



A Pastor with GUTS!!

This interesting prayer was given in Kansas at the opening session of their Senate. It seems prayer still upsets some people. When Minister Joe Wright was asked to open the new session of the Kansas Senate, everyone was expecting the usual generalities, but this is what they heard:

Heavenly Father, we come before you today to ask your forgiveness and to seek your direction and guidance. We know Your 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 the lottery.

We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare.

We have killed our unborn and called it choice.

We have shot abortionists 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 the time-honoured values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment.

Search us, Oh, God, and know our hearts today; cleanse us from every sin and set us free.

Amen!

The response was immediate. A number of legislators walked out during the prayer in protest. In 6 short weeks, Central Christian Church, where Rev. Wright is pastor, logged more than 5,000 phone calls with only 47 of those calls responding negatively. The church is now receiving international requests for copies of this prayer from India, Africa and Korea.

Commentator Paul Harvey aired this prayer on his radio programme, 'The Rest of the Story,' and received a larger response to this programme than any other he has ever aired.

With the Lord's help, may this prayer sweep over our nation and wholeheartedly become our desire, so that we again can be called 'one nation under God.'

If possible, please pass this prayer on to your friends.
'If you don't stand for something, you will fall for everything.'

EASTER CELEBRATIONS IN BRAZIL



Easter celebration in Brazil begins with the Holy Week rituals which involve the blessing of the palm branches, woven in intricate patterns representing crosses, banners, letters, and other related objects. As in many other countries, worshippers in Brazil go on procession walks, carrying statues of Mary and the body of Christ. Pacoca, a special Easter delicacy, is prepared by mixing together crushed nuts and other ingredients into a paste and is given to visitors.

The world-famous Rio Carnival in Rio de Janeiro precedes the Easter celebration in Brazil. The Carnival takes place during the days before Ash Wednesday, the first of 40 days of the Lent season. Sambodromo, a 700-meter long parade strip, is thronged by a huge crowd of locals and tourists.

Other towns and cities, such as Recife, also have celebrations during the Carnival period, that are well known for their folkloric representations and two well known folk dances, the Maracatu and the Frevo.

In the village of Fazenda, natives have staged a Biblical passion play since 1950. Thousands of people watch as volunteers act out the arrest, trial and crucifixion of Jesus. Good Friday and Easter are widely celebrated in many towns around Brazil, but especially in the historic towns of Minas Gerais and Novo Jerusalem.