

# LAUS DEO !

On the aluminum cap, atop the Washington Monument in Washington DC, are displayed two words: Laus Deo.

No one can see these words. Most visitors are unaware they are even there, facing skyward to the Father of our nation, overlooking the capital of the United States of America. Laus Deo! Two words very meaningfully placed at the highest point over what is the most powerful city in the world. So, what do those two Latin words mean? Very simply, they say "Praise be to God!"

From atop this magnificent granite and marble structure, one can also see the original plan of the designer, Pierre l'Enfant.—a perfect cross imposed upon the landscape, with the White House to the north, the Jefferson Memorial to the south, the Capitol to the east and the Lincoln Memorial west.

Within the monument are 50 landings. As one climbs the steps and pauses at the landings the memorial stones share a message. On the 12th Landing is a prayer offered by the City of Baltimore; on the 20th is a memorial presented by some Chinese Christians; on the 24th a presentation made by Sunday School children from New York and Philadelphia quoting Proverbs 10:7, Luke 18:16 and Proverbs 22:6.

When the cornerstone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4th, 1848 within it were included the Holy Bible presented by the Bible Society. Such was the moral direction and mood given by the founder and first President of our unique democracy —"One Nation, Under God."

I am awed by Washington's prayer for America. "Almighty God; We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that 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 specific 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 be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Over 92 percent of Americans like the idea that our Pledge of Allegiance includes the phrase "under God." Washington's America was the first countries in all the world established under the banner of Almighty God, to whom was given all praise, honor and worship by the great men who formed and fashioned her foundations.

Stops to observe the inscriptions found in public places all over Washington and easily find the signature of God, as it is unmistakably inscribed everywhere you look. Laus Deo!

Have you noticed as of late, how many more people are coming together, affirming the fact that this nation was, from the beginning, built on God? Any nation that is not built upon God will fail. You see, separation of church and state is not, in the Constitution., nor was it in the heart and minds of the founders. The truth is We have always been one nation under God! Laus Deo! Praise be to God!

Unless the Lord builds the house its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain." (Psalm 127: 1) Let us remember to do our part, through prayers and sacrifice, to be the watchmen who stand their guard.