

# Pray Through the Canberra Declaration

## The Preamble

**Praise God** for our Christian heritage and how in 1606 a Portuguese explorer, Pedro Fernandez de Quiros, dedicated Australia to the Lord Jesus Christ as the *“South Land of the Holy Spirit”*.

**Praise God** that in His providence the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ came to Australia with the First Fleet in 1788.

**Praise God** that the Preamble to the 1901 Australian Constitution contains the words, *“Humbly relying on the blessing of Almighty God”*.

**Thank God** for the influence of Christianity which underlies the many freedoms, advantages, opportunities and values which have made Australia a great place to live.

**Praise God** for the Christian belief in the dignity and fair go of the human person because every man, woman and child is made in the image of God.

**Thank God** for His Son Jesus who is the image of the invisible God who has shown us the way and is the answer for Australia and the world today.

**Pray** that Christian values will be respected and allowed freedom of expression, not just in so-called sacred spaces but in the public arena as well so that Australian society will be richer and healthier.

## Religious Freedom

**Praise God** for the religious freedom that we enjoy in Australia today. **Pray** against the tyranny of intolerance through progressive left, politically-correct, racist and Marxist influences which are increasing in Australia and many other Western nations today.

**Praise God** for the freedom of conscience and freedom of speech that allows all Australians to speak publicly about their faith and beliefs and to practise the religion of their choice. **Pray** against new laws in Australia which would restrict these freedoms such as anti-discrimination legislation, hate crime laws and legislation on religious and sexual vilification.

## Marriage and Family

**Praise God** for the God-ordained institution of the natural family resulting from marriage between a man and a woman. **Pray** that the definition of marriage in the Marriage Act: *“...the union of a man and a woman to the exclusion of all others, voluntarily entered into for life”* will not be changed.

**Praise God** that the lifelong marriage between a man and a woman guarantees children their biological birthright to a mother and a father and has a proven track record of providing them with protection, education, welfare, support and nurture. **Pray** that our leaders will affirm the importance and social utility of marriage between a man and a woman and the families formed thereby.

## Human Life

**Praise God** that all human life, being made in the image of God, has intrinsic and equal value from conception to life's natural end. **Pray** against the intentional taking of human life through community violence, acts of terrorism, abortion, embryo-destructive research, euthanasia, assisted suicide or any other acts that involve the intentional taking of innocent human life.

**Praise God** that Australia is largely a humane and civilised society. **Pray** that Australia will protect its most vulnerable, dependent and innocent members including the unborn and the disabled.

## Conclusion

**Praise God** that religious freedom, marriage and family, and the sacredness of human life have provided the foundations enabling Australian society to flourish and move towards its destiny.

**Pray** that more and more Australians will pray and make a stand and speak out for the protection of Christian values in Australia for the future of this nation and our children.

**Pray** that God will pour out His Spirit for the revival and transformation of Australia as we wait and prepare for the return of Jesus at the end of the age.