of many Jewish people have been doubly hardened over the years, first by God Himself, and then by God's people as they have hunted down, persecuted, discriminated against and even killed Jews in the name of Christianity. We must remember that the Crusaders, on their way to "liberate" the holy land, actually massacred entire Jewish communities, and that at one time the theology which taught that the Jews killed Christ led to the slaughter of Jews throughout the ghettos of Europe and Russia. Also, the Nazi Holocaust which claimed the lives of more than six million souls actually was the doing of individuals who were professing Christians. The undoing of the negative effects of these atrocities in the hearts of Jews will require a prolonged "show of mercy" in unfeigned love. (Is. 40:1,2)

• **Honor the Jew with substance and perform practical acts of kindness.** Knowing that human nature prefers to honor with lip service, we must remember that to show honor scripturally implies that we include substance. Many Christians are finding God directing them to give to the Jewish people and the state of Israel. Do not neglect the Jews in your cities and neighborhoods. Most Christian churches have not expressed love to the synagogues in their vicinity. Many churches have never given a gift of money to Israel via the United Jewish Appeal, etc.

• **Live in such a way as to provoke the Jews to jealousy.** Romans 11:11 declares that "salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them (the Jews) to jealousy." We are to live out redemption in such a way that Israel becomes jealous of what they see in us. We are to demonstrate the abundance of God's blessings in Christ as manifested in a life of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit - together! At this point the Jewish community demonstrates a strong cultural unity, so we must pray for and practice the spiritual unity in the community of believers to a much greater degree.

• **Bless the Jewish people by blessing "the land."** More and more believers are deepening their renewed relationship with the Jewish people by visiting Israel. Though most Christians will need to budget and save over a period of time to visit the nation of Israel, the money invested is crucial to Israel's economic well-being at this time. Tourism is a major source of income for the Israelis. Christian volunteers are also serving on a number of kibbutzim or collective farms. Because the quality of service has been so high, the lives of these volunteers has had a tremendous impact upon kibbutz settlers. This sowing of servanthood and goodwill cannot help but produce real dividends spiritually in the years ahead. At this point, most participating kibbutzim are accepting only single, mature believers. Both high school graduates and "older" singles have been accepted into the program. Prayer for these collective farms is also in order because the kibbutzim are the mainstay of food production and settlement of new territories. Ask God to protect Christian volunteers and residents near borders which are vulnerable to periodic shelling. (Deut. 11:12 Ez. 20:6 Jer. 24:6 Isa. 14:1&2)

• **Pray for U.S. domestic and foreign policy to remain scriptural, just and balanced toward the Jews in our nation and Israel.** (Joel 3:1,2 Ps. 129:5) America is entering into a new dimension of foreign policy in the Middle East as the Arab nations come into their own spheres of influence. Let us ask for "wisdom from above" to be continually granted to our President, advisors and all officials involved in determining our courses of action and policy. Let us stand against the manipulative encroachment of Islam into our national life and policy.

As we continue to seek God to more fully understand and appreciate the rich spiritual inheritance that we have received from the Jews (the patriarchs, the Hebrew family model, the Mosaic Law, the covenants of promise, the prophets, the apostles, the Bible and the Messiah Himself!), let us strive to emulate the attitudes and sensitivities demonstrated by George Washington, our first President. The following is a prayer which he prayed over a Hebrew congregation shortly after the close of the Revolutionary War:

"May the children of the stock of Abraham who dwell in this land continue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other inhabitants, while everyone shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree, and there shall be none to make him afraid.

May the Father of all mercies scatter light, and not darkness, upon our paths and make us all in our several vocations useful here, and in His own due time and way everlastingly happy."

NATIONAL REPORTS

Wash. D.C.

After nearly a year of partisan wrangling, exchange of charges and delaying tactics, Dr.C. Everett Koop is now the Surgeon General of the United States and director of the Public Health Service. The 65-year old pediatric surgeon was confirmed by the Senate, 68-24, on Nov. 16. (NRTLN) We praise God that a man of this stature and clear commitment to protect unborn life is now in this strategic office.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled on Dec. 8, that a student group has a right to hold religious services on the campus of a public, tax-supported university. The decision was a victory for Cornerstone, a group of evangelical Christian students barred from meeting on the campus of the University of Missouri at Kansas City. (UPI)

The Federal government has begun a nationwide investigation of groups affiliated with the Planned Parenthood Federation of America to determine whether they have illegally used Federal funds to promote abortion as a means of birth control, or to finance political lobbying. Thirty-five of the federation's 188 affiliates throughout the country have been audited or are being audited. (N.Y. Times)

The U.S. Senate has overwhelmingly approved an amendment which would restrict the Justice Dept. from using its funds to interfere with "voluntary school prayer and meditation." By a 70-12 vote, the Senate restored a House rider which the Senate's appropriations committee earlier struck from the \$8.6 billion funding bill for the Depts. of Commerce, Justice and State. (EP)

New York

In his message for the 1981 interfaith celebration of the role of the Bible in American Life, President Ronald Reagan described National Bible Week, Nov. 22-29, as "a welcome opportunity to expand America's recognition of the high value and importance of a sound knowledge of the Holy Bible." The President said, "the Bible galvanizes our hearts to weather the trials of life, and it rewards us with strength, comfort and meaning. It touches the heart, orders the mind and refreshes the soul." (EP)

California

The State Court of Appeals ruled in mid-October that pornographic movie makers who employ persons to perform sexual activities in their films can be prosecuted for pandering. The decision reversed an earlier ruling by a Los Angeles Superior Court Judge. (MIM NL)

Citizens of Palo Alto recently rejected a pro-homosexual ordinance, 59% - 41%. The most vocal proponents, however, were the Palo Alto Ministerial Association and the Ecumenical Outreach Coalition.

Pennsylvania

On Dec. 9, the State House of Representatives passed what has been termed "the most restrictive abortion bill in the nation." It requires a 24-hour cooling-off period before a woman can get an abortion, parental or court approval for a minor, prohibits abortions of fetuses that are presumed viable—unless to preserve the mother's health or life, and requires doctors performing abortions on viable fetuses to make every effort to save the baby's life. The bill is now in the State Senate for its consideration.

The newsletter is published monthly by INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA, P.O. Box 1289, Elyria, Ohio 44036, a tax-exempt, non-profit organization. Your contributions provide our financial support. Contents may be quoted or reprinted, provided excerpts are in context. News items warranting national prayer attention, or reports of answered prayer are welcome. Please provide supporting documents where possible. Your IFA staff: John Beckett, President; Guy Kump, Executive Director; Gary Bergel, Director of Research; and Jean Liles, Secretary. (216) 327-5184.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 6, 1982

Mr. William Johann
9812 St. Julian's Lane
Richmond, VA 23233

Dear Mr. Johann,

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the situation in Israel and the Lebanon, and the recording of your July Richmond Christian Family Conference. As you are aware, the President is committed to a peace in the Middle East that includes a strong and free Israel.

My family and I enjoyed our participation in the Intercessors for America Conference. I have great admiration for the work that you do.

Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison.

Mrs. William Henry Johann, Jr.
9812 St. Julians Lane
Richmond, Virginia 23233

November 5, 1972

Dear Mr. Blackwell,

It was nice having you, Mrs. Blackwell, your son and your sister with us at The Intercessors For America Conference Sunday morning. I am sure everyone appreciated, as I did, your taking the time to join us and to bring us the message from our president.

Enclosed is the tape which was made at our Richmond Christian Family

conference in July. Lance Lambert has been coming from England or Israel to be one of our speakers for several years. When this talk was made, Lance had just arrived from Israel and was quite weary. Everyone was anxious to hear the truth about the events taking place in Lebanon; so a special meeting was arranged so that he could give the news to all of us at one time.

Lance has retained his English citizenship and has also become a citizen of Israel.

He knows Israel, it's language, its history and its Biblical history so well. A group of eighteen of us toured Israel with him for three weeks five years ago. He had our guides take us places and gave us information that I do not believe many tourists have the opportunity to see or hear. We were able to visit with several of his Hebrew, Christian and Arab friends.

One day we crossed over into Lebanon at The Good

Fence and were able to visit with some of the Christian Lebanese soldiers. They were very young - one was only seventeen. They were very concerned for their nation and told us that a week previous to our visit, the PLO had swooped down on a village only one mile up the road from us and had killed every male, including infants and old men. They told us then that only the Israeli cared anything about them and helping

and helping them. We saw piles of clothing, fruits, sand bags etc. (to use for their protection) etc. just inside the Israeli line. They were making these supplies available to the Lebanese. We also observed several busloads of Lebanese being returned from jobs in Israel in the late afternoon.

