

A Declaration of Freedom

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 113:2-6, 2 Corinthians 3:17



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Reflections of the Heart

"Freedom and justice cannot be parceled out in pieces to suit political convenience. I don't believe you can stand for freedom for one group of people and deny it to others." ~ Coretta Scott King

Spiritual Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You, O God! We give thanks because you are near. People everywhere tell of Your wonderful deeds. Lord, we thank you and praise your glorious Name! Everything we have has come from you, and we give you only what you first gave us! Thank You, Holy Spirit, for empowering us to be effective witnesses for Jesus Christ and being God's guarantee for the inheritance He promised. Because of You, this guarantee includes that we have been purchased to be His own people. Hallel YAH! Father God, we praise You, our Savior. Each day, You carry us in Your arms; You are the God who saves.

Mighty God, Your Word says that we have not received a spirit that makes us fearful slaves; instead, we have received Your Spirit when You adopted us as Your children. We confess that the same Holy Spirit who resurrected Jesus from the dead now dwells within us. It is the Holy Spirit who gives life to our mortal bodies, just as He gave life to Christ and raised Him from the dead. Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory You will reveal to us later. For we wait eagerly for that future day when You will reveal who Your children really are. You freed the Israelites from Egypt, the Jews from the Holocaust and the American Negro from slavery, for which many states now celebrate on June 19th. We declare that these are forerunners to a future that will guide us toward justice and freedom for all regardless of race, creed, gender or ethnicity.

List how you will commit to praying for our nation:

Holy Spirit, as we celebrate our liberty at special times throughout the United States, remind us of those who struggled before us to ensure freedom. Even as we honor days like June 19th and what it stands for, give us the courage to acknowledge and destroy racism, so that we are able to obey the Commandment to love one another. Prevent any works of evil that would hinder us from being just and fair, doing what is right and good and carrying out the Lord's original plans and purposes for our lives. Help all people to seek Your wisdom and allow You to direct their paths as they do their part in reforming our nation. Holy Spirit, we pray that the Body of Christ will rise up in leadership to demonstrate God's love as our nation works to identify and replace racism and oppression of any kind with justice and righteousness.

Merciful Father, forgive us for not completely yielding control of our lives to You. Forgive those who do not stand for justice and righteousness for all people. Forgive Christian leaders who fail to teach believers Your Word about how You look upon the hearts of all people and not upon their physical

human characteristics. Forgive our nation for all acts of sinfulness. Lord, forgive me for ***(list any sins that you have committed)***. Holy Spirit, remind us of those we need to forgive and help us to be quick to forgive. As for me, Holy Spirit, bring to my remembrance those I need to forgive. ***(Take a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to show you names or faces of people that you may need to forgive. As He shows you, say, "I forgive name of person(s)." Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in your soul caused by unforgiveness.)***

Holy Spirit, help us not to yield to temptation but deliver us from the evil one.

How great are You, O Lord! Your power is absolute! Your understanding is beyond comprehension! You are mighty, but You do not despise anyone! You are mighty in both power and understanding. Wealth and honor come from You alone, for You rule over everything. Power and might are in Your hand, and at Your discretion people are made great and given strength. In the mighty and wonderful Name of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

Scripture References for the Written Text: Psalm 75:1, 1 Chronicles 29:13-14, Ephesians 1:14, Psalm 68:19-20, Romans 8:11-15, Romans 8:18-19, Psalms 147:5, Job 36:5, I Chronicles 29:12

Today, I will trust God to:

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