

# National Intercessory Prayer

## *The Effects of the Civil War*



NIP-14



Pastor John S. Torell

September 24, 2023

### **THE CIVIL WAR**

The American Civil War (1861-1865) had a deep spiritual impact on the nation. The toll upon the souls of the soldiers and the victims of this warfare was immeasurable. The war was fought primarily over the issue of states' rights, but Abraham Lincoln threw in the emancipation of slavery for good measure when the North was dangerously close to losing in the early part of the war.

The Union experienced 365,000 soldiers killed, 282,000 were wounded, and 181,193 were captured and kept in prison camps. The Confederate States suffered 290,000 soldiers killed, 137,000 were wounded, and 436,658 were taken captive and held in prison camps.

That means that 655,000 homes in America lost a father, brother, or a son in the war. Yet another 318,193 homes saw a wounded man return home and most were crippled for life. The 617,851 incarcerated men from both sides were traumatized by the cruel prison camps. It is estimated that some 30,000 Union soldiers died in prison camps as a result of brutal treatment.

More than 936,044 homes were affected by the war and many of the traumatized soldiers returning home were abusive to their wives and

children. The warfare opened up doors for demons and people living afterwards were different.

### **REVIVAL IN THE TWO ARMIES**

There is no doubt that Christians were praying on their knees for God to stop the carnage that Satan had unleashed upon the nation. The result was army chaplains on both sides became involved in revival meetings after heavy fighting and thousands of men gave their lives to Christ.

The United States Christian Commission was established in 1864 to minister to the Union soldiers and preachers went to the battlefronts, setting up tents, and preaching to the men. The norm was to preach a short sermon, then have an altar call and pray for the men that came forward to be saved by Jesus.

D. L. Moody (1837-1899) was an evangelist that eventually traveled the world with the gospel. He lived in Chicago and worked as a shoe salesman. He was on fire for the Lord and started a Sunday School in 1858. The students grew to 650 in a single year and necessitated 60 teachers. When President Lincoln visited Chicago in November of 1860, he came to Moody's Sunday school and spoke to the students and teachers.

When the Civil War started, Moody declared himself to be a passivist. Nevertheless, he traveled

nine times to different battlegrounds with friends to pray with the gravely wounded. He carried water for the soldiers of both sides, leading them to Christ before they died. While Moody did not carry a gun, he carried a Bible and God used him to save the souls of hundreds of men.

### **THE IMPACT OF MOODY**

There were no voice amplification systems like we have today during Moody's time on earth. In order to amplify the voice of a speaker, a sound board was erected above the speaker so his voice could carry further.

Moody spent time in England where he held meetings that profoundly changed upon the nation. He also held revival meetings on the west coast of the United States from Boston to New York. He preached in numerous towns and went as far as to San Francisco. He traveled up and down the West coast from Vancouver in Canada to San Diego in the south.

Education was important to Moody and he founded the Northfield School for girls in 1879 and Mount Hermon School for boys in 1881. He also established Moody Bible Institute 1886, which is located in Chicago.

It is estimated that Moody preached to more than 100 million people during his lifetime.

### **THE SUNDAY SCHOOL MOVEMENT**

The American Sunday School Union (ASSU) was founded in 1824 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The objective was to propagate moral and religious information. Reports up to May 26, 1835, indicate they were connected with 16,000 schools, 115,000 teachers, and 799,000 pupils. At least 60,000 teachers and students became religious professors during the 15 years of the ASSU's existence.<sup>1</sup>

Sunday schools focused largely on reading in the early years. Classes were organized by knowledge, so children and adults studied the basics of the alphabet side by side. In the 1820s and 1830s, they shifted course, focusing more on age-appropriate study of theology.<sup>2</sup>

Most of the denominations eventually added Sunday school to their regular activity and the children born after the Civil War had the opportunity to attend Sunday school. This had a huge impact on the nation as each generation was educated to believe in the Bible, hear its stories, and learn about the love of Jesus, who walked on earth doing good and healing people.