I thank you for being willing to listen to this tape and I do pray that our Lord will use it through you to help spread the truth about some of the

6.
things the Lebanese
and Israeli people have
been enduring from the
PLO for the past eight
years. Lance gave us
more recent news in his
workshop Saturday afternoon.
Also, I pray that our
leaders and those of other
nations will see what an
impossible situation
Israel will be in (if over
500,000 more Palestinians are
added to the 800,000 already
there) if they are lead by
the PLO and surely no one
will be able to keep the
PLO from taking over the

7.
authority there. They would
have taken over the government
in Jordan if King Hussein
had not acted quickly and
they set up their own
government in Lebanon.
The Israeli fought valiantly
for the West Bank and won
it after the arabs attacked
them from The Golan.

Thank you so very much
for your kindness.


Sincerely,
Mary Ritchie Johann

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 22, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR DODIE LIVINGSTON

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL 

SUBJECT: Presidential Message for
Intercessors for America

Attached is a copy of our latest schedule proposal and attachments for your information. Scheduling has turned us down on the President's participation and now the group would really appreciate a message from the President to insert in their program.


Because the meeting starts Friday night and we were not notified by Scheduling until late yesterday, we have really a short fuse on this one and would appreciate any efforts you can make to get a message for us by Monday or Tuesday.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 16, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM K. SADLEIR

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE 

SUBJECT: International Conference on Intercessory
Prayer, October 29-31

Attached is a schedule proposal for the President which you may wish to consider in planning for the final days of the campaign. If the President intends to be in the D.C. area and you are in search of a good weekend event in which to deliver a values-oriented speech to a non-political audience, this may well be an excellent forum. The group would give the President a rousing welcome.

As you may be aware, the religious community knows that the President is a strong believer in intercessory prayer, as he has mentioned a number of times.

October 27, 1982

Nancy and I take great pleasure in extending our warmest greetings to all those gathered for the International Conference on Intercessory Prayer.

This occasion provides me with a welcome opportunity to express my continuing high regard for the work of your organization. By encouraging daily and intercessory prayer, you contribute in an important way to the spiritual life and well-being of your respective nations.

In the trials and tribulations of life, in moments of crisis and fear when feelings of desolation nearly overcome us, prayer serves as our guiding light in the darkness to God's open door. It refreshes the soul and gives our hearts courage to meet the challenges that face us.

If people around the globe can cherish the ideals of peace and liberty for each nation and express them in their prayers, we will one day realize these fond hopes. For it is written in Psalms 124:8, that "Our help is in the name of the Lord, Who made heaven and earth."

You have my best wishes for a successful meeting and may God bless you and your efforts.

WHcc:

The Honorable Roger W. Jepsen
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Christopher H. Smith
The Honorable Frank R. Wolf
The Honorable Don J. Pease
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Call Carolyn when ready (Morton Blackwell's office - 2657)

RR:Wells:--

cc: K.Osborne/J.Wells/M. Blackwell/W.Sadleir/CF
EVENT: October 29-31

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON


October 16, 1982

T.P.

RECEIVED IN SCHEDULING

OFFICE 10/18/82
Date

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM K. SADLEIR

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE 

SUBJECT: International Conference on Intercessory
Prayer, October 29-31

Date 10/19/82
EJR

Attached is a schedule proposal for the President which you may wish to consider in planning for the final days of the campaign. If the President intends to be in the D.C. area and you are in search of a good weekend event in which to deliver a values-oriented speech to a non-political audience, this may well be an excellent forum. The group would give the President a rousing welcome.

As you may be aware, the religious community knows that the President is a strong believer in intercessory prayer, as he has mentioned a number of times.

THE WHITE HOUSE


WASHINGTON



SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

October 14, 1982

TO: WILLIAM SADLEIR, DIRECTOR
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE 

REQUEST: Presidential address at International Conference on
Intercessory Prayer.

PURPOSE: To recognize, before the 1982 elections, the inter-
cessory prayer movement whose many leaders are praying
that God will raise up righteous leaders to preserve
and prosper the nation. To reaffirm the President's
identification with church, prayer, family, and moral
values.

BACKGROUND: Intercessors of America is an interdenominational
organization made up of protestants from both the old
line denominations and the more fundamental movements
as well as Catholics and Messianic Jews. Leaders of
intercessory prayer organizations from 35 nations will
attend, in addition to approximately 1000 pastors and
grassroots prayer leaders from this country. Most
fundamentalist Christians involved on a regular basis
in intercessory prayer believe that this Administration
won the election because of prayer and that the Presi-
dent's life was spared because of intercessory prayer.
The President has endorsed this latter view.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: No President has previously been invited to speak
before this ten-year old group.

DATE: October 29-31, 1982. Presidential participation could
be Friday evening, Saturday daytime or evening, but their
preference would be at closing worship Sunday morning,
October 31.

LOCATION: Hyatt Regency, Washington, D. C.

PARTICIPANTS: Anticipate 1500 people, mostly from USA, leading pastors
and other spiritual leaders. Virtually all who attend
are among the most dedicated Reagan supporters.

OUTLINE OF EVENT: A short address by President and participation by
President and Mrs. Reagan in the worship service.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Brief address.

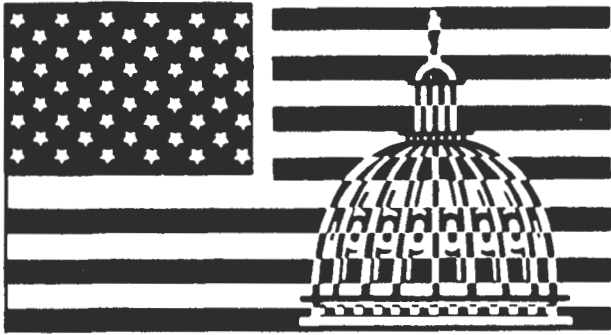
MEDIA COVERAGE: Full press coverage.

RECOMMENDED BY: Elizabeth H. Dole, Secretary James Watt (In addition,
see attached recommendations from the Hill.)

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER: Merton C. Blackwell, Doc Jensen

INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA



NATIONAL PRAYER CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 29-31, 1982
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Hyatt Regency Hotel
400 New Jersey Ave. NW
Washington, D.C.

PURPOSE:

To bring together Christians who want to become effective intercessors. A concentrated schedule of teaching, prayer, and fellowship will equip us with the WHY and HOW of this crucial ministry. Outstanding teachers with a worldwide perspective will be sharing - providing an excellent opportunity for growth in our personal and corporate prayer lives.

REGISTRATION:

Conference facilities are limited, so participants are encouraged to register as soon as possible. Registration will be closed when capacity of the facilities is reached. Entrance cannot be guaranteed unless you pre-register by mail. Use the form in this brochure to register yourself and others in your group. The pre-registration fee (for the meetings only) is \$20.00 a person, payable when you send in the Registration Form. PLEASE REGISTER EARLY! (On site registration, as space is available, will be at the following rates: \$25.00/conference, or \$5.00/session)

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS AND MEALS:

Hotel rooms are available at reasonable rates at the Hyatt Regency on a "first-come" basis, as follows: Single - \$55.00, Double - \$65.00, Triple - \$75.00, Quad - \$85.00 per room each night plus a 10% sales tax and an \$.80 occupancy tax.

To receive hotel reservation information, check the appropriate box on the Registration Form. Full details will be sent by return mail. Note that the deadline for hotel reservations is Oct. 8, 1982, so you should send for information promptly to reserve hotel space.

Meals are available at the Hyatt Regency or nearby restaurants. A buffet luncheon will be available on Saturday at a cost of \$12.00 a person, payable with the conference registration. (Limited to 500)

FINANCES:

The Registration Fee has been kept at a minimum to encourage participation. It does not cover all conference expenses. Offerings will be taken at evening sessions. We will appreciate your being prepared to give at that time. (Contributions to IFA are tax-deductible)

TAPES AND BOOKS:

Tapes of all conference sessions will be available for purchase at the conference. Please do not plan on private taping, as this is distractive.

Books on intercessory prayer and other related topics will be available at the conference for your convenience.

