

Prayer Focus: APRIL 27 - MAY 3, 2020

“He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west!” (Ps. 103:12; NLT)

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MONDAY - April 27 (Judges 7:1-8:17; Luke 23:13-43; Psalm 97:1-98:9; Proverbs 14:7-8)

In 1956 Proctor and Gamble chemical engineer Victor Mills (1897-1997) disliked changing the cloth diapers of his newborn grandchild. He assigned fellow researchers in P&G's Exploratory Division in Miami Valley (OH) to look into making a better DISPOSABLE diaper! Early types consisted of fluff pulp with a rayon topsheet and polyethylene backsheets. This gave rise, ultimately, to the invention of “pampers” which were patented (and cost 6 cents each) - on this day in 1965 (Hallelujah!) [The name was coined by Alfred Goldman, Creative Director at Benton & Bowles, the first ad agency for the account.] Thank God for children and grandchildren!

TUESDAY - April 28 (Judges 8:18-9:21; Luke 23:44-24:12; Psalm 99:1-9; Proverbs 14:9-10)

ISRAEL'S INDEPENDENCE DAY. This evening at sunset in Israel (7:20pm; 12:20pm our time) will begin “Yom Ha'atzmaut” (lit. “Day of Independence”) or Israel's Birthday which took place on the 5th of Iyar, year 5708 on the Hebrew calendar - on this day in 1948 (May 14 on our calendar). David Ben-Gurion, the first prime minister of Israel, publicly read the Declaration of Independence, thus establishing - AGAIN - this God-ordained nation and a major fulfillment of many Bible prophecies to do so (Isa. 11:11-12; Jer. 32:44; Ezek. 20:34; 36:24; Hos. 3:4-5; 6:1; Zeph. 3:8-10; et. al.). God ALWAYS keeps His word! Pray for the Jewish people that they may know the TRUE Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ! Look for His soon appearing! Pray for the lost to know Jesus!

WEDNESDAY - April 29 (Judges 9:22-10:18; Luke 24:13-53; Psalm 100:1-5; Proverbs 14:11-12)

Ralph Dale Earnhardt, Sr., was an American NASCAR race car driver/team owner who won a total of 76 races and seven championships and is still the only driver to follow a Rookie of the Year title with a NASCAR Winston Cup Championship the next season. Nicknamed “The Intimidator” due to his aggressive driving style, he remains an icon in the racing world – and today is his birthday (1951). [He died in a crash on the final lap of the 2001 Daytona 500.] Thank God for your vehicle(s); pray for NASCAR drivers and fans.

THURSDAY - April 30 (Judges 11:1-12:15; John 1-28; Psalm 101:1-8; Proverbs 14:13-14)

The Louisiana Purchase was the acquisition by the US of 828,000 square miles of land from France encompassing all or part of 15 present US states including Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, parts of Minnesota, most of North and South Dakota, northeastern New Mexico, north Texas, portions of Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado, Louisiana, and others for a grand total of \$15 million dollars (or about 3 cents per acre!) and effectively doubling the size of the United States – on this day in 1803. Pray for your church's future growth and building needs. Pray for your Pastor and Church leadership!

FRIDAY - MAY 1 (Judges 13:1-14:20; John 29-51; Psalm 102:1-28; Proverbs 14:15-16)

Kathryn Elizabeth “Kate” Smith was an American singer whose career in radio, TV, and records spanned five decades. She is most remembered for her rendition of Irving Berlin's “God Bless America” which she sang in the 1943 wartime movie “This is the Army.” She is fondly remembered for greeting her audiences with “Hello, everybody!” and for signing off with “Thanks for listenin'.” Smith was born (in Greenville, VA) - on this day in 1907 (she died in 1986 at Raleigh Community Hosp. in Tarboro NC). Thank God for the gift of music and musicians; pray for those who lead in worship. Pray for your church's Minister of Music and Music Team.

SATURDAY - May 2 (Judges 15:1-16:31; John 2:1-25; Psalm 103:1-22; Proverbs 14:17-19)

The King James Version (KJV) of the Bible was the third translation into English to be approved by the Church of England [the first was the “Great Bible,” commissioned by King Henry VIII (1535); the second was the “Bishop's Bible” (1568)]. King James gave the translators clear instructions to ensure that the new version conform to the ecclesiology and episcopal structure of the Church of England. Translated from the Hebrew/Aramaic (OT) and Greek (NT) by 47 scholars (all members of the Church of England), that Bible translation was first published by the King's printer Robert Barker (in London England) - on this day in 1611. Thank God for His inerrant Word! Thank Him for reliable translations which help make His Word clearer.

SUNDAY - May 3 (Judges 17:1-18:31; John 3:1-21; Psalm 104:1-23; Proverbs 14:20-21)

The highest tornado wind speed ever recorded was an F5 tornado with winds measured at 301 +/- 20 mph which struck the southwestern portion of Oklahoma City, killing 45 people, injuring 665, and causing \$1 billion in damage - on this day in 1999. That tornado was one of the 1999 Oklahoma tornado outbreak in which 154 tornadoes touched down over Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Texas, and Arkansas during a single week (more than half of them occurring on May 3 and 4)! Pray for those impacted by natural disasters. Maranatha!

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