

PRAY FOR OBAMA

Today produces a very historic moment in the life of the United States of America. Barack Obama will be sworn in as the leader of the free world – the 44th president of this nation and the first African-American to achieve the office. It is an event expected to draw a record crowd of 2 million people, and one that will be described to children and grandchildren by those who attend.

Monday, on the eve of his inauguration, Obama talked with wounded troops at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and then visited an emergency shelter for homeless teens, grabbing a paint roller to help give the walls a fresh coat of blue. He said there cannot be any “idle hands” at a time of national hardship.

The new president certainly has much to fill his plate: a struggling economy, wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, fighting in the Middle East and the ever-present threat of terrorist attacks on American soil, to name a few.

Sunday, Dr. Allan Lockerman, pastor of Cleveland’s First Baptist Church, reminded the congregation that Americans must pray for the incoming president, for two reasons:

1. “The Bible commands you to do so.
2. “We cannot afford not to do so.”



Among other Scriptures, he read I Timothy 2:1-2: “Therefore, I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.”

Dr. Lockerman said that we should pray that Obama becomes the greatest president the land has ever known because our country may be facing the greatest challenges ever before it. What should we pray for Obama? The pastor listed five points:

- Pray for an anointing equal to his office.
- Pray for a heart for Israel that will not waiver.
- Pray for moral conviction and the courage to use it.
- Pray for the favor of God to be on him and this land and the humility to know it.
- Pray for a spiritual awakening in this land.

(more)

On this day, whether you voted for Obama or not, let us commit to pray for him and the leadership that God has allowed him to have – for wisdom, discernment and courage as he tackles the toughest of jobs.

– Beecher Hunter