SCHEDULE

Friday October 29

7:30 P.M. Evening Session
(Lance Lambert)

Saturday October 30

9:00 A.M. First Morning Session
(Charles Stanley)

11:00 A.M. Break

11:30 A.M. Second Morning Session
(Ed McAteer/Johannes Facius)

12:30 P.M. Lunch Break

3:00 P.M. Prayer Workshops
First Session

4:00 P.M. Break

4:15 P.M. Prayer Workshops
Second Session

5:15 P.M. Dinner Break

7:30 P.M. Evening Session
(Charles Simpson)

Sunday October 31

9:00 A.M. Morning Session
(Ern Baxter)

INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA is a non-profit organization dedicated to encouraging intercessory prayer for our nation and its leaders, based on 2 Chron. 7:14, and I Tim. 2:1-4. It is not affiliated with any specific church or denomination.

Inquiries are welcome by writing IFA, Box 1289, Elyria, Ohio 44036, or by phoning the IFA office @ (216) 327-5184.

SPEAKERS

ERN BAXTER



Ern Baxter is a leader in the worldwide Christian movement to rediscover and restore the foundations of the Kingdom of God and to rally Christians under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. He is the author of many taped messages and magazine articles on the subject of the New Covenant.

Ern was born and raised in Canada. As a young boy he followed his parents into the Pentecostal movement. He has pastored several churches, one for 25 years, and has ministered to many other congregations, conferences, and camp meetings. The scope of his ministry has carried him throughout Canada, the United States and several countries abroad.

LANCE LAMBERT



Lance Lambert is an internationally known Bible teacher and author. Born in England, he studied at the University of London and was the founder of the first "house church" in Britain.

Lance has lived in Jerusalem, Israel since 1973 and is an advisor to the International Christian Embassy. He serves as part of the leadership of Intercessors For Israel and has been very instrumental in generating prayer for that nation.

Lance is the author of three books: **The Uniqueness of Israel** - a biblical history of Israel from a Christian perspective; **The Battle For Israel** - an account of the Yom Kippur War; and **Until The Day Dawns** - on the relevance of biblical prophecy.



CHARLES STANLEY

Dr. Charles F. Stanley is the Pastor of the 8000 member First Baptist Church of Atlanta, Georgia. He is seen weekly on two telecasts, "In Touch" and "The Chapel Hour," which are carried by a CBN satellite into 1500 cities throughout the country. As a result of a deep conviction for the

need of God's people to repent of their sins and commit themselves to prayer for the salvation of this nation, Dr. Stanley has extended his ministry to include leadership and direction for the formation of intercessory prayer groups throughout America.

His publications include the following books: **The Walk of Faith; Reaching Your Goals; Stand Up America!** and **The Man's Touch**.

CHARLES SIMPSON

Charles Simpson is a well-known Bible teacher ministering to a broad spectrum of Christianity. He was trained in Baptist colleges and attended New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.



Charles pastored a Southern Baptist congregation in Mobile, Alabama for 14 years. In 1971, he resigned the Southern Baptist congregation to devote himself to a Bible teaching ministry in writing, tape cassettes, seminars and television. He has spoken in churches of all major denominations, colleges, and a variety of other settings located around the world.

Charles is the Senior Pastor of Gulf Coast Covenant Church in Mobile, Alabama and serves as Chairman of the Board of **New Wine Magazine**.

WORSHIP

JOSEPH GARLINGTON



Joseph Garlington attended Howard University in Washington, D.C., and Washington Bible College. He pastored two churches in the nation's capital before moving to Pittsburgh in 1971, where he became the Senior Pastor of Three Rivers Fellowship.

Joseph has shared the Gospel at churches, college campuses, conferences and retreats across the country, as well as in Canada, the West Indies, England and South Africa.

His recent album, "I Exalt Thee," contains a selection of songs which uniquely express an appreciation of reverence for the redemptive nature of God through Jesus Christ.

* A special music ministry will be presented Friday evening by a Messianic group from the Beth Messiah Congregation in Rockville, MD.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 27, 1982

Nancy and I take great pleasure in extending our warmest greetings to all those gathered for the International Conference on Intercessory Prayer.

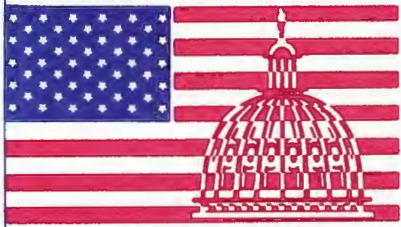
This occasion provides me with a welcome opportunity to express my continuing high regard for the work of your organization. By encouraging daily and intercessory prayer, you contribute in an important way to the spiritual life and well-being of your respective nations.

In the trials and tribulations of life, in moments of crisis and fear when feelings of desolation nearly overcome us, prayer serves as our guiding light in the darkness to God's open door. It refreshes the soul and gives our hearts courage to meet the challenges that face us.

If people around the globe can cherish the ideals of peace and liberty for each nation and express them in their prayers, we will one day realize these fond hopes. For it is written in Psalms 124:8, that "Our help is in the name of the Lord, Who made heaven and earth."

You have my best wishes for a successful meeting and may God bless you and your efforts.

Ronald Reagan



INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

10 FEB

February 1, 1982

Mr. Morton Blackwell
191 Old Executive Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20500

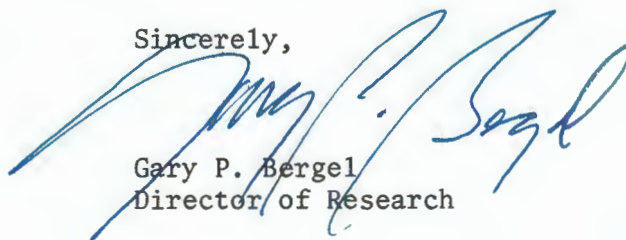
Dear Morton:

This is to request a 15 minute meeting with you on February 10th,
preferably right after the Israel Prayer Breakfast.

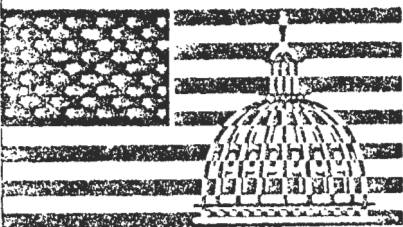
Mr. John Beckett, President, Intercessors for America and myself would like to invite President Reagan to address a large inter-denominational church conference meeting October 29-31, 1982 in Washington, D.C. Prominent Christians from most every state and from approximately 35 foreign nations will be in attendance.

Mr. Beckett has asked me to coordinate this meeting. I can be reached at 569-3700. Thanking you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Gary P. Bergel
Director of Research



INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

March 5, 1982

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Reagan:

This letter is written out of a deep admiration and respect for you. We are among those who constitute, we believe, a key element of your support. Our support derives from the conviction that Almighty God has placed on you a mantle of leadership at this critical hour of our nation's history.

We share with you a desire to see America shine forth as both the symbol and substance of that which is just and righteous. We believe you when you say you are committed to fulfilling God's destiny for the high calling to which you have been called. Our desire is to serve you in helping to fulfill that destiny.

Confidential discussions with Dr. Jerry Falwell, Dr. Bill Bright, Dr. Ben Armstrong, Dr. M. G. "Pat" Robertson, and James Robison indicate their unqualified support for a plan whereby you would place high within your administration a person who can give able spiritual counsel. Such a person would:

- * Be familiar with biblical precepts that must govern a godly decision-making process.
- * Provide a spiritual perspective on issues that have a moral, ethical or spiritual content.
- * Be on call 24 hours per day, and available to meet with you or other top advisors as necessary.
- * Represent you and maintain contact with key evangelical Christian leaders, drawing upon their wisdom and insight.
- * Give you, and others in the administration the balance that is needed to counter a constant barrage of liberal, humanist thought that pervades so much of public life today.

When David was King of ancient Israel, he did not lean solely upon his own understanding, or that of his commanders and advisors. He regularly drew upon the prophetic insight of such spiritual counselors as Nathan and Gad. He knew that to fully please God, he needed every means available to discern God's direction for him and the nation.


March 5, 1982

We have a parallel need today. At the core of virtually every major problem facing America is a spiritual dimension. We earnestly believe you want to know the full counsel of God, as revealed by His word and His Spirit and that you pray regularly toward this end. But we also believe the appropriate spiritual counselor would provide a perspective that would be of tremendous value to you.

We stand ready to assist in the process of identifying and recommending a person for this critically important responsibility. We would assure that he has the spiritual understanding, the breadth of vision, the humility and the respect among his peers that would enable him to be effective. Also, we would be prepared to provide for the salary and expenses of this person for the balance of your administration.

It is our desire to meet with you as a group at the earliest opportunity to know your response and to discuss the needed additional steps.

Yours, in Christian service,



John D. Beckett
President

gm

cc: Morton Blackwell

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 14, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES W. CICCONI

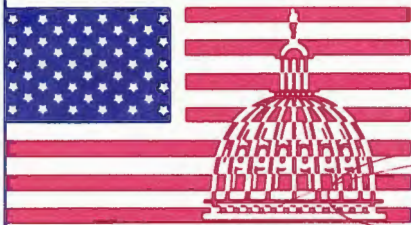
FROM: MORTON C BLACKWELL 

SUBJECT: PROPOSED EVENT WITH INTERCESSORS OF AMERICA

Attached is a schedule proposal for Presidential remarks in late October at the International Conference on Intercessory Prayer.

Mrs. Jepsen and I agree that this low profile organization provides a good opportunity for the President.

Dee Jepsen spoke with her friend, Mrs. Baker, who is personally very supportive of this recommendation. Could we add Mr. Baker as a recommender of this event before we submit the schedule proposal?



A CALL FOR CHRISTIANS TO UNITE IN PRAYER AND FASTING FOR AMERICA

PRAY AND FAST FOR AMERICA MARCH 5, 1982

PRAYER FOCUS: MEDIA, ECONOMIC RECOVERY, GODLY PRES. COUNSELLORS

INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

Newsletter

Dear Intercessor:

On the chilly, snowy morning of January 22, twenty-two leaders of pro-life organizations met with President Reagan at the White House. Outside, twenty-five thousand pro-lifers were forming their annual March-For-Life, the ninth since the fateful **Roe vs. Wade** decision by the U. S. Supreme Court on this date in 1973.

The meeting had been arranged by Morton Blackwell, Special Assistant to the President. Invited guests included, among others, Dr. Jerry Falwell, Dr. Mildred Jefferson, Curtis Young, Nellie Gray, Dr. Jack Willke, Fr. Charles Fiore, Peter Gemma, Paul and Judy Brown, Ed McAteer, Prof. Victor Rosenblum, and John Beckett. Prior to the President joining us, we were given a summary of the Reagan Administration's efforts in regard to the abortion issue by Dr. Donald Devine, Director of the Office of Personnel Management, Richard Schweiker, Secretary of The Department of Health and Human Services, and by David Swoap, Undersecretary of H.H.S.

Dr. Devine spoke about progress that has been made in eliminating abortion provisions in some 130 different Federal employee's health plans. At this point, plans covering ninety percent of Federal employees have been successfully modified. The remaining ten percent retain the provision because of union opposition and unfavorable court rulings. Secretary Schweiker cited the appointment of C. Everett Koop as Surgeon General as a great achievement against major opposition, noting that the support for this by grass-roots groups made the crucial difference. He also said that efforts are being made to prevent federal funds going to "family planning" through Planned Parenthood, but that it's a complex, difficult process. David Swoap expressed sincere appreciation for the efforts made by those represented at the meeting on behalf of the unborn. He said, "Pro-choice arguments are fine, if we also give babies the choice!"

President Reagan then joined us. His graciousness, humility, and personal warmth were immediately obvious as he greeted his guests. He was presented with a beautifully-framed wall plaque, on which the symbol for "The Year of the Unborn Child" was silk-screened in gold on a royal blue background. Also, the President was presented with a letter from Intercessors for America, co-signed by most of us present, which said that millions of Americans are praying that he would take personal initiative to protect unborn life. (The letter is reproduced on page 4.)

The President gave us an opportunity for comment, and then noted concern among several congressional leaders about apparent divisions in the Pro-Life Movement (referring to disagreement on whether to support the Helms/Hyde or the Hatch/Ashbrook amendment proposals). Fr. Fiore reassured the President that while we have differences in strategy and timing, we are absolutely unified in our overall goal—to see legal protection restored for the unborn.

President Reagan then referred to the hearings held last summer (by Senator East's Judiciary Committee) on the question of "when human life begins." He said that amidst all the confusion and uncertainty of those hearings, a "great conclusion" was reached. Since no one could prove that human life did not begin at conception, "government has the responsibility to opt that the child is alive." He then related a comparison used earlier that week in a press conference: "If one were to come upon an immobile body alongside the road, and it could not be determined as to whether it were dead or alive, you wouldn't grab a shovel and start covering it up. You would look for life."

The President, referring to serious study he made on this issue while governor of California, said he concluded many years ago that the unborn child is a living human being. All the evidence he's seen since then confirms and reinforces this position.

It is very clear that President Reagan understands the issue, and is prepared to exert his influence once a strategy and the timing becomes clear. Noting the various pieces of legislation which the Congress is considering, he said, "I look forward to one of these proposals reaching my desk for action."

Our intercessory prayer is essential during this critical time—for Mr. Reagan, his advisors, pro-life Congressional leaders, and for a repair of the breach among various pro-life organizations. The enemy is hard at work to bring division and confusion to our ranks, and only the work of reconciliation and God's sovereign intervention will bring the results we all desperately want. Psalm 146 states it clearly. Our hope is not in man, even rulers, but in the Lord our God.

THE TONGUE OF SECULAR MEDIA

by Gary Bergel

"But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. Therefore pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves with violence. From their callous hearts comes iniquity; the evil conceits of their minds know no limits. They scoff, and speak with malice; in their arrogance they threaten oppression. Their mouths lay claim to heaven, and their tongues take possession of the earth."
Psalm 73:2,3,6-9 NIV

Polls and interviews conducted at the close of 1981 reveal that the men who lead and orchestrate the secular media are radically out of step with the American public and have a militant attitude against Christianity. Interviews with 240 "media elites" disclosed that the majority, 86% of media personnel no longer attend church and have dedicated themselves to uphold and foster a secular, cosmopolitan, "anti-bourgeois" social perspective which has been termed by some as the "new liberalism".¹

Ninety percent of these media elites believe that women have a "right" to abortion-on-demand, 75% no longer believe that homosexuality is wrong and 85% uphold the "right" of homosexuals to teach in public schools. Only 54% of these individuals believe adultery is wrong and a scant 15% feel strongly that non-marital sex is immoral. While 72% of the general public believes that women with young children should not work outside the home unless it is financially necessary, only 42% of our media leaders hold to this traditional view of family life. Seventy-three percent feel that the availability of divorce should remain the same or be even easier to obtain.²

While political, business, intellectual and media leaders vie for power and control over American society, the media elite, if they had their own way, would place themselves in the number one most influential position to direct American society.³ Columnist Joseph Kraft recently commented that he and others in the media "have enjoyed a huge rise in income, in status, and in power. . .we have moved from the sidelines to the center of the action."⁴ Dr. Francis A. Schaeffer recently warned that, "We must realize that the communications media function much like the unelected federal bureaucracy. They are so powerful that they act as if they were the fourth branch of government in the United States."⁵ Dr. Schaeffer's observations were evidenced in Eric Sevareid's bold declaration during his final CBS commentary; "We are no longer starvelings and we sit above the salt. We have affected our times."⁶

The media explosion of the past generation has produced personnel, products and prophets which have drastically altered our sense of reality and our ability to positively and correctly respond to reality. Events and thoughts once separated by time and space are now electronically stitched together and deposited via satellite like a giant crazy-quilt of information, challenges, confusions and temptations into our homes, our schools, our offices, our families and, our hearts. Video reporting empowers it all with a lasting sting of immediacy. We are left stunned, confused and blown about by "every wind of doctrine." Our collective mind and character is massaged and in fact, manipulated daily by the media. What is produced was once satirically summarized by Mark Twain: "Its name is Public Opinion. It is held in reverence. It settles everything. Some think it is the voice of God."

Arrogant and often-times purposeful confusion between the revealed Word of God and the vain speculations of men continues to foster most of our current national disorders and

moral diseases. The tongue of secular media continues to spawn, promote, justify and glorify sinful, occult and rebellious behavior. The "experts" and "think tanks" which some of our media elites look to for information and direction are for the most part also comprised of ex-Judeo Christian individuals who have rejected the "religion of their childhood" and, who are now earnestly working for radical "social transformation" through a relational network which one of their own, Marilyn Ferguson, has called "The Aquarian Conspiracy."⁷ Many of these individuals believe that the "emerging social alternatives" should include a marriage between the occult and science, art and technology.

If one looks carefully, one can observe the shifts and alterations going on in our national language and in our educational, political and legal systems which will accommodate the neo-mystical, pagan lifestyle, and world order. The mass media has become the subjective conditioning agent for these radical changes and no longer can be looked to as a truthful supplier of objective information about daily events and world views. A brief look at our use of language will show us why.