### **YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION**

The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) began in England with George Williams in 1844 when he was 22 years old. The goal was to establish local chapters where young men could meet, study the Bible, and pray. Seven years later, the program was so successful in London that an American seaman and missionary, Captain Thomas V. Sullivan, decided to start the first American chapter at Boston in 1851.

In a time, when many young men moved to the big cities to get factory jobs, the goal of the YMCA was to provide a place after work where these young men could meet and build their Christian faith instead of hanging out in the taverns and gambling halls. The YMCA in Boston had 1,500 members by 1853.

It did not take long until the organization spread into different states and cities. D.L. Moody was active as a YMCA speaker in the early days of his ministry in Chicago. By 1869, YMCA buildings started to include gymnasiums and the term "body building" was coined. The first summer camp was opened in 1885.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://tinyurl.com/2pyyrm4>

<sup>2</sup> <https://tinyurl.com/2zdz9nbm>

The YMCA was a strong Christian organization during the 19th century and it greatly impacted the morality of the nation. The next century would see the organization drop its Christian values and today it is only used as a gym.

### **THE TARES**

Lucifer and his minions never sleep or rest; there is constant warfare against the Kingdom of God. Lucifer knew they could not stop the moving of the Holy Spirit after the Civil War and he worked on long range projects that would yield much fruit.

### **JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES**

One of Satan's tares was Charles Taze Russell (1852-1916). He was from Pennsylvania and came from a Presbyterian background. He joined a Congregational church as an adult and felt that there were discrepancies in the churches. Russell began to investigate and attend churches from different religions. He was heavily influenced by a Seventh Day Adventist minister, but eventually decided this was not the full truth either.

Ultimately, he started his own religion which became known as the Watch Tower Society and later became known as the Jehovah's Witnesses. Russell adopted the new Christian Zionist movement and incorporated this heresy into his false doctrine.

Russell taught there is no hell and only 144,000 will be saved and taken to heaven. He believed that the dead are sleeping in the graves, waiting for the resurrection. If you were not part of the 144,000, the best you could hope for was the millennium kingdom and annihilation afterwards.

Charles Russell did not believe that Jesus is God and part of the Godhead (trinity); instead, he taught that when Jesus was raised from the dead, He received divinity as a gift from the Father. Russell denied the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Godhead and merely was the representation of God's power.

According to Russell, the second return of Jesus occurred in October of 1874 and He has been ruling from heaven since that time. This was a variant of what Ellen G. White told her followers that Jesus returned and now is cleaning the city of God in heaven.

Charles Taze Russell has been residing in hell since 1916. He prays fervently on a daily basis that people won't come to his church and embrace his twisted belief system. There are many people like him in hell. Mohammad, the founder of Islam, has been praying for hundreds of years that God will stop people from becoming Muslims. Joseph Smith, the founder of Mormonism, is another one that is pleading with God to stop people coming to the Mormon church. But Lucifer is running his religious enterprises with an iron hand to pack as many people as possible into hell.

The Jehovah's Witnesses as of 2022 had a membership of 19.7 million people in different nations with 8.5 million members active in evangelism.

### **WESTCOTT AND HORT**

Lucifer and his forces have tried to destroy the Bible down through the ages. William Tyndale was burned at the stake for translating the Bible into English so the common people could read it, but then this sort of persecution also took place in other countries. While the Kingdom of God was expanding in the United States during the 19th century, Lucifer ordered a new Greek version of the New Testament to be released toward the end of the century. His faithful servants were two British clergymen from the Church of England.

Brooke Foss Westcott (1825-1901) and Fenton John Anthony Hort (1828-1892) were priests in the Church of England who also dabbled in the occult. Given their actions on earth, I seriously

doubt they were born again.<sup>3</sup> Their version of the Greek New Testament was published in 1881. It was not intended for the general public, but theologians who would use this “bastard” text to translate the New Testament into English and give the world a translation that was missing thousands of words and entire verses.

