

NATIONAL SOLEMN ASSEMBLY
BACKGROUND

THE GATHERING
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Many times in the Bible, God calls for His people to conduct a solemn assembly with fasting and prayer when they have grown away from Him and want to renew their relationship.

That's why Christian leaders, representing a wide variety of races, ages and denominations, will convene for The Gathering, a national solemn assembly to pray for forgiveness, wisdom and provision for our country.

A solemn assembly for the purpose of restoration is a sacred gathering where God's people repent of their sins and passionately pursue the return of His presence in their midst. Priests, prophets and kings in the Bible often called these assemblies during times of national crisis.

Old Testament leaders Jacob, Moses, Joshua, Samuel and Joel, among others, called solemn assemblies. In the New Testament, the first Christians were holding a solemn assembly when they received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

The organizers of The Gathering, a non-partisan event, believe our spiritual shortcomings are at the root of moral decay in America. "From family breakdown, to the immigration crisis to the abiding racial divide to Congress' inability to function, it is clear we are a nation unraveling," writes Dr. Tony Evans, one of the chief organizers of The Gathering, in his book, "America: Turning a Nation to God."

American history shows that before every spiritual awakening, beginning with the great revival led by Jonathan Edwards in colonial times, the spiritual leadership of the day placed a heavy emphasis on fasting and gathering for solemn assemblies.

The organizers of The Gathering said there is a spiritual solution to the issues facing our nation, and call for the Church to be the conscience of our culture.

"We need to repent, come back to God, and put our trust in God alone," said Dr. Ronnie Floyd, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and one of the organizers of The Gathering. "America needs a great spiritual awakening."