

# THIS WEEK IN CONSCIENCE & JUSTICE

[WWW.CJCOUNCIL.ORG](http://WWW.CJCOUNCIL.ORG)



Friday, September 12, 2025



## Most Americans Don't Believe God Played a Role in Recent Presidential Election Outcomes

What role do Americans think God played in the last two presidential elections? In a May 2025 survey, most U.S. adults say God played no role at all, while about a third say recent election results are part of God's overall plan but don't necessarily mean God approved of the winner's policies. Very few say God chose the winners because of their policies.

For example, when asked what role they think God played in the 2024 presidential election, more than six-in-ten U.S. adults surveyed say either that God doesn't get involved in presidential elections (49%) or that they don't believe in God (14%). Roughly one-third say President Donald Trump's victory must have been part of God's plan, but that this doesn't necessarily mean God approves of Trump's policies. Just 4% say God chose Trump to become president in 2024 because God approves of his policies.

The same survey asked Americans what role God played in the 2020 election, and the results are strikingly similar. Overall, 62% say either that God doesn't get involved in presidential elections or that they don't believe in God. Roughly one-third say Biden's 2020 victory must have been part of God's plan but didn't imply that God endorsed Biden's policies. And 2% say God chose Biden to become president because God approved of his policies.

Continue Reading: [pewresearch.org](https://www.pewresearch.org)

## Top News

- **Most Americans Don't Believe God Played a Role in Recent Presidential Election Outcomes**
- **Many Religious 'Nones' Around the World Hold Spiritual Beliefs**
- **Trump vows to protect prayer in public schools with new Department of Education guidance**
- **At public hearing of White House religion panel, Trump rails against anti-Christian bias**



## Many Religious ‘Nones’ Around the World Hold Spiritual Beliefs

Around the world, many people who do not identify with any religion nevertheless hold a variety of spiritual and religious beliefs, including the belief that there is life after death, according to a Pew Research Center study of religiously unaffiliated adults in 22 countries.

The number of adults who are religiously unaffiliated – describing themselves as atheist, agnostic or “nothing in particular” – has climbed rapidly in the recent past across North America, Europe, parts of Latin America and some countries in the Asia-Pacific region, such as Australia and South Korea.

In seven of the 22 countries, 50% or more of all “nones” believe in life after death.

In addition, large shares of “nones” in some countries say “there is something spiritual beyond the natural world, even if we cannot see it.” For instance, 61% of “nones” in Mexico and 65% in Brazil express this belief.

Many religiously unaffiliated adults also express belief in God. This includes solid majorities of “nones” in South Africa (77%) and several countries in Latin America, such as Brazil (92%), Colombia (86%) and Chile (69%).

Continue Reading: [pewresearch.org](https://www.pewresearch.org)



Microphones for a press conference outside New York City's Manhattan Criminal Courthouse in May 2024. (David Dee Delgado/Getty Images)

## Trump vows to protect prayer in public schools with new Department of Education guidance

President Donald Trump announced upcoming guidance from the Department of Education protecting prayer in public schools during a speech at his Religious Liberty Commission's Sept. 8 hearing.

The hearing, held at the Museum of the Bible in Washington, DC, marked the commission's second public meeting and had a theme of “Religious Liberty in Public Education.”

Trump has long vowed to bring religion back to the nation, both on the campaign trail and so far during his second term. He walked out to the crowd at the Museum of the Bible shortly after 10:30 a.m., thanking the commission for doing an “amazing job.”

He said his administration would “protect the Judeo-Christian values of our founding.” Later in the day, the White House published an article listing Trump's “Top 100 Victories for People of Faith.”

“To have a great nation, you have to have religion – I believe that so strongly,” Trump said at the hearing. “There has to be something after we go through all of this, and that something is God.”



Continue Reading [usatoday.com](https://www.usatoday.com)



# At public hearing of White House religion panel, Trump rails against anti-Christian bias



President Donald Trump speaks at a public hearing of the White House Religious Liberty Commission at the Museum of the Bible, Monday, Sept. 8, 2025, in Washington. (RNS photo/Jack Jenkins)

With a total of six decades of ministry between them, the Revs. Liz Ríos and Liz Mosbo VerHage were not surprised to learn that the vast majority of women ministers have faced misogyny.

But their [new report](#), “Empowering Resilient Women Ministers: Unveiling the Fuel to Serve Amidst Misogyny,” revealed what helped keep their colleagues in the ministry. Across ages, races and denominations, women cited pursuing the call they believe they’ve received from God, supportive networks and perseverance as top contributors to their success.

The research by Ríos and VerHage, both ministers and scholars, revealed that 87% of the 610 women they surveyed said they experienced misogyny, defined as “discrimination, prejudice, objectification, or violence based on your gender,” in their ministry context. Forty-seven percent said they experience such discrimination regularly.

Continue Reading: [religionnews.com](https://religionnews.com)

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**Andre Michael Wang**  
PARL Director  
North Pacific Union



**DON'T  
MISS  
OUT!**

25-28 SEPTEMBER



# CJC2025

## ANNUAL CONVENTION

**OVERCOMING OPPRESSION**

**Biblically Dismantling Abuses of Power**

### SPEAKERS



AMIREH  
AL-HADDAD



KENNY  
ANDERSON



GINA SPIVEY  
BROWN



DILYS  
BROOKS



RYAN  
BURGE



BISHOP MELVIN  
BURTON



MICHAEL W.  
CAMPBELL



MARCUS  
COSBY



LISA CLARK  
DILLER



MYRON  
EDMONDS



PRESTON  
FOSTER



TREVOR H  
FRASER



TRACEY  
GENDRON



OBERY  
HENDRICKS



DOROTHY  
HUSTON



MARQUIS D.  
JOHNS



ORLAN  
JOHNSON



ERICA  
KEITH



ANDREA  
KING



MARILYN  
KING-JORDAN



BETTINA  
KRAUSE



TAWNYA PLUMMER  
LAUGHINGHOUSE



WILLIAM J.  
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ROMAN  
PALOMARES



DAVID  
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SNELL



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<https://register.adventsourceevents.org/2025CJCConvention>

REGISTER HERE



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BEST PRACTICES EXPO

# CALLING ALL PASTORS WITH A HEART FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT!

✕ SEPTEMBER 28, 2025 ✕  
HUNTSVILLE, AL

Present your innovative ministry  
initiatives and **WIN a \$10,000  
mentoring scholarship!**

### WHO SHOULD APPLY?

- Pastors active in community outreach
- Ministries with innovative local programs

### THE FORMAT

- 7-minute presentation
- Q&A with judges

### JUDGING CRITERIA

- Mission alignment
- Impact
- Innovation
- Sustainability

Apply Here



#### NOTE:

