



NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

“A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

Impeachment

[Abraham Lincoln](#) was one of the most disliked President during his term. On his way to his 1861 inauguration, he stopped in Harrisburg, Pa and was to travel through my hometown of Mount Wolf. However, [there was a plot to kill him](#) at the train station in Baltimore. So secretly, he took a train through Philadelphia and changed trains in Baltimore late at night. Many States seceded from the Union when he became President. Years of bitter war took place because of his policies. However, today he is honored as one of our greatest leaders. (Years later, he did pass through my hometown but on his funeral train.)

After Lincoln's death, Vice-President [Andrew Johnson](#) became President. He clashed repeatedly with the Republican controlled Congress over reconstruction of the defeated South. He opposed political rights for freedmen and called for a lenient reconstruction policy, including pardoning former Confederate leaders. When Johnson vetoed the [Freedmen's Bureau Bill](#) in February of 1866, he broke the final ties with his Republican opponents in Congress. They responded with the [Fourteenth](#) and [Fifteenth](#) Amendments to the Constitution, promising political rights to African Americans. In March of 1867, they also passed the [Tenure of Office Act](#), which was designed to limit the president's ability to shape his cabinet by requiring that the Senate approve his appointments and dismissals.¹

This clash culminated in the House of Representatives voting, on February 24, 1868, to impeach President Johnson. The committee quickly produced charges that became [eleven articles of impeachment](#). Most of the articles dealt with the firing and replacing of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton, who had strongly opposed Johnson's Reconstruction policies. When the trial concluded on May 16, the President had won acquittal, not because a majority of senators supported his policies but because a sufficient minority wished to protect the office of the President and preserve the constitutional balance of powers.¹

Now we are experiencing another presidential impeachment. No matter what the outcome, our government and our citizens have become greatly divided, opinionated, stubborn, disrespectful, self-centered, untrusted and disillusioned. "In God we trust" has become an obsolete and offensive saying. If Bible reading and prayer were a part of the process, it would be peaceful and truthful with positive result.

If only the Speaker of the House would stand up, read and believe: "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? Do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same." Roms 13:1-7

If only Congress would call a national prayer meeting and ask every citizen to pray for direction, unity, justice and integrity. Then we could again become "One nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all." Are you praying or complaining?



Charles L Stambaugh

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land". II Chronicles 7:14

*"Sir, my concern is not whether God is on my side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right."
-Abraham Lincoln*

¹senate.gov/artandhistory/history/common/briefing/Impeachment_Johnson.htm

The written text (unless indicated) within New Heart Beat Devotions media is licensed by Charles L. Stambaugh © If you have questions, comments, or want to discuss about our Lord, you can contact Charles at PO Box 612 Mt Wolf PA 17347 or at NHBDevotions@gmail.com. New Heart Beat Devotions is not affiliated with any other church or organization. Verses used are from the King James Version. Visit our website: NewHeartBeatDevotions.com.