

A prayer for ourselves and our nation:

"O most Glorious God, in Jesus Christ my merciful and loving Father,

I acknowledge and confess my guilt, in the weak and imperfect performance of my duties this day.

I have called on Thee for pardon and forgiveness of sins.

Let me live according to those holy rules which Thou has this day prescribed in Thy holy word.

Make me know what is acceptable in Thy sight, and therein to delight.

Open the eyes of my understanding, and help me thoroughly to examine myself concerning my knowledge, faith and repentance.

Increase my faith and direct me to the true object, Jesus Christ, the Way the Truth and the Life.

Bless, O Lord, all the people of this land, from the highest to the lowest, particularly those whom Thou has appointed to rule over us in church and state.

These weak petitions I humbly implore Thee to hear. Accept and answer for the sake of Thy Dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen"

Taken from the Sunday Evening Prayer in George Washington's personal prayer book.

Isaiah

The structure of Isaiah thus far:

1. Chapters 1-6—Introduction and call of Isaiah
2. Chapters 7-12—Oracles occasioned by the Syro-Ephraimite crisis (734-732 B.C.)
3. Chapters 13-23—Oracles against the nations

Oracles against the nations (chapters 13-23):

1. Babylon (13:1-14:23)
2. Assyria (14:24-27)
3. Philistia (14:28-32)
4. Moab (15:1-16:14)
5. Damascus (i.e. Aram—17:1-14)
6. Cush (18:1-7)
7. Egypt (19:1-25)
8. Egypt and Cush (20:1-6)
9. Babylon (i.e. Babylonia—21:1-10)
10. Edom (21:11-12)
11. Arabia (21:13-17)
12. Jerusalem (i.e. Judah—22:1-5)
13. Tyre (i.e. Phoenicia—23:1-18)

JULY 4, 2017

Pride in Isaiah

The eyes of the arrogant man will be humbled and the pride of men brought low; the LORD alone will be exalted I that day. The LORD Almighty has a day in store for all the proud and lofty, for all that is exalted (and they will be humbled). 2:11-12

When the Lord has finished all his work against Mount Zion and Jerusalem, he will say, "I will punish the king of Assyria for the willful pride of his heart and the haughty look in his eye. 10:12

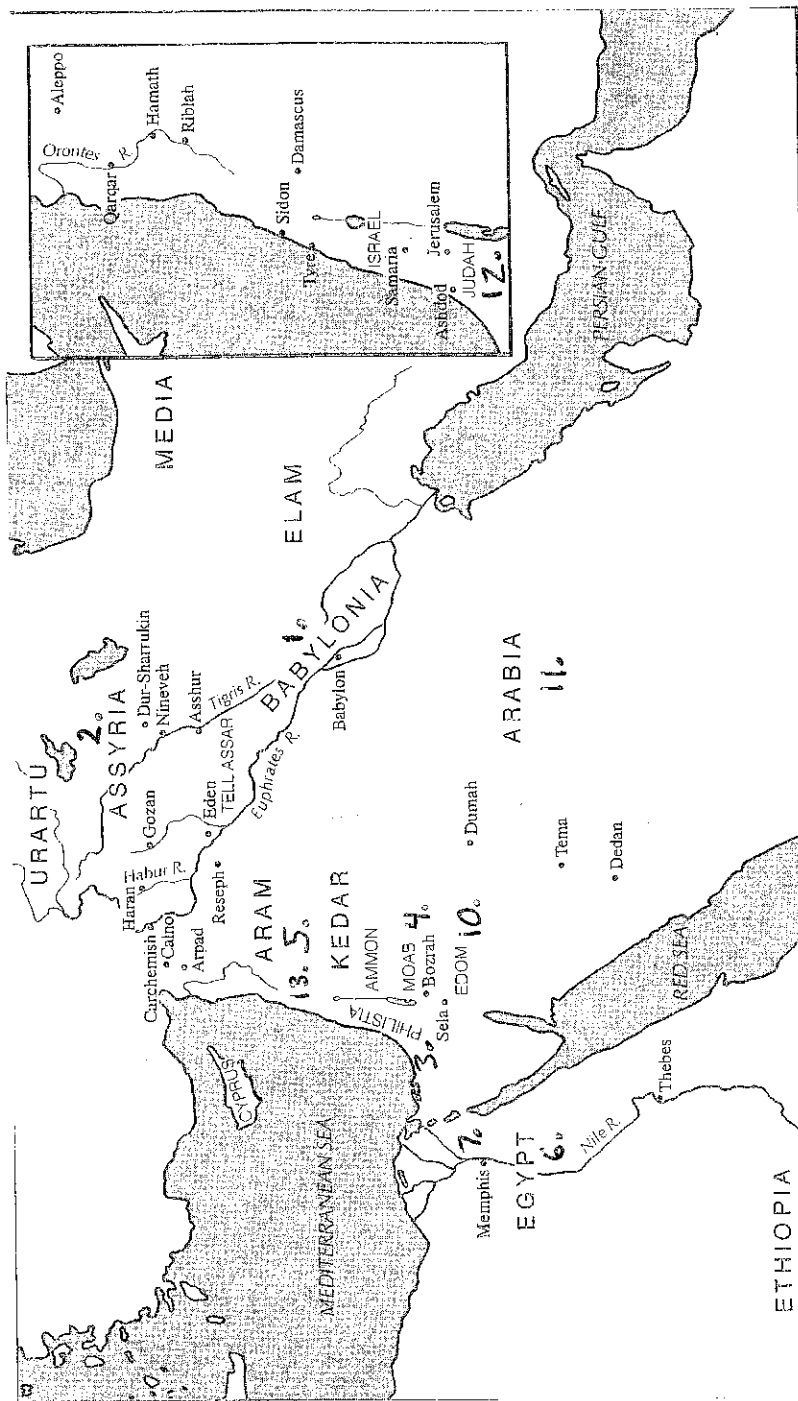
Freedom guided by Faith

"Almighty God,

We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy Holy protection; and Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large.

And finally, that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and *without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to have a happy nation.* Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Prayer from George Washington's farewell circular letter to the governors on June 8, 1783.



Map taken from John Oswalt, *The Book of Isaiah Chapters 1-39*, p. xii.