

State of the Union: One Nation Under God
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1 Peter 2:9-10 NKJV

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, **a holy nation**, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; who once were not a people but are now the **people of God**, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

John 18:36 NLT

Jesus answered, “**My Kingdom is not an earthly kingdom**. If it were, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders. But **My Kingdom is not of this world**.”

John 17:13-18 NLT

“I have given them your word. And the world hates them because **they do not belong to the world**, just as I do not belong to the world. I’m not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. **They do not belong to this world** any more than I do. Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world.”

How to Live as One Nation Under God

1. Put our hope in Christ, not political leaders

Psalms 146:3 NIV

Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.

Philippians 3:18-21 NIV

For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. **But our citizenship is in heaven**. And we eagerly await a **Savior** from there, the **Lord Jesus Christ**, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under

his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Jeremiah 17:5-7 NIV

This is what the Lord says: “**Cursed is the one who trusts in man**, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the Lord. That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes. They will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives. “**But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord**, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.”

How to Live As One Nation Under God

2. Live on the platform of righteousness and justice

Psalm 89:14 NKJV

Righteousness and **justice** are the foundation of Your throne...

Psalm 33:5 NKJV

He loves **righteousness** and **justice**; the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.

Isaiah 28:16-17 NLT

...”Look! I am placing a foundation stone in Jerusalem, a firm and tested stone. It is a precious cornerstone that is safe to build on. Whoever believes need never be shaken. I will test you with the measuring line of **justice** and the plumb line of **righteousness**...”

RIGHTEOUSNESS: Living right toward God, living by a moral code of conduct from by God’s Word

JUSTICE: Living right toward people, correcting the injustices of society, defending the poor and marginalized

How to Live As One Nation Under God

3. Live as Christ's Ambassadors for the Government of God

AMBASSADOR: Someone who represents one government while living in another

2 Corinthians 5:20 NKJV

Now then, we are **ambassadors** for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

Daniel 4:27 ESV

"Therefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable to you: break off your sins by practicing **righteousness**, and your iniquities by showing **mercy** to the oppressed, that there may perhaps be a lengthening of your prosperity."

1 Peter 2:11-17 MSG

Friends, **this world is not your home**, so don't make yourselves cozy in it. Don't indulge your ego at the expense of your soul. **Live an exemplary life among the natives so that your actions will refute their prejudices.** Then they'll be won over to God's side and be there to join in the celebration when he arrives. Make the Master proud of you by being good citizens. Respect the authorities, whatever their level; they are God's emissaries for keeping order. **It is God's will that by doing good, you might cure the ignorance of the fools who think you're a danger to society.** Exercise your freedom by serving God, not by breaking the rules. Treat everyone you meet with dignity. **Love your spiritual family. Revere God. Respect the government.**

The Lord's Prayer

"Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, here on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen."