

# PRAY. PROCLAIM. PARTICIPATE.

*We Cannot Be Neutral — A Word for Such a Time as This*

PASTOR VLAD • HUNGRY GENERATION CHURCH

Sunday, May 17, 2026 • 250th Anniversary of the Continental Congress' Day of Humiliation, Fasting & Prayer

## PREACHING TEXT

*Jeremiah 29:7 — “Seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the LORD for it; for in its peace you will have peace.”*

On May 17, 1776 — 250 years ago today — the Second Continental Congress called every colony to a day of **humiliation, fasting, and prayer**. They didn't just ask for prayer; they humbled themselves, invoked the name of Jesus Christ, and asked God to forgive their sins through His mediation. Seven weeks later, they declared independence.

*“The Founders prayed. The pulpits proclaimed. The people participated. That’s how a nation gets born — and that’s how a nation gets reborn.”*

1

## The Founders Prayed. The Pulpits Proclaimed. The People Participated.

### A. Rededicate 250 — The Modern Call

- **Feb 5, 2026** (National Prayer Breakfast): Trump announced plans to “rededicate America as one nation under God” — pointing to the Johnson Amendment, the Mexico City Policy, religious speech in schools, transgender procedures for minors, and men in women’s sports.
- **July 3, 2025** (Iowa): “If we bring religion back stronger, you’re going to see everything get better... let us rededicate ourselves to one nation under God.”
- **Sunday, May 17, 2026 — Rededicate 250** on the National Mall. People have been praying in Washington, D.C. since before you woke up this morning. We join them.

*“That’s more courage in a man to tell the nation we’re rededicating it to God for the next 250 years than half the preachers in the United States.”*

### B. Deconstructing History to Rewrite the Story

A 60-year Marxist deconstruction strategy to discredit the Founders → discredit the Declaration → “fruit of the poisonous tree.”

- **1960s:** sexually immoral men
- **1980s:** atheists, agnostics, deists
- **2000s–today:** racist, bigoted slaveholders

There is a crusade in public schools to reconstruct our history and paint our church fathers as evil — because if you destroy the men, you can void the document. The enemy wants to hijack our history; the young are biting into it.

### C. The DNA of America Runs Through the Church

*Alice Baldwin, The New England Clergy and the American Revolution (1928) — “There is not a right asserted in the Declaration of Independence which had not been discussed by the New England clergy before 1763... For a hundred years before the Revolution, men were taught that these rights were protected by divine, inviolable law.”*

*“The Revolution didn’t start in Philadelphia — it started in the pulpit. The American Republic was born in the womb of the church. The Constitution is the grandchild of the pulpit.”*

If you don’t intentionally plant seeds in your garden, seeds don’t grow — weeds grow. The pulpits weren’t politically correct or fearful; they preached the *whole counsel of God* into every sphere of life.

### D. “Separation of Church and State” — A Weaponized Lie

- The phrase is not in the Constitution. It is from Jefferson’s letter to the Danbury Baptists, **January 1, 1802** — assuring them the federal government would not establish a state church over them.
- **Two days later, January 3, 1802**, Jefferson attended a church service *inside the U.S. Capitol* — and kept attending Capitol services for all 8 years of his presidency, with the Marine Corps Band playing.
- Jefferson meant the wall to protect the church **from** government — not to remove the church **from** government.

*“The wall wasn’t built to silence the pulpit. It was built to protect it.”*

*2 Chronicles 7:14 — “If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves... I will hear from heaven... and will heal their land.”*

## 2

## Jesus Holds All Authority Over the Nations — and He Sent Us to Claim Them

Behind every law is a lawmaker; behind every lawmaker a worldview; behind every worldview a spirit. The battle for a nation is fought first in the heavenlies.

- At Babel, God scattered the nations and divided them under His divine council (*Genesis 11:9; Deuteronomy 32:8–9*).
- Those divine beings rebelled — judging unjustly, leading nations into demon worship (*Psalms 82; Deuteronomy 32:16–17*).
- When Pharaoh enslaved God’s people, God judged the gods of Egypt themselves (*Exodus 12:12*).
- These principalities still resist — the prince of Persia withstood the angel 21 days (*Daniel 10:13, 20*).
- Satan consolidated their authority over millennia — enough to offer Jesus the nations (*Luke 4:6*).
- At the cross, Jesus disarmed every principality, made a public spectacle of them, and declared all authority is His (*Colossians 2:15; Matthew 28:18–19*).
- One day the church will replace those fallen principalities and reign with Jesus (*Revelation 2:26; 20:4*).

Satan’s temptation was the *nations* — because he knew Jesus is a King come to reclaim the earth. Jesus is coming back not to visit the Vatican and replace a pope, but as King of kings — His government on His

shoulders, His Word the law, reigning a literal earthly kingdom from Jerusalem.

*Matthew 28:18-19* — “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me — therefore go and disciple the nations.”

3

## For Every Principality Satan Assigns to a City, God Assigns a Church

*Ephesians 6:12* — “We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age...”

### Washington Has Drifted

Washington is the only state named after a Founding Father — yet it has become the experiment lab for every dumb policy in America. Every bad idea is tried here first, then exported to the nation, then to the world.

**Policies are downstream of principalities. It’s time to get our honk back.**

*“It’s not that the church got political. It’s that the government got theological — it swerved into the church’s lane. So we honk the horn.”*

#### FOUR STRONGHOLDS OVER WASHINGTON

- **Sanctuary for Abortion** — legalized 1970 (3 yrs before Roe); no parental notification; 47,600+ stockpiled doses; 2025 referendum to enshrine it in the constitution.
- **Gender Ideology in Schools** — parental authority stripped; ideology advanced while parents are kept in the dark; Christian families fleeing in record numbers.
- **Taxation Tyranny** — Mar 30, 2026, SB 6346 signed: 9.9% income tax; violates 93 years of precedent and I-2111; a taxpayer leaves every 30 minutes.
- **Sanctuary for Lawlessness** — 2019 Keep WA Working Act blocked federal immigration cooperation; 2025 DHS labeled WA a sanctuary jurisdiction (35 of 39 counties).

