

# 10 Ways to Pray in Times Like These

by Ron Hutchcraft, used with permission

## 1. "Lord, do something that will show people Your glory over all the earth."

- *"O God ... let Your glory be over all the earth."* Psalm 108:5
- *"Be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told."* Habakkuk 1:5

This is a moment for God to do something that no diplomat, no world leader, no army could possibly do—so all will know that "the Lord He is God."

## 2. "Lord, use these anxious and uncertain times to bring many to Christ."

- *"Pray ... that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored."* II Thessalonians 3:1
- *"May God be gracious to us and bless us ... that Your ways may be known on earth, Your salvation among the nations."* Psalm 67:1,2

God can use this fearful time to reach the hearts of many—in Iraq, in America, across the Middle East, among the young men and women of the military.

## 3. "Lord, guide our leaders to be instruments of Your will on earth."

- *"I urge ... that requests, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority."* I Timothy 2:1,2

A believer's responsibility to "honor the king" (I Peter 2:17) and to pray for those in authority transcends political labels and issues—it is a spiritual responsibility!

## 4. "Lord, protect the innocent."

- *"Blessed is he who has regard for the weak; the Lord delivers him in time of trouble ..."* Psalm 40:1
- *"A Father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy dwelling."* Psalm 68:5

In the violence of war, of oppression, of terrorism, only God can protect the innocent—innocent citizens, innocent victims, innocent combatants.

## 5. "Lord, use human authorities to "bring punishment on evildoers."

- *"The governing authorities ... are God's servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the evildoer."* Romans 13:1,4
- *"It is God who judges; He brings down one, He exalts another."* Psalm 5:7

Ultimately it is God Himself, sometimes using human instruments, who removes those He does not want in authority any longer. "He brings princes to naught." (Isaiah 40:23)

**6. "Lord have Your way and Your will in the lives of our enemies."**

- *"Pray for those who mistreat you."* Luke 6: 27

Jesus has charged us to represent even our enemies before His Throne of Grace.

**7. "Lord make a way for people to live in the dignity and freedom that goes with being made in Your image."**

- *"Live as free men ..."* 1 Peter 2: 16
- *"Weep and wail, because of the misery that is coming upon you ... you who have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered innocent men..."* James 5: 1,5,6
- *"Act justly ... love mercy ... walk humbly with your God."* Micah 6: 8

Every person on this planet is "God's workmanship" (Ephesians 2: 10), worthy of the dignity and respect a "God's image" person should have.

**8. "Lord, help Your people model peace in these troubled times, pointing the people around them to Jesus—at a time when hearts are soft."**

- *"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm, and secure."* Hebrews 6: 19
- *"Open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest."* John 4: 35

This uncertain time is a life-saving moment—when those who belong to Jesus have an unusual window to introduce Him to those who don't. But the window may not be open for long.

**9. "Lord, use world events to open many doors that have been closed to Your gospel."**

- *"The Lord has His way in the whirlwind and in the storm."* Nahum 1: 3
- *"Pray that God may open a door for our message ..."* Colossians 4: 3

God's plan is much larger than disarmament, political change, or military victory—He's about getting the Good News of His Son to hearts and places it has never gone!

**10. "Lord, bring peace out of all that's happening."**

- *"That we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."* 1 Timothy 2: 2

God has told us that the result He desires in answer to our prayers for our leaders is a climate where peace and righteousness can flourish.

*"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."*