The American language is being castrated and demoralized by "modish" literary elites. Noah Webster, a faithful believer called by God to formulate standards for our American language, warned that the acceptance of change for change sake, vulgarity, slang for its own sake and the insincere and mocking use of pious phraseology, if not controlled, would become the agents of destruction of our national tongue.⁸ The January 1982 edition of American Atheist, contained the declaration by D.L. Kent that, "We are fostering change in the language. . .it is a deliberate change we are producing." Radical feminists continue to push for the Bible to be stripped of all masculine pronouns, and of the word "begat" which delineates the male role in procreation. The National Council of Churches produced a "non-sexist" lectionary last year.⁹ Pope John Paul II recently extended permission to American Catholic Bishops to drop masculine language from the Eucharistic Prayer in the Mass. The new wording will state that Christ died "for you and for all" instead of "for you and for all men."¹⁰

The science, medical and legal communities have utilized semantic shifts, slogans and "linguistic deceptions" to legalize abortion-on-demand which now claims the lives of one out of every three Americans conceived. The definition of human pregnancy was changed in 1965. Conception ceased to mean "fertilization," but rather was defined to mean "implantation."¹¹ Abortion has been carefully separated from the idea of killing and now is simply called the "discontinuing" or "termination" of pregnancy in which "the products of conception" are removed. Childless couples are said to be "child free", subtly establishing children as unwanted burdens.¹² Jean Staker Garton's recent book, "Who Broke The Baby" is fascinating reading for anyone interested in studying the ongoing "seduction by semantics" which is now pulling us into a legalization of suicide, infanticide, euthanasia and the crossing of species via genetic engineering.¹³

Chastity was an almost forgotten word in the American media until U.S. Senator Jeremiah Denton introduced an "Adolescent Family Life" bill which the press mockingly dubbed as Denton's "chastity bill". It is very doubtful that Planned Parenthood ever again intended to introduce and promote **chastity** as the answer to the teen-age promiscuity epidemic, but now they must - for God ordained it by a reverse twist!

On the last day of 1981 the "modists" on the staff of the Washington Post announced more than 100 cultural fads that would either be "in" or "out" for 1982. Dyed eyelashes, tea, synthesizers, a study of the 70's and John Reed are "in" and chic. Mascara, coffee, guitars, a study of the 50's and Jerry Falwell are "out" and bogue. "Either you be or you was" as the hacking away at the substance of our American language continues. But Walter Shapiro announced in the Washington Post Magazine of February 7, 1982 that we are not to fear these changes, for a "truncated form of spoken English will survive, thanks to the coming generation of talking computers."

Secular Humanism, identified by the U.S. Supreme Court in its 1961 *Torcaso v. Watkins* ruling as a religion in America, continues to be the primary driving force against almost all things biblical, Christian, traditional, nationalistic and indigenous to our republic. While calling for the formulation of a third Humanist Manifesto, Lloyd L. Morain declared that the first manifesto published in 1933 "helped liberate many people from the backwaters of traditional and supranaturalistic religion."¹⁴ The Humanist Manifesto II published in 1973 bluntly declared, "We affirm a set of common principles that . . . are a design for a secular society on a planetary scale. No deity will save us; we must save ourselves." The "rights" to euthanasia and suicide were also announced as well as "new directions" for humankind which can be attained as parochial loyalties, nationalism, and competing ideologies are "transcended." The Aspen Institute, secular humanism's chief think tank, continues to proclaim that we are in the midst of a "humanist revolution" which will produce a person-centered society, "where the concept of family changes, (and) the very gods of existence are reconsidered."¹⁵ John D. Rockefeller, III wrote a book on the current militant move of humanism and dubbed the period we are now in as "The Second American Revolution."

Slowly the Body of Christ is awakening to the full realization that it is facing an enemy which has vowed to annihilate it and to control the world. R.J. Rushdoony states the bitter truth when he says, "We are at war with an anti-Christian religion which masquerades as something other than a religion."¹⁶ But so it was at the tower of Babel. The tongue of man was attempting to take possession of the earth and live with "the hosts of heaven" in ways that were in direct violation of the revealed will of God.

Nimrod, "the strong and mighty one," fostered an inherited resentment against God and organized societal rebellion against God's government and purposes for mankind. Instead of encouraging the expansion of God's delegated stewardship by the penetration of family units into all the earth to establish nations, Nimrod rebelled and worked to establish a one world humanistic yet mystical order centered under his government by Babylon. Turning from a true knowledge of God, he began to worship "the creature" more than the Creator and ultimately moved into pantheistic humanism. The true evangelical significance set into the heavens was lost and the corrupted zodiac was developed with its attendant systems of divination, demonism, and abominations. Nimrod and his followers, unconcerned with God's command, declared that they would make themselves a name and subsequently began to build **themselves** a city with a "tower unto heaven" which would be dedicated to man's aspirations to be divine.¹⁷

It is interesting to note that this man-made work was of impressive stature, exhibited advanced technology, and was even dedicated to lofty and "sacred" purposes. In reality, it stood in defiant opposition to the expressed will of God. Such was the self-initiated establishment of Babylon the Great, city of power, anointed by Satan, in league with death, and an

influencer of the kings of the earth. God quietly and sovereignly visited, observed man's vain pursuits and by the profoundly simple act of confusing their tongue caused His will to be done according to His eternal Word. They were scattered and "they stopped building the city." (Genesis 9-11)

God and man stand at a parallel juncture today. The defiant tongue of the secular media continues to "sit above the salt" and attempts to take possession of the earth, which belongs to the Lord. As man continues in his follies and abominations which now include crossing the species through techniques of genetic engineering, (Lev. 19:19) let us lay our ear close to the mouth of God. Having had our hearts opened by His Spirit let us attend to the words of grace and wisdom which can make us wise unto salvation. Knowing that God's will and Kingdom are ultimate, let us intercede that individuals in the media be freed from deception and delusion and that God redeem them according to the riches of His mercies in Christ. Let us also pray in unison according to the way of the Holy Spirit directed Jehoshaphat and David when they faced vast armies and demonic hosts:

"Oh Lord, God of our fathers, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you. See how they are repaying us by coming to drive us out of the possession you gave us as an inheritance. O our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you." 2 Chronicles 20:6-12 NIV

"Confuse the wicked, O Lord, confound their speech, for I see violence and strife in the city. Destructive forces are at work in the city; threats and lies never leave its streets. But I call to God, and the Lord saves me. Evening, morning and noon I cry out in distress, and he hears my voice. He ransoms me unharmed from the battle waged against me, even though many oppose me. He will never let the righteous fall." Psalm 55:9-11, 16-18,22 NIV

FOOTNOTES

1. S. Robert Lichter and Stanley Rothman, "Media and Business Elites", PUBLIC OPINION, October/November 1981.
 2. Research and Forecasts, Inc., Survey for Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company, PUBLIC OPINION, October/November 1981.
 3. Ibid.
 4. Ibid.
 5. Francis A. Schaeffer, **A Christian Manifesto**, (Westchester, Illinois: Crossway Books, 1981).
 6. Ibid.
 7. Marilyn Ferguson, **The Aquarian Conspiracy**, (Los Angeles, California: J.P. Tarcher Inc., 1980)
 8. Rosalie J. Slater, M.A., "Noah Webster, Founding Father of American Scholarship and Education", **American Christian History Education Series**, (Anaheim, California: Foundation for American Christian Education, 1967).
 9. Leroy C. Hodapp, "The NCC Is Not Producing a 'Non-sexist Translation of the Bible,'" THE UNITED METHODIST REPORTER, February 20, 1981.
 10. CHRISTIAN INQUIRER, "Jottings," December 1981 - January 1982.
 11. AMERICAN COLLEGE OF GYNECOLOGY TERMINOLOGY BULLETIN, September 1966.
 12. Francis A. Schaeffer, **Whatever Happened To The Human Race?**, (Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1979).
 13. Ted Howard and Jeremy Fifkin, **Who Should Play God?**, (New York, New York: Dell Publishing Company, 1978).
 14. Lloyd L. Morain, "Humanist Manifesto II, A Time For Reconsideration?", THE HUMANIST, September/October 1980.
 15. Michael Loyd Chadwick, "Global Ideology, Humanistic Studies and the Aspen Institute", FREEMEN DIGEST: Center for Global Studies, 1979.
 16. Rousas J. Rushdoony, **Secular Humanism**, (Mobile, Alabama: New Wine Books/Integrity Publications, 1979).
 17. Henry M. Morris, **The Genesis Record**, (San Diego, California: Creation Life Publishers, 1976).
- * Suggested Reading

MARCH PRAYER FOCUS

MEDIA: (See article on pages 2 and 3).

ECONOMIC RECOVERY, that God would favor us by directing plans and programs that will birth His ways for economic recovery.

