

Prayer Of Repentance Spoken By Minister Joe Wright

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'Depart from evil and do good. Live securely forever (for eternity)' (Psalm 37:27). 'God's eyes are everywhere, keeping watch on the evil and the good' (Proverbs 15:3). 'You will remember your evil ways and your doings that were not good, and you will loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations' (Ezekiel 36:31). 'Woe to those people who call evil good and good evil, who say darkness is light and light is darkness' (Isaiah 5:20).

The following prayer was spoken by Minister Joe Wright from Central Christian Church, a very brave and humble politician in Kansas, USA at the opening session of their Senate. It seems this heartfelt prayer upsets some people but it is absolutely strong and true, not just in the US but the world over. People were expecting the usual empty rhetoric spoken by politicians but instead what the world got is a prayer of the type Daniel and Nehemiah prayed. Many legislators actually walked out during this prayer. Were they cut to the heart by the conviction of the Holy Spirit? With God's help, let this prayer become the norm and bring righteousness to this unsaved world.

Minister Joe Wright: "Heavenly Father, we come before You today to ask Your forgiveness and to seek Your direction and guidance. We know the Word says, "Woe to those who call evil good," but that is exactly what we have done. We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and reversed our values. We have exploited the poor and called it a lottery. We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare. We have killed our unborn and called it choice. We have slain killers and called it justifiable. We have neglected to discipline our children and called it building self-esteem. We have abused power and called it politics. We have coveted our neighbour's possessions and called it ambition. We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression. We have ridiculed Your time-honoured values and called it enlightenment. Search us Oh God, and know our hearts today. Cleanse us from every sin and set us free. Amen!"

Daniel 9:3 to 19; 'I (Daniel) set my face to the Lord God to seek by prayer and petitions, with fasting, sackcloth and ashes. I prayed to the Lord my God, "Oh, Lord, the great and dreadful God, Who keeps covenant and loving kindness with those who love Him and keep His commandments. We have sinned, we have dealt perversely, we have done wickedly and have rebelled, turning aside from your precepts and from your ordinances, neither have we listened to Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings, our princes (politicians), to our fathers and to all the people of the land. Lord, righteousness belongs to You but to us confusion of face as at this day ... because we have sinned against You. To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgiveness. We have rebelled against Him neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in His laws which He set before us by His servants the prophets. Yes, all Israel (and the whole earth) have transgressed Your law, turning aside so they should not obey Your voice, therefore the curse has been poured out on us (all humanity) because ... we have sinned against Him.

Verse 14. The Lord watched over the evil and brought it down on our heads for our God is righteous in all His ways and we have not obeyed His voice. Now Lord our God ... we have sinned and we have done wickedly. Lord, according to all Your righteousness, let Your anger and please let Your wrath be turned away ... 17. Now our God, listen to the prayer of Your servants and to our petitions and cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake. 19. Lord hear, Lord forgive, Lord listen and do. Do not defer for Your own sake my God'."

Nehemiah 1:4 to 7 & 11; 'I sat down and wept and mourned for days. I fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. "I beg you Lord the God of heaven, the great and awesome God Who keeps covenant and loving kindness with those who love Him and keep His commandments. Let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open so You may listen to the prayer of Your servant, which I pray before You at this time, day and night ... I confess the sins which we have sinned against You. Yes, I and my father's house have sinned. We have dealt very corruptly against You and have not kept the commandments, the statutes nor the ordinances ... Verse 11. Lord I beg You, let Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant and to the prayer of Your servants who delight to fear Your name, and please prosper me this day and grant me mercy'."

If we take what Minister Wright said and seek out a few corresponding scriptures, we can see the level of sin he was referring to. These few scriptures written here are not by any means exhaustive. There are many more verses you can seek out for yourselves. (1) We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and reversed our

values. 'Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who say darkness is light and light is darkness, who say bitter is sweet and sweet is bitter!' (Isaiah 5:20).

(2) We have exploited the poor and called it a lottery. 'Do not exploit the poor because they are poor and do not crush the needy' (Proverbs 22:22).

(3) We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare. 'If anyone will not work neither let them eat' (2 Thessalonians 3:10).

(4) We have killed our unborn and called it choice. 'You shall not murder' (Exodus 20:13; Deuteronomy 5:17). 'You have heard it was said to the ancient ones, 'You shall not murder,' and 'Whoever shall murder will be in danger of judgment' (Matthew 5:21).

(5) We have slain killers and called it justifiable. 'The congregation will deliver the manslayer out of the hand of the avenger of blood, and the congregation will restore him to his city of refuge where he had fled' (Numbers 35:25).

(6) We have neglected to discipline our children and called it building self-esteem. 'Discipline your child while there is hope. Do not be a willing party to their (spiritual) death ... Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child but the rod of discipline drives it far from them ... Do not withhold correction from a child. If you punish them with the rod they will not die. Punish them with the rod and save their soul from Sheol' (Proverbs 19:18; 22:15; 23:13 & 14).

(7) We have abused power and called it politics. 'Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot an evil thing? The kings of the earth take a stand and the rulers (governments) take counsel together against God and against His Anointed (Jesus) saying, "Let us break Their bonds apart and cast Their cords from us." But He who sits in the heavens will laugh. The Lord will have them in derision' (Psalm 2:1 to 4). 'Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot an evil thing? The kings of the earth take a stand and the rulers (governments) take council together against the Lord and against His Messiah' (Acts 4:25 & 26).

(8) We have coveted our neighbour's possessions and called it ambition. 'You will not covet your neighbour's house or his land. You will not covet your neighbour's wife, his servants, his ox, his donkey nor anything that is your neighbour's' (Exodus 20:17; Deuteronomy 5:21).

(9) We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression. 'Out of the heart come evil thoughts ... adulteries and sexual sins ... false testimonies (lies) and blasphemies' (Matthew 15:19). 'From within, out of the hearts of people proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, sexual sins, murders, thefts, coveting, wickedness, deceit, lustful desires, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride and foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile the person' (Mark 7:21 to 23). 'Do you not know the unrighteous will not inherit the Kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. The sexually immoral, adulterers, prostitutes, homosexuals, idolaters, thieves, covetous, drunkards, slanderers nor extortioners will never inherit the Kingdom of God' (1 Corinthians 6:9 & 10).

(10) We have ridiculed Your time-honoured values and called it enlightenment. 'Let everyone be in subjection to the authorities for there is no authority except from God and those who exist are ordained by God. Those who resist authority, withstand the ordinance of God and those who withstand God will receive to themselves judgment' (Romans 13:1 & 2). 'Remember this Lord, the enemy has mocked You. Foolish people have blasphemed Your name ... Lord, Your enemies have mocked the footsteps of Your Anointed One (Jesus). Blessed be the Lord forevermore. Amen and Amen' (Psalm 74:18; 89:51 & 52).

'I abhor myself and repent in dust and ashes' (Job 42:6). 'Seek the Lord all you humble of the earth who have kept His ordinances. Seek righteousness. Seek humility. It may be that you will be hidden in the day of God's anger' (Zephaniah 2:3). May all Bible believing disciples, Christians, church goers and all politicians who claim to be Christian, follow the example of Daniel, Nehemiah and Minister Joe Wright, with a heart of repentance, humble themselves before God and have the courage to speak out, to repent for the sins of their own nations, in whatever country they live. No country is more sinful than another and no country is more righteous than another. All humanity has sinned and fallen short of what the Lord has commanded so all nations need Godly people to lift up their own country to God in prayer and seek Him for answers. This world is evil and is getting worse. Only God Himself can sort this mess out and He will when our Messiah comes again but in the meantime, all Godly people need to stand up and proclaim the name of the Lord and His righteousness. 'I have proclaimed glad news of righteousness in the great assembly. Behold, I will not seal my lips Lord, You know. I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart. I have declared Your faithfulness and Your salvation. I have not concealed Your loving kindness and Your truth from the great assembly' (Psalm 40:9 & 10). 'What Jesus tells you in secret, speak out in the daylight and what you hear (the Holy Spirit) whisper in the ear, proclaim on the housetops (in public)' (Matthew 10:27).

Amen and God bless you.

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