Words for Governing Leaders

Exodus 23:6-8

Do not deny justice to your poor people in their lawsuits. Have nothing to do with a false charge and do not put an innocent or honest person to death, for I will not acquit the guilty. Do not accept a bribe, for a bribe blinds those who see and twists the words of the innocent.

God, I pray that those executing justice would do so with honor and respect for Your laws. I pray that judges and lawmakers would not show favoritism or bias, but seek to treat each one fairly based on the merits of each case. Stop those who accept bribes and manipulate their position for personal gain. May your truth be revealed in our justice system so that confidence can be restored and our lawmakers esteemed.

Psalms 2:10-12

Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear and celebrate His rule with trembling. Kiss His son, or He will be angry and your way will lead to your destruction, for His wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in Him.

May the fear of the Lord rest upon all our governing leaders. May they know the supremacy of Your authority and the power of Your rule. May they willingly and gladly submit to Your truths and precepts for the sake of the people. May they be reminded of the consequences of unjust decisions so that they will stay within the boundaries of the authority You have given them.

Psalms 24:3-6

Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in His holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god. They will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from God their Savior. Such is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek Your face, God of Jacob.

Lord, I speak to those in governing positions to have clean hands and a pure heart. Convict them of any idols in their lives and compel them to renounce any allegiance to counterfeit gods or corrupted organizations. Give them a heart for purity and a right standing with You. Protect those who have taken this stand and vindicate their cause for Your glory.

Psalms 128:1-2

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in obedience to Him. You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours.

Father, bless those in governing positions who walk in obedience to Your truths. May they see the fruit of their faithfulness, even in the midst of opposition. May their homes and families be blessed and covered with protection and peace. Distinguish those who honor Your Word with such blessing and favor, it will convict the rebels and draw the lost to seek Your face.

Proverbs 8:14-16

Counsel and sound judgment are Mine; I have insight, I have power. By Me kings reign and rulers issue decrees that are just; by Me princes govern, and nobles - all who rule on earth.

Father, show us those leaders who have been called and anointed by You to lead in our government. Distinguish those who honor Your truth and have determined to make just laws and righteous rules. Set apart those who have sound judgment and seek godly counsel so that our nation can thrive and be a blessing.

Proverbs 10:29

The way of the Lord is a refuge for the blameless, but it is the ruin of those who do evil.

God, may those leaders who follow Your ways be found blameless and pure in heart. May they experience Your sovereign protection and grace because of their faithfulness to Your truth. May those who do not follow Your ways see the folly of disobedience and reap the results of their destructive decisions.

Proverbs 11:14

For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers.

Be with our leaders so that they will seek right counsel and clear discernment in the decisions they make. Draw together those who honor Your Word so they can be unified in their leadership and one in their purpose. Raise up true leaders with anointing to guide us into the fullness of Your blessing. May all others see the fruit of righteous rule.

Proverbs 21:1

In the Lord's hand the king's heart is a stream of water that He channels toward all who please Him.

For those leaders who are straying from Your truth, draw them back to You, Lord! Direct the thoughts and ideas of our leaders so they will walk in the paths that will bring the greatest blessing on our nation. Establish the steps of those in positions of authority so they will make laws that please You and bring us peace and prosperity.

Proverbs 24:5-6

The wise prevail through great power, and those who have knowledge muster their strength. Surely you need guidance to wage war, and victory is won through many advisers.

Give our governing leaders the confidence they need to make the hard calls. When faced with opposition, give them wise counsel and accurate information with which to make the right decision. Cover them with Your peace and clarity so they can prevail in times of warfare and strife. Bring our leaders into oneness of heart concerning Your purposes so they can move forward with heaven's authority.

Proverbs 29:25

Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.

May our governing authorities look to You for counsel and the wisdom to make right decisions. Keep our leaders from bowing to the fear of man and the need for approval. Expose the counterfeits and false information that would lead them astray. Show our leaders the fruit of right decisions and the protection that comes when following Your lead and not the opinions of men.

Isaiah 1:17

Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

Lord, may our leaders do what is right to seek justice for all who live within our borders. May they have compassion on the oppressed and take up the cause of those without a home or family. May they seek creative ways to meet the needs of the people so that all can have the same opportunity to thrive and succeed in this life.

Isaiah 11:2-3a

The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him - the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord - and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

I pray that our governing leaders would experience the presence of the Lord upon their lives. I pray they would operate under the power of Holy Spirit with wisdom and understanding, with good counsel and strength of character, and with the knowledge and fear of the Lord. I pray that they would be grateful for the fear of the Lord on their lives and experience great joy in seeing the amazing results from abiding in You.

Isaiah 32:1-4

See, a king will reign in righteousness and rulers will rule with justice. Each one will be like a shelter from the wind and a refuge from the storm, like streams of water in the desert and the shadow of a great rock in a thirsty land. Then the eyes of those who see will no longer be closed, and the ears of those who hear will listen. The fearful heart will know and understand, and the stammering tongue will be fluent and clear.

Bless our leaders with such wisdom from above that people will feel safe, secure, and unafraid to face the future. Give them increased understand-

ing to make right judgment calls concerning our destiny as a nation. May their leadership give us clear vision for the days ahead, filled with hope and expectation.

Isaiah 61:8

For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and wrongdoing. In My faithfulness I will reward My people and make an everlasting covenant with them.

Lord, may our lawmakers love what You love and hate what You hate. May there be an increased conviction of righteous rule and the necessity of following Your ways. You have made a covenant with Your people to bring us into our inheritance and fulfill Your promises for the generations to come. Establish the foundations in our nation to reflect Your love for justice and truth so that we can see the fulfillment of Your Word.

Matthew 6:33

But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Lord, give our leaders a heart to seek You above all else. May they govern according to the truths of Your kingdom, knowing this will bring the greatest blessing and the greatest reward. Remind them when they give in to the fear of man. Lead them to trust You as they make decisions based on Your laws and not on men's opinions.

Romans 13:1

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

Father, You are the origin of all authority and the only one who can grant it. Your authority is based on good and not evil; righteousness and not wickedness. Help us to distinguish the difference between godly authority and fleshly control. Set apart those who carry the mark of Your favor and the fruit of Your blessing.

Romans 13:4

For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.

God, You provide us with governing authorities so there can be peace in the land. Show us clearly those who have been called by You with a heart to serve the people and not themselves. Show favor and honor to those who are prepared to deal with wrongdoers and bless those who do good. May we see and recognize those leaders who govern in the way You designed so that all people will have the freedom to choose You.

Romans 13:6

This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing.

Lord, I pray that those who have been elected as public servants would remember that they are Your servants, first. Impress upon them the favor and blessing that comes when they serve the people out of reverence for You. May our government leaders walk in the fear of the Lord and bring righteous judgments on our behalf.

1 Peter 2:13-14

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by Him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.

You have asked us, Lord, to submit to those authorities who lead in the way You designed. You desire for our leaders to punish those who do wrong and commend those who do right so there can be peace in the land. Distinguish those leaders who use their authority justly and honor You in their positions. Show us how to support and encourage those who govern according to Your principles and pray for those who don't.

(excerpted from WORDS TO PRAY BY, Wanda Alger)

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