### But God Always Has an Answer

Satan planted Haman — God raised Esther. Philistines sent Goliath — God sent David. Jezebel — God anointed Jehu. Pharaoh — God raised Moses. **Salt slows decay. Light exposes darkness. When the church goes silent, darkness moves in.**

### The Leadership Vacuum

- **Family** — if Adam won’t lead, Satan will.
- **Church** — if the pastor won’t lead, Jezebel will (*Revelation 2*).
- **State** — if godly citizens won’t lead, godless ones will.

Satan had a legion in the region — but God sent one delivered man, and he shifted ten cities (*Mark 5:18-20*).

### The Church Is on Offense

*Matthew 16:18* — “On this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”

*“Gates are defensive. Nobody brings gates to a fight. The church is on offense. Hell is on defense.”*

The church is the immune system of society — the pillar of truth. If the pillar breaks, the building collapses. This is not a cruise ship. This is a warship.

## The Spirit Sends Us Into Geography

*Acts 1:8 — “You shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*

Paul didn’t write to floating spiritual concepts — he wrote to *cities*: Corinth, Ephesus, Philippi, Thessalonica, Rome. Jesus addresses each letter to “the angel of the church in…” that city. **The pastor is the messenger of the city he’s stationed in — a spiritual assignment.**

*Esther 4:13–14 — “If you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise from another place, but you and your father’s house will perish. And who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”*

**Silence will not save you** — not your tithe, not your homeschool, not your neighborhood. God will deliver His people either way; the question is whether through you, or in spite of you.

### WHY WE CANNOT BE NEUTRAL

- We were given a **dominion mandate** as humans, not just as Christians (*Genesis 1*). Jesus returns as a King — government on His shoulders.
- Government once handled roads and licenses; now it redefines marriage, erases gender, reframes abortion as “freedom,” and indoctrinates children. The church didn’t move — politics moved into the church’s lane.
- **Sons of Issachar** understood the times to know what to do (*1 Chronicles 12:32*). Positive World (pre-1994) → Neutral World (1994–2014) → **Negative World** (2014–now): *Isaiah 5* inverted — good called evil, evil called good.
- Right and left are no longer two wings of the same bird: one party has corrupt people (like all of us); the other has **sin codified in the platform**.
- Civility + courage — “wise as serpents and harmless as doves.” The church kept the dove and quietly lost the serpent. Don’t be a jerk for Jesus — but don’t be a spineless snowflake either.
- Every law legislates *someone’s* morality. Subjective → chaos. Collective → the majority once endorsed slavery and the killing of Jews. Objective → a standard outside us; and **Jesus is the unmatched moral standard**.

On Romans 13: the man who wrote “submit to authorities” sat in jail and was beheaded by that government. Submit on roads and red lights — but the moment government swerves into your lane, Paul went to jail. Before he says obey, he first says *hate evil*.

*“You can come as you are — but your progressive ideologies will suffocate in this room. There’s going to be no oxygen for them.”*

## 4 Pray. Proclaim. Participate.

“Politics” comes from the Greek *politiká* — literally *affairs of the city*. It is simply stewardship of the city you live in. **Principalities work through people to establish policies; God works through churches that pray, proclaim, and participate.**

## PRAY

- Pray for your city — *Jeremiah 29:7*
- Pray for your officials — *1 Timothy 2:1-2*
- Pray for revival in your region — *2 Chronicles 7:14*
- Pray for laborers and statesmen — *Matthew 9:37-38*
- Pray on-site with insight — Nehemiah walked the walls first (*Nehemiah 2:11-18*). Drive your city. Pray your campus. Walk your neighborhood.

## PROCLAIM

- Share your faith — *1 Peter 3:15*
- Disciple your family first — *Deuteronomy 6:6-7*
- Speak truth even when costly — *Acts 20:27*
- Open your mouth for the unborn — *Proverbs 24:11; 31:8-9*
- Let your platform be a pulpit — *Matthew 5:16*

## PARTICIPATE

- Vote for biblical values — *Proverbs 29:2*
- Register your family and stay informed — *Proverbs 19:2*
- Show up to school boards, city councils, town halls.
- Contact your legislators and sign initiatives.
- Refuse to comply with anti-Christ laws — *Daniel 3:18*
- Hold government accountable — Nathan to David, John the Baptist to Herod.
- Raise your children in biblical truth — don't surrender them to the system — *Joshua 24:15*

## CLOSING — DEDICATING THE CALLED

Invite forward those called to (or already serving in) the spheres — public safety & first responders; elected & appointed officials; the justice and legal system; education; civil servants and infrastructure. The Founders viewed civil service as a sacred calling, not corruption.

**Pray over them for:** physical, emotional & spiritual protection; wisdom and integrity; their families and strained marriages; endurance against burnout and cynicism; courage to do right and not be neutral where justice and truth are at stake; and communities that honor rather than only criticize.

*“Failure isn’t if someone got offended and left a one-star review. Success is going to sleep knowing I preached the truth in love and was not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ.”*

*Live for Jesus loud. Be civil but courageous. Pray. Proclaim. Participate.*

*“As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” — Joshua 24:15*

---

## CREDIT — VOICES THAT INFLUENCED THOUGHTS AND STATEMENTS IN THIS MESSAGE

*Russell Johnson • Landon Schott • Josh McPherson • Josh Howerton • Tim Barton • Ryan Visconti • Aaron M. Renn*