

## **Prayer for Nations and Countries Hit Hardest**

O Lord of all the nations of the earth, we thank you for your creation and your sovereignty over all creation. We are reminded that through creation, you turned disorder into restful order and emptiness into the fullness of abundant life.

We take comfort in knowing that you Lord God, are working purposefully throughout history to restore us to fellowship with you, which you have enabled through Jesus Christ.

We take comfort in knowing that throughout history, you Lord God have withheld ultimate destruction of your creation. Through your covenant with Noah, we see how you have continued to recalibrate moral and ecological life to be as you Lord God have intended.

We thank you for the nations of China, South Korea, Italy, Iran, Spain, France, Germany, USA, Switzerland and the UK. Throughout the ages, you have called and nurtured individuals from each of these nations, to be leaders who reflect your truth, justice and love. We thank you for the ways in which each of these nations have been leaders in the arts, sciences and technology and have reflected your glory through these endeavours.

We thank you for the countless men and women, who in their day-to-day lives reflect your truth, justice and love. We thank you for the countless men and women of faith that you have placed in positions of influence in the countries of China, South Korea, Italy, Iran, Spain, France, Germany, USA, Switzerland and the UK and pray for their physical and spiritual protection. We pray that through them, we may see that all human decisions and actions are the instruments of your divine purpose, as you have shown us in scripture through the lives of Esther and Daniel. We commit to you O Lord, those whom you have placed in positions of leadership - grant them the discernment and wisdom needed.

We pray that you will continue to raise up men and women in China, South Korea, Italy, Iran, Spain, France, Germany, USA, Switzerland and the UK who will respond to your call. We ask not only for your mercy to be reflected in each of these countries, but that through this pandemic, we might all cast our focus on you. We commit to you O Lord, the vulnerable and weak in each of these nations, and pray that through their lives, your glory would be displayed.

Lord God we confess that we have fallen short of our role as stewards and ambassadors of your creation. We confess that we have moved farther away from seeking to bear your image. Forgive our collective desire for consuming non-essentials and our misguided notion that by consuming more goods, we are creating more jobs to support the economy. Forgive our collective misguided thinking that work is something one does to make money. Remind us, Lord God, that made in your image, you have entrusted us with the care and management of the world You created. Remind us Lord God to serve you through our work.

As the countries of China, South Korea, Italy, Iran, Spain, France, Germany, USA, Switzerland and the UK deal with the outcomes of this pandemic, may you raise individuals who will be leaders who pave the way to better stewardship of your creation and the resources you provide us.

O Lord, our God, You are greater and mightier than the most powerful forces in this world! Enable us to be still and know that You are God. O God of all the nations of the earth, renew us through your Holy Spirit to see and experience with awe, the abundance you have provided us through your creation. Enable us to choose to be Your instruments of hope in the world.

May the God of peace - who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, and ratified the eternal covenant with his blood - may He equip us with all we need for doing His will. May He produce in us, through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to Him. All glory to Him forever and ever! (Hebrews 13:20-21)

## AMEN.

Nureen Das

(The prayer Nureen prayed in her Women's prayer group last week. Printed and circulated with permission).