

Homeland Security

In October 2001, President George W. Bush called for the establishment of the Office of Homeland Security. In early November the following year, Congress passed the Homeland Security Act of 2002, expanding the office into a new executive department. The legislation transferred several government agencies to the new department. Former Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge served as the first Secretary of Homeland Security.

The Office of Homeland Security works to ensure the nation's safety by overseeing efforts to prepare for, detect, prevent, respond to, and recover from terrorist activity. It helps with intelligence gathering and distributes information to appropriate agencies. It designs and implements national strategies, including the color-coded Homeland Security Advisory System that informs the public of the current level of threat.

Government agencies are essential, but the ultimate "homeland security" comes from obeying God. In Luke 6, Jesus compared the person who obeys God to someone who lays a foundation for a house on solid rock. The person who hears God but doesn't obey Him is like someone building a house with no foundation. When a flood comes, the house with no foundation crumbles, while the house built on rock stands strong (Luke 6:48-49). Our home will be secure only if we obey God's commandments.

Following God's plan for a Christ-centered family, where everyone treats each other with love and respect, guarantees the security of our home – and keeps the threat level low.

--Beecher Hunter