

Prayer for a Nationwide Christ Awakening On Ascension Sunday, May 8, 2016

[With thanks to David Bryant of Proclaim Hope]

All (Unison): *Lord Jesus, wake us up to how you are the All-Sufficient One!*

Reader A — You require no outsourcing. Your blood will never lose its power. Nothing can ever exhaust your abilities or your resources. You always prove yourself to be inexhaustibly adequate for all our longings, for all our fears, for all our battles, for all the cries of our hearts. You keep filling us up to overflowing. You have become the glorious inheritance of God's family. Therefore, you are all we need. You are all we want. You are all we have. Awaken us as a nation to how our only hope is in you alone.

All (Unison): *Lord Jesus, wake us up to how you are the Incomparable One!*

Reader B — Continuously you defy and surpass all human categories. You will forever remain in a class by yourself—no duplicates, no counterparts, no clones. Your unequivocal magnificence will continue to eclipse the pretentious boastings of all other creatures, outranking and outshining every being in heaven, earth, or hell. Across the ages you will never cease dazzling all who belong to you, world without end. Awaken us as a nation to how our only hope is in you alone.

All (Unison): *Lord Jesus, wake us up to how you are the Preeminent One!*

Reader C — In time, in space, in history, and throughout eternity to you alone belongs the right to be the dominant force and focus for the universe and everything in it. Just as you held the primacy at the beginning, as the firstborn of all creation, so you will hold the primacy at the Consummation, as the “firstborn from among the dead” (Colossians 1). All things visible and invisible must give you free rein to do with us as the Father pleases. Awaken us as a nation to how our only hope is in you alone.

All (Unison): *Lord Jesus, wake us up to how you are the Triumphant One!*

Reader D — Your enemies will never prevail. You will defeat all foes—both human and demonic—bringing about unconditional surrender. Just as you emerged from the tomb unthreatened, unhindered, unimpeded—so you remain permanently victorious over all opposition. You are the overwhelming Overcomer, who now is putting all things under your feet as Lord—conquered, redeemed, transformed, and vibrating in perfect harmony with your irrevocable decrees and your indestructible might. Awaken us as a nation to how our only hope is in you alone.

All (Unison): *Lord Jesus, wake us up to how you are the Exalted One!*

Reader E — You inspire unquenchable joy in all the saints. You ignite decisive devotion from earth and heaven. You deserve every ounce of praise ever proclaimed by every power and dominion. For all the ages you will be the all-consuming passion of our adoration—from your position of unimpeachable splendor, and stunning superiority, and unmatched majesty in the universe. All glory, laud and honor to you, Redeemer King. Awaken us as a nation to how our only hope is in you alone.

All (Unison): *Lord Jesus, wake us up to how you are the Sacrificial One!*

Reader F — Scripture declares that “through you God has reconciled to himself all things on earth or in heaven, by making peace through your blood, shed on the cross” (Colossians 1). Because you paid the price—because you gave your life for the life of the world—all of God’s promises and purposes for our fallen, rebellious race will be fulfilled beyond measure. Your cross is the power of God unto salvation for all of us. Therefore, we pray that you would bring our nation into a fuller knowledge of who you are and all you’ve done for us, that multitudes might find cleansing from sin and new life in you, and that therefore your righteousness might dominate our city and land. Awaken us as a nation to how our only hope is in you alone.

ALL (UNISON): And so dear Father: here today, together, on this Ascension Sunday, we celebrate before your throne that *for your people, for this city, and for this nation* your Son truly is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the sin of our land. He is exalted, incomparable, superlative, preeminent, sufficient, triumphant! Now and forever, therefore, our only hope is in him alone! Thanks be to God!