Today there are some fifty different versions of the Bible in English – the New International Version being the most common. This bastard Bible is based on the Greek manuscript produced by Westcott and Hort. The NIV is found in most churches and this has led to a weakening of the faith among Christians. This indirect attack by Lucifer was one of his most brilliant ploys against the Christian faith.

### **SUMMARY**

I have provided you with a sweeping panorama of the latter part of the 19th century. The Holy Spirit clearly moved upon the United States despite the devastating Civil War and the Indian wars. I did not write about the Indian wars since I want to make this bulletin as compact as possible. But in looking back at history, it is clear that the government committed war crimes against the Indians, who were merely defending their land. To give an honest evaluation of how the American Indians were treated would be similar to what Nazi Germany planned for the Polish, Russian and Ukrainian people in 1941. Hitler talked about “Lebensraum” for the German people and the plan was to remove the undesirables and resettle them deeper into Russia.

It was the idea of Manifest Destiny that fueled the federal government’s desire to expand across North America. That meant evicting the Indians from their ancestral lands and resulted in reservations that had no value for the white Americans. In looking at statistics, I would say that more than 70% of American Indians were killed in

battles and raids on their dwelling places. The tragedy is that there was no major effort to reach them with the Gospel.

The white and black churches in America prospered due to preaching, the Sunday school movement, the YMCA, and other outreaches from the churches. In the public schools, the Bible was read by the teachers to the students, who also led them in prayer.

Despite the Jim Crow treatment of the blacks in the southern states, and the horrible genocide of the American Indians, the Holy Spirit moved upon white people, who by the year 1900, had made America into a Christian nation. Missionaries were sent out to Africa, India, China and other parts of the world.

Preaching, teaching, prayer and fasting were the moving factors that propelled Christianity into power in the United States.

### **THE NIP FAMILY**

Our NIP family consists of two groups. The first group are committed to pray on a daily basis for our nation, for a revival among the Christians and an awaking among the unbelievers. The second group is also committed to prayer, but they are also fasting once a week from Monday 6 p.m. to Tuesday 6 p.m. We are going to fast until the Holy Spirit tells us that victory has come.

I realize that some people do not care for former President Trump. I know that he is not perfect, but he is the man that God can use to turn this nation around during his next four years in the White House. I am counting on God raising up someone to run for the presidency in 2028. Regardless of your opinion of Trump, we can all agree on the need to remove the ungodly politicians – regardless of their political party – and replace them with men and women who love the Lord!

---

<sup>3</sup> Matthew 7:15-20

## **LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY!**

**"AND IT CAME TO PASS, THAT, AS HE WAS PRAYING IN A CERTAIN PLACE, WHEN HE CEASED, ONE OF HIS DISCIPLES SAID UNTO HIM, LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY, AS JOHN ALSO TAUGHT HIS DISCIPLES." LUKE 11:1**

## **PRAYER TARGET**

I am purposely not changing our prayer targets. We are going to focus on them until they are answered by the Lord.

Donald Trump is nationalistic in his worldview, but he is a fallible man. He is resisting the Kabbalistic men and women entrenched in the government. Pray for his protection as he battles multiple bogus indictments.

Let's pray that Joe Biden will repent and turn from his wickedness as the leader of the Biden crime family. If he refuses to change and won't be a righteous president, let God remove him from the earth.

Kamala Harris is a licentious woman who has used her sexuality to rise to a position of power. If she won't repent and become a virtuous woman of God, let her be removed from the earth.

Jeffrey Zients is the de facto president while serving as the White House chief of staff. He puts forth policies which benefit his spiritual master, Lucifer, and not the American people.

If he won't repent and become a man that serves the Lord, let God remove him from the earth.

The wicked homosexual and transgender lifestyles are to be soundly condemned; as is their agenda of targeting children with the intention of perverting their young minds. Pray that God will open their eyes to the moral perversion they have embraced and that they will repent. Anyone who stubbornly resists the agenda of righteousness and delights in debauchery will have their life shortened and be removed from the earth.