

Washington's Dedication Prayer

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 particularly for their brethren who **HAVE** served in the Field.

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 be a **HAPPY** nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech **THEE**, through **JESUS CHRIST** our Lord. **AMEN**.

~ George Washington