GODLY PRESIDENTIAL COUNSELLORS, that President Reagan would surround himself with godly advisors and appoint a man to counsel him on matters specifically from God's perspective.

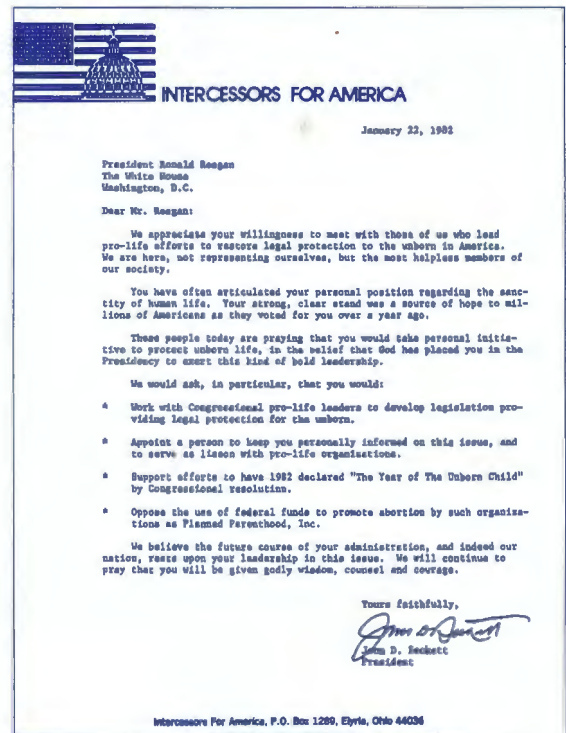
NATIONAL REPORTS

Wash. D.C. - Twenty prominent Christian leaders from around the country gathered in the White House on Feb. 12 to witness Pres. Ronald Reagan's signing of a proclamation establishing **May 6, 1982 as a National Day of Prayer**. We encourage you to notify and join others to pray for our nation on this day.

Responding to pressure from liberals, Pres. Reagan has sent a proposed bill to Congress which would give the Internal Revenue Service broad new powers to tax, review and regulate churches which maintain Christian schools. The "Church Regulation Bill" is considered by many to be the most dangerous piece of legislation ever relating to church-state separation. Immediate prayer and action is required to stop this bill, HR 5313 in the House and S.2024 in the Senate.

Georgia - The Georgia House of Representatives recently voted 116 to 57 against the Equal Rights Amendment. With this defeat and the one in Oklahoma, the ERA may have lost its last hope for ratification. (Time)

Mississippi - The National Federation For Decency has asked RCA/NBC to make a public apology for helping sponsor a vicious eight page anti-Christian section in the December issue of Playboy magazine. The section, entitled "Prayboy," belittles, demeans, ridicules and mocks Christ and Christians. (EP)



Letter co-signed by participants meeting with President Reagan Jan. 22, 1982. (See p.1)

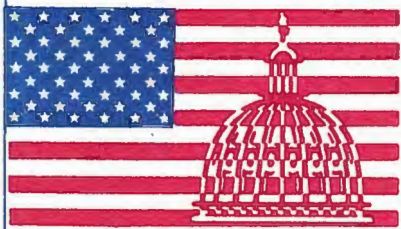
IFA STEWARDSHIP REPORT

The Lord has continued His blessings on IFA throughout 1981. It is with grateful hearts that we give thanks for His provision through your generosity. Here is the 1981 financial statement and a comparison with 1980.

	1981	1980
INCOME		
Donations	\$118,682.66	\$127,211.58
Booklets, tapes, conf., misc.	81,993.35	115,790.76
TOTAL INCOME	\$200,676.01	\$243,002.34
EXPENSES		
Salaries, taxes, insurance	\$ 53,525.98	\$ 39,229.15
Printing, mailing, postage	96,002.21	62,227.21
Admin. (Adv., phone, sup., don.)	42,814.86	21,334.58
Books, tapes, conferences	32,543.63	87,700.41
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$224,886.68	\$210,491.35
NET INCOME LESS EXPENSES	(\$24,210.67)	\$ 32,510.99

Although the statement reflects a deficit for the year, gifts and a cash surplus at the beginning of 1981 have kept us debt-free with adequate funds to launch into 1982. Please be mindful of IFA in your prayers, and diligent in your giving, so that all which God intends for this ministry be fulfilled to His honor and glory.

The newsletter is published monthly by INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA, P.O. Box 1289, Elyria, Ohio 44036, a tax-exempt, non-profit organization. Your contributions provide our financial support. Contents may be quoted or reprinted, provided excerpts are in context. News items warranting national prayer attention, or reports of answered prayer are welcome. Please provide supporting documents where possible. Your IFA staff: John Beckett, President; Guy Kump, Executive Director; Gary Bergel, Director of Research; and Jean Liles, Secretary. (216) 327-5184.



INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

RESEARCH & EDUCATION



Mr. Morton Blackwell
The White House
191 Old Esec. Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20500

April 22, 1982

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

I have just returned from a two week stay in Israel. While there, I had the opportunity to spend time with Mr. Johann Lückhoff, Director of the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem and with members of his staff. They asked if I would contact you and see if a meeting could be arranged with President Reagan on Thursday, April 29, 1982. Mr. Lückhoff and others will be in Washington working on the establishment of the Washington Consulate for this International Christian Embassy, Jerusalem. In particular, it would be good if Mr. Jan Willem van der Hoeven, Merv and Merla Watson, and Mr. Jim Jackson the Embassy's U.S. National Director could also be in this party.

By way of background, you might recall that the International Christian Embassy was established in Jerusalem during the summer of 1980, when all other international embassies moved to Tel Aviv upon Israel's proclamation of Jerusalem as their eternal capital. As a representative of the entire Christian body world wide, the Embassy group exhibits friendship and support to Israel in particular, but also to the Arab population in Israel. The Embassy also works to assist and strengthen the Israeli economy through the promotion of Israeli products world wide.

It is very touching to see Israelis stop in at this Christian Embassy and simply thank the staff for being there, as a friend. Mr. Lückhoff, the Embassy's director, was recently attacked by PLO militants and had to move from his apartment in the Old City to another place of residence. It is common knowledge that he and others are on the PLO hit list. I mention this simply to show that the Embassy and it's staff are paying a great personal price and are having a vital impact in Israel and the Middle East at this time. American Christians are fortunate to have people of this calibre and integrity representing them.

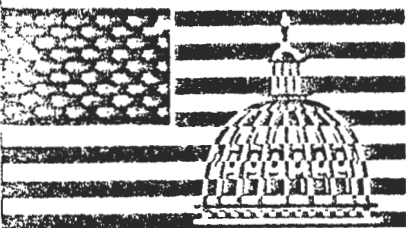
I believe that a short meeting with the President and/or top advisors is timely and would be very beneficial to the administration.

Waiting to hear from you,

Sincerely,

Gary P. Bergel
Director, IFA Research & Education

*Don
225-3761
Turned down*



INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

April 19, 1982

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

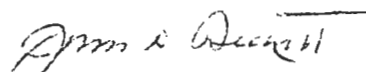
Dear President Reagan:

As a result of your proclamation declaring May 6, 1982 as a Day of Prayer, we were challenged to develop an "agenda" that might be used to focus prayer on this occasion.

This is included on the first page of our May 1, 1982 Newsletter, a copy of which is enclosed. If you or your staff feels any further distribution of this is warranted, we would be glad to assist.

Thank you for taking the initiative to declare this day. We believe God will honor it, and honor your leadership.

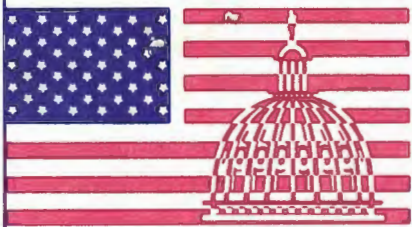
Yours affectionately,


John D. Beckett
President

gm

Enclosure: May 1, 1982 Newsletter

cc: Mr. Morton Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President



A CALL FOR CHRISTIANS TO UNITE IN PRAYER AND FASTING FOR AMERICA

PRAY AND FAST FOR AMERICA MAY 6, 1982
PRAYER FOCUS: SEE COLUMN ONE.

INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

Newsletter

May 1, 1982
Vol. 9, No. 5

Dear Intercessor,

By Presidential Proclamation, May 6, 1982 has been established as a National Day of Prayer. Each of us needs to seek the mind of God for how we approach this day, and especially how we should focus our prayer. The same Spirit which raised Christ from the dead, dwelling in us, will quicken our mortal bodies and make us alive to God's intentions.

