

june • 24 • 07 / no. 4859

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**Today's Pentecostal Evangel**

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Published by the Gospel Publishing House

Member: Evangelical Press Association  
 International Pentecostal Press Association

**tpe subscribes to the Associated Press and McClatchy-Tribune**

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COVER PHOTO: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Today's Pentecostal Evangel* (ISSN 1540-9643) is published weekly. Individual subscription rates for weekly English version: United States, U.S. possessions and U.S. military personnel abroad – \$28.99 per year, \$55.00 for 2 years; Canada and other international – \$52.00 per year (U.S. dollars). Individual introductory offer: United States only – \$14.50 for six months (26 issues). Bundle subscription (6 copies or more to same address) rates for weekly English version: United States – \$3.05 per copy for 13 weeks, \$12.20 per copy for one year; Canada and other international – \$6.00 per copy for 13 weeks, \$24.00 per copy for one year (U.S. dollars). Thirteen-week bundle subscriptions are only available to churches. © 2007 by Gospel Publishing House, General Council of the Assemblies of God, 1445 N. Boonville Avenue, Springfield, MO 65802-1894, (417) 862-2781. Periodicals postage paid at Springfield, Mo. Printed in the USA.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Today's Pentecostal Evangel*, 1445 N. Boonville Avenue, Springfield, MO 65802-1894.

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# Freedom

“You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (John 8:32, NIV).

Because the Sunday before Independence Day is the first Sunday of the month, that issue will be a *World Missions Edition*. So, our freedom issue, which also commemorates Military Personnel Day (July 1), is this week.

Our freedom is a precious thing, but it is something we must continue to fight for.

We will take you to Vietnam and Iraq with the Marines ... and to Afghanistan where a young soldier sees God turn tragedy into triumph.

We will profile the Assemblies of God chaplain who is the head of all the chaplains of the United States Air Force. And we will hear lifelong Assemblies of God member John Ashcroft share memories of serving as U.S. attorney general during one of the most crucial times in history for that post — the aftermath of the World Trade Center attacks.

The apostle Paul prioritized prayer for those in positions of authority. “I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior” (1 Timothy 2:1-3).



God intended all people to live free — physically and spiritually.

These prayers augment God's desire to save people: “[God] wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth” (v. 4). That salvation comes through Jesus: “For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus” (v. 5).

That is true freedom. “So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed” (John 8:36).

God intended all people to live free — physically and spiritually. In this season when we reflect on freedom, let's praise God for the freedoms we have been given. Let's also pray for those in authority that those freedoms be preserved. Most importantly, let us pray for the multitudes in spiritual bondage to come to know the true freedom found in Jesus Christ.

Ken Horn

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