A Declaration for Justice

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 118:1-9, Psalm 140

Reflections of the Heart:

"Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. Romans 12:19

Scriptural Prayer:

Eternal Father, we thank You for being the just Judge. Thank You for hearing us when we call to You for help for our nation. Thank You for moving on the hearts of Your people to establish peace, justice and righteousness in the earth. Lord, we will praise You with all of our hearts. Your love for us is so very great, we will give glory to Your Name forever! Lord, You have rescued us from the depths of death. We will sing of Your unfailing love forever. Young and old will hear of Your faithfulness. Your unfailing love will last forever. Your faithfulness is as enduring as the heavens.

Immortal Father, we command justice to run down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream within our judicial system in America. Your Word says that justice and righteousness are more acceptable to You than sacrifice. Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne. We confess that justice and righteousness will prevail in our nation, homes, workplaces, churches, schools and communities. You are the Lord who loves all of humankind; You are no respecter of persons. Lord, You created us in Your image and it is Your desire that we, Your creation, love each other as we love ourselves. Lord, we believe that You will raise us above the injustices of racism that our nation has witnessed lately. And because Your Spirit dwells within us, the Body of Christ, we confess that we will walk in righteousness and integrity. We will not discriminate against anyone because of their race, their sex, or their age. We will not pay back evil with more evil, but we will always do things in such a way that everyone can see that we are honorable.

Holy Spirit, as I watch the news, show me how to pray about the injustices in our nation:

Holy Spirit, please help our nation to heal from the wounds that the instances of injustice have inflicted on the American people. Remind the members of the Body of Christ to not sin by letting anger control them. Grant each of us the desire and commitment to daily walk in Your justice and righteousness without prejudice or partiality. Deal with the hearts of those Christians who practice this ungodliness. Remind them to walk in Your Spirit and not in their flesh. Guide parents on how to talk with their children about this subject in a way that will not instill fear, anger, or hatred. Holy Spirit, I ask that You search my heart for areas of hidden discrimination or bias and remove it immediately from me.

Abba Father, forgive us for any acts of racism, sexism, and ageism. Forgive our nation for its injustice, prejudice, and oppression. Forgive our nation for loving power and things instead of people. Please forgive those persons who are presently practicing racism, sexism, and ageism. As the Body of Christ, we renounce the gods of racism, sexism, and ageism. Forgive me, Father, for not acknowledging that when I make blanket statements about race, sex, or age that I am discriminating. Father, forgive me for *(list any sins that you have committed)*. Holy Spirit, remind us all of those we need to forgive and help us to be quick to forgive. As for me, Holy Spirit, bring to my remembrance those I need to forgive. *(Take a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal names or faces of people that you may need to forgive. As He reveals them, say, "I forgive <u>name of person(s)</u>." <i>Now, trust the Lord to heal any wounds in your soul caused by unforgiveness.*]

Holy Spirit, help us all not to yield to temptation but deliver us from the evil one.

Triumphant King, You are greater than any other god. You do whatever You please throughout all heaven and earth, and on the seas and in their depths. You cause clouds to rise over the earth. You send lightning with the rain and release the winds from Your storehouses. Your Name, Lord, endures forever, Your fame is known to every generation. Yours, Lord, is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

<u>Scripture References for the Written Text</u>: Psalm 7:11, Psalm 34:17, Psalm 86:12-13, Psalm 89:1-2, Amos 5:24, Proverbs 21:3, Psalm 89:14, Acts 10:34, Genesis 1:27, Romans 12:17, Ephesians 4:26, Matthew 6:13, Psalm 135:5-7

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