You may wish to consider these general themes as you pray:

- * Thankfulness toward God for His Lordship, and His steadfast love, mercy, and grace, especially that He has withheld the full wrath of His judgment upon America.
- * Repentance for our sins in the Church and in the nation, and that we would depart from our evil ways.
- * To understand the Lord's burden for the sanctity of all human life, including the unborn, the disabled and infirm elderly, and that we move swiftly to stop all forms of legalized abortion.
- * That God would unite the hearts of believers in America, bestowing on us a zeal to come under the Lordship of Christ, laying aside our divisions and strife.
- * That Church leaders would develop mutual trust, respect, and clear communication lines with each other.
- * That the Lord would move to restore proper relationships, especially in marriages and families.
- * For those who govern, particularly our President, his cabinet and advisors. Pray that the President will surround himself with godly counsel, and know God's wisdom in all his decisions and conduct, especially relating to the economy, and our relations with Israel and in Central and Latin America.
- * That false gods and false doctrines would be exposed and brought down, particularly secular humanism with its obsession on "self" and denial of God.
- * That God would protect us from the designs of evil men, including terrorists, assassins, and all who would violate God-given freedom in our land.
- * That truth would prevail, especially through the media.
- * That the hand of divine judgment would be withheld, and that the Church in America might be used to bring about world-wide evangelization and the establishment of the Kingdom of God.

INTERCESSORS' REPRESENTATIVES MEET IN JERUSALEM

We are grateful for the Lord's presence with us during the recent meetings in Jerusalem. Leaders from several intercessors groups met to consider our direction in light of Denis Clark's passing at the end of 1981. Denis, as the man God used to establish many intercessors groups, did much to encourage, to coordinate and to maintain communication among the prayer fellowships in different countries. His contribution was unique. He functioned with a minimum of structure, and kept foremost the goal of producing praying people. Throughout, he kept Christ central.

Many Christian works fail in the second generation through trying to organize that which is organic. The natural tendency is to set up structure, and to carry on in the flesh what began in the Spirit. But Jesus is not only the Alpha, the beginning, but the Omega, the end. (Rev. 22:13) He is the Amen. (Rev. 3:14) He is well able to complete that which He has begun. (Phil. 1:6) Men acting in haste produce Ishmaels. Our desire is to produce an Isaac, and fulfill the promise and purpose of God.

The challenge in our being together was to find a way to carry on the services Denis provided, without over-organizing. Through discussion that was very open and direct, we concluded this could best occur by establishing a "fellowship of brethren" involving four men who worked most closely with Denis, and who would bring the particular gifts needed to carry on. These men will serve the international intercessors family by consulting, communicating, encouraging and coordinating. The four are Johannes Facius (Denmark), Alex Buchanan (Great Britain), Lance Lambert (Israel), and John Beckett (U.S.A.). They have committed themselves to maintain close contact with each other, and act in unity on matters affecting the whole.

The "fellowship of brethren" will not in any sense direct or control activities in the various nations. The leadership in each country will need to discern the Holy Spirit's direction and be accountable to the Lord for their respective intercessory prayer work. In this way, the autonomy and distinctiveness of each work will be perpetuated.

The time together was very fruitful, in terms of building a mutual relationship of trust and a framework to proceed. It also served as a sobering reminder that prayer in this hour among our nations is truly critical. Enormous tensions pervade every corner of the earth, and human solutions have been futile. Only God's intervention can bring us back from the brink of peril.

continued on page 4

HUMBLING OURSELVES BY FASTING

by Derek Prince

Fasting is a vast and vital subject which has been overlooked by the majority of Christians for many centuries. For example, many Methodists today do not know that John Wesley refused to ordain a man to the ministry if he did not commit himself to fast twice a week. In his journals, Wesley wisely concluded that, "a person who receives light on fasting and does not practice it, will backslide as surely as a person who receives light on prayer and does not practice it." Church history reveals that men and women who prayed and fasted played a very significant part in shaping the impact and destiny of the Church. As we face the present crises in Church life and in our nations there is no way we can continue to bypass fasting and come to the fulfillment of God's purposes. Fasting is essential. It is not an option.

Fasting can be defined as abstaining from food for spiritual purposes. Simply going without food because it is not available or because of medical reasons is not, in a biblical sense, fasting. There must be a spiritual motivation to qualify a fast as scriptural. Fasting can also include abstaining from fluids, but that is the exception rather than the rule, and can be dangerous for some individuals. If you are considering abstaining from fluids, make certain you read my booklet, "How to Fast Successfully," or another qualified Christian manual on fasting. If some believers are unable to fast, I believe it is appropriate and pleasing to God for others to fast in their place.

FOUR SCRIPTURAL TRUTHS ABOUT FASTING

JESUS HIMSELF FASTED. "And Jesus full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led about by the Spirit in the wilderness for 40 days while tempted by the devil, and He ate nothing during those days." (Luke 4:1-2) Jesus, as always, is the pattern, even in respect to fasting. Before beginning effective ministry, it was deemed necessary for Christ, already full of the Holy Spirit and attested to by the Father, to encounter and get the victory over Satan. Fasting enabled Him to accomplish this and to return "in the power of the Spirit." (Luke 4:14) Many believers who say, "I've been filled with the Spirit," have little evidence of the Holy Spirit in their lives. There is a significant difference. If we're going to do the works that Jesus did, we have to start where Jesus started. We cannot climb the spiritual ladder missing the first four rungs. Jesus began with fasting.

JESUS EXPECTED HIS DISCIPLES TO FAST. "When you fast, do not put on a gloomy face as the hypocrites do. . . anoint your head and wash your face so that you may not be seen as fasting by men. . . your Father who sees in secret will reward you." (Matthew 6:16-18) The Sermon on the Mount, generally regarded as the chapter for discipleship, initially addressed three things - giving alms, praying and fasting. In essence, Christ puts these on precisely the same level and, in each case when He speaks about them, does not say if, but simply **when**. Jesus assumed that all His disciples would fast, for Christ and the Church complete the Hebrew model, the Law and the prophets. (Matthew 5:17) When the question was asked of Christ, "Why don't your disciples fast like the Pharisees and the disciples of John?", Jesus replied, "The time is coming

when they will fast." (Mark 2:19-20)

THE EARLY CHURCH FASTED. "And while they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.'" (Acts 13:1-4) One way that we minister to the Lord is by fasting, for while fasting we are turning away from people and natural concerns and toward Him. It was in the process of fasting that the early believers received vital revelation as to God's choices and directions. Having learned the will of God, the early Church again fasted, prayed and laid hands on so that God's will might be fulfilled in the men appointed. Scripture then significantly declares, "so they being sent out by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia. . . and appointed elders for them in every church, having prayed with fasting." (Acts 13:3, 14:23) In the vital matters of releasing apostolic ministry and appointing elders, the early church fasted collectively rather than individually. After a detailed study of the New Testament record, I am convinced that the release of real life and the proper governing of God's people hinges upon corporate prayer and fasting. We have no right to expect to know God's perfect will and direction if we do not avail ourselves fully of the scriptural way to discover them.

GOD'S PEOPLE HAVE FASTED FROM MOSES ONWARDS. "And this shall be a permanent statute for you: in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, you shall humble your souls and not do any work, whether the native, or the alien who sojourns among you; for it is on this day that atonement shall be made for you to cleanse you; you shall be clean from all your sins before the Lord. It is to be a sabbath of solemn rest for you, that you may humble your souls; it is a permanent statute." (Leviticus 16:29-31) This is the ordinance for the day of atonement, Yom Kippur. On this, the most sacred day in the calendar of the Jewish people, the high priest went into the Holy of Holies with the blood of the sacrifice to make atonement for his sins and the sins of the nation. The appointed way for God's people to humble their souls during this period was by fasting. The Hebrew nation understood this and were corporately involved. The New International Version of this text has caught the correct intent of the original language and says, "you shall fast." We find a New Testament confirmation of this in Acts 27:9 which records the beginning of Paul's journey to Rome. For well over 3,000 years, Jewish people the world over have corporately observed this fast on Yom Kippur. The very existence of the Jewish people today is evidence that God has honored their obedience.

THE PURPOSES AND BENEFITS OF FASTING

The practice of fasting illustrates the beautiful balance between divine grace and human responsibility. Everyone knows that you can't sit on one end of a seesaw, leaving the other end up in the air forever, because you won't get anywhere. Our Redemption accomplished in Christ is all by grace, received through faith, but it is not apart from works. (Ephesians 2:5 Hebrews 6:7-12, 11 James 2:14-24) We generally learn the benefits of what God requires us to

do by doing it. The people who don't obey very seldom discover the benefits. The following are four things that fasting accomplishes.

IT IS A WAY TO HUMBLE OURSELVES. "I put on sackcloth and humbled myself with fasting. . . zeal for your house consumes me. . . when I weep and fast, I must endure scorn." (Psalm 35:13, 69:10) David, one of the really great men of the Old Testament, humbled his soul by fasting - on behalf of others who were sick, the condition of the nation, etc. Ezra likewise called a fast at the river Ahava in order that the exiles who were returning to Jerusalem might humble themselves and enlist the super-natural protection of God. (Ezra 8:31-34)

Why do we need to fast or "**afflict our souls?**" The soul in biblical terminology corresponds to what we would call the "ego." It is the "I" part, the self-assertive part, the part that says, "I want," "I feel," "I'm important," "look at me," "bless me." It is what John refers to in his first epistle when he speaks about "the boastful pride of life." (I John 2:16) Fasting is the God-ordained way of bringing the rebellious side of our soulish nature into subjection to what we know is the will and mind of God. Jesus, fasting, found strength to control His "ego" and overcome the three temptations of Satan in the wilderness. (Matthew 4:1-11) This is important. The first Adam fell through eating, the last Adam, Jesus, overcame through fasting. This very simple and yet profound truth penetrates to the root of human motivation.

FASTING PURIFIES OUR FAITH. "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." (Hebrews 11:1) What is faith? Faith is spiritual, it is not soulish. It is not emotion nor is it theology. It is in an inner realm of our nature which is hard for us to discern. When you have come to the end of your theology, ability, experience, knowledge of scripture, and when you have no more emotion left, then that little "mustard seed" that is left inside of you that says as Esther did, "If I perish, I perish, but I'm going to obey and do it," . . . that is faith. (Esther 4:16) God permits us, not merely through fasting, but in other ways, to be stripped of everything carnal and soulish, that we may come down to and behold bare faith. We do not really need a lot of faith, but we need pure faith. Effective faith is ultimately rooted in God's faithfulness. Fasting helps us apprehend and realize God's faithfulness.

FASTING BRINGS INSIGHT INTO THE SPIRITUAL REALM. "For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal. For we walk by faith, not by sight." (I Corinthians 4:17-18; 5:7) There are two realms, the visible and the spiritual. One is seen yet is transient and impermanent, the other is invisible, yet eternal. When we are too comfortable and too much at home in the seen world, we are not really in proper contact with the next. Paul, a man of much fasting, many afflictions and a clear vision of eternity and eternal values, suggests that it takes affliction of our souls to fix our gaze on the eternal, our real home. Fasting, when practiced with the right motives is a discipline that weans us from the things of time and imparts spiritual sensitivity.

FASTING MAKES WAY FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT. "For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do what you please." (Galatians 5:17) "The flesh" does not mean our physical body, but rather refers to the nature of the fallen Adam that we each received at birth. It is essentially the nature of a rebel. Insofar as the flesh or "old man" is at work, the Spirit is not at work. Fasting enables us to deal with this inner root nature and to command the old man, "Stand aside, I'm going to let the Holy Spirit have His way." Probably the biggest mistake of the Church is that of trying to do the will of God without the Holy Spirit. Trying to do it in our own strength is religiosity and is doomed to failure.

HOPE FOR THE CHURCH AND FOR THE NATIONS

Because of resistance to the Holy Spirit, every area of the Church's inheritance has been blighted and the nations suffer from lack of redemption. But thank God this is not the last word. We can take encouragement and direction from II Chronicles 7:14 and from the prophet Joel, quoted by Peter on the day of Pentecost. (Acts 2:16-21)

"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." (II Chronicles 7:14)

"Yet even now, declares the Lord, Return to me with all your heart, and with fasting, weeping and mourning. . . blow a trumpet in Zion, Consecrate a fast, proclaim a solemn assembly, Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, Gather the children and the nursing infants. . . Let the priest, the Lord's ministers, Weep between the porch and the altar. . ." (Joel 2:12, 15-17)

God declares that there is a way to effect revival, renewal and restoration in the Body of Christ and to effect the healing of this land. The first thing God asks us to do is humble ourselves in the appointed scriptural way — by fasting. Joel declares that **collective** fasting, repentance and seeking of God will effect a release of the Holy Spirit. The responsibility for this call rests upon the leaders. If the leaders will not do it, the people of God will never do it effectively. The destiny of the Church and of the nations is in our hands. May God help us all rise to the challenge.

Derek Prince is an internationally renowned Bible teacher. He has authored several books, including Shaping History Through Prayer and Fasting; has a program on 28 radio stations across the U.S.; serves on the Board of Directors of New Wine Magazine; and spends much of his time living and ministering in Israel.

The above teaching, **HUMBLING OURSELVES BY FASTING**, is adapted from a message delivered by Rev. Derek Prince at a conference for both Catholic and Protestant church leaders held near Belfast, N. Ireland, at the close of 1981. Many interesting and enlightening illustrations had to be edited out for this article. We are certain you would benefit greatly from the entire teaching. You may purchase the full 90 minute cassette tape for \$3.50 from Intercessors For America, P.O. Box 1289, Elyria, OH 44036.

We were also reminded of the critical role the U.S. has in world affairs. The fate of many nations rests on decisions being made by the Reagan Administration, and this Administration is the focus of unparalleled attacks from the press, both foreign and domestic. We must pray daily for our President and those who serve him.

Finally, we are challenged as intercessors for America to find ways to produce praying people. It's not enough that we

be informed. It's not enough that we oppose the evil in our land. We really need to embrace God and learn to 'pray through' matters, as Daniel did, until we witness the fulfillment of God's intervention. IFA wants to be a catalyst in the process that will unite individuals and especially fellowships in prayer to bring forth the purposes of God throughout America. Our conference in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 29 to 31 will be a big step in this direction. We sincerely trust you will be able to attend.

NATIONAL REPORTS

Wash. D.C. - A resolution authorizing and requesting President Reagan to officially proclaim 1982 as YEAR OF THE UNBORN CHILD was introduced into the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Mark Siljander on March 24. "It is hoped that by calling the nation into a year of reflection, study and celebration of developing life, we will return to a better understanding and respect for all members of our human family - including those most helpless and defenseless - our unborn brothers and sisters," Congressman Siljander stated.

Wash. D.C. - William Billings of the National Christian Action Coalition reports that Congress has backed away from the 'Church Regulation Bill' because of the flood of mail and phone calls protesting it. This bill would have given the Internal Revenue Service broad new powers to tax, review and regulate churches which maintain Christian schools. (ALERT)

Wash. D.C. - Last summer Congress enacted the Adolescent Family Life (AFL) program as part of the omnibus budget reconciliation bill. Sponsored by Sen. Jeremiah Denton, AFL will seek to discourage adolescent sexual activity, emphasize family involvement and adoption in cases of teenage pregnancies, and place strict restrictions on abortion referrals. No funds were appropriated for AFL in 1982. The Reagan Administration is now requesting that AFL receive \$11 million for the remainder of 1982 and \$16 million in 1983. This measure is expected to be considered by Congress in the next few weeks. (NRTLN)

Indiana - A bill requiring notification of the parent or guardian of a minor seeking an abortion was signed into law Feb. 25 by Governor Robert Orr. The new law, which passed in the House 90-6 and in the Senate 36-13, will become effective Sept. 1. (NRTLN)

Colorado - Undaunted by recent criticism, State Rep. Bob Stephenson has rallied support for his crusade to eliminate public school textbooks and films smacking of secular humanism. As Chairman of the House Education Committee, Stephenson has asked the state's 181 school districts to send him complete lists of their curriculum materials. He plans to have Mel and Norma Gabler, heads of a Texas organization which has analyzed textbooks for 21 years, check the lists against their files to identify which materials are dominated by humanism. (EP)

California - A program "to develop learning skills" has been rejected by California's ABC School Board after parents objected to the yoga exercises included in it. The board voted to kill the program after five parents and a consultant from the Christian Research Institute explained that yoga was inseparable from Eastern religions. (CI)

Minnesota - Under a new Minnesota statute, lawsuits may no longer seek damages based on a claim that a person should never have been born. The proposed law, which bars so called "wrongful life" and "wrongful birth" actions, was passed by the state legislature on March 14 and signed a few days later by Governor Al Quie. "Wrongful birth" suits are medical malpractice cases brought by parents who want to recover damages caused by the birth of an unwelcome child. "Wrongful life" suits are brought by the child against either the parents, the medical providers involved, or both. (NRTLN)