

## NATIONAL PRAYER OF REPENTANCE – DANIEL 9 PARAPHRASED

Adapts the words of Daniel's intercessory prayer for Israel, and uses them as a pattern prayer for our nation, in this example the USA. Daniel, though a righteous man, identifies himself with his nation's sin and rebellion AGAINST God.

The words in <u>blue</u> have been inserted to substitute the USA for Israel. Those from different nations should insert their own words to tailor the prayer for their government and situation.

O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments, our nation has sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments. Neither have we heeded Your servants the true prophets, who spoke in Your name to our leaders, to our fathers and all the people of the land. O Lord, righteousness *belongs* to You, but to us shame of face, as *it is* this day—to the people of our nation, because of the unfaithfulness which we have committed against You.

O Lord, to us *belongs* shame of face, to our government, our President, our law enforcement agencies, our ministers, judges, business leaders, and our fathers, because we have sinned against You. To the Lord our God *belongs* mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him. We have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in His laws, which He set before us by His servants the prophets. Yes, our nation has transgressed Your law, and has departed so as not to obey Your voice; therefore the curse and the oath written in Your Word by Your servants has been poured out on us, because we have sinned against Him. And He has confirmed His words, which He spoke against us and against our judges who judged us, by bringing upon us a great disaster; for under the whole heaven such has never been done as what has been done to our nation.

"As it is written in Your Word, this disastrous judgment has come upon us; yet we have not made our prayer before the Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities and understand Your truth. Therefore the Lord has kept the disaster in mind, and brought it upon us; for the Lord our God is righteous in all the works which He does, though we have not obeyed His voice. And now, O Lord our God, who brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and made Yourself a name, as it is this day—we have sinned, we have done wickedly!

"O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I pray, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away from our nation and Your Church, because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, our nation and Your people *are* a reproach to all *those* around us.

Now therefore, our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and for the Lord's sake cause Your face to shine on Your Church, which is desolate. O my God, incline Your ear and hear; open Your eyes and see our desolations, and our nation; for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies.

O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake, my God, for the people who are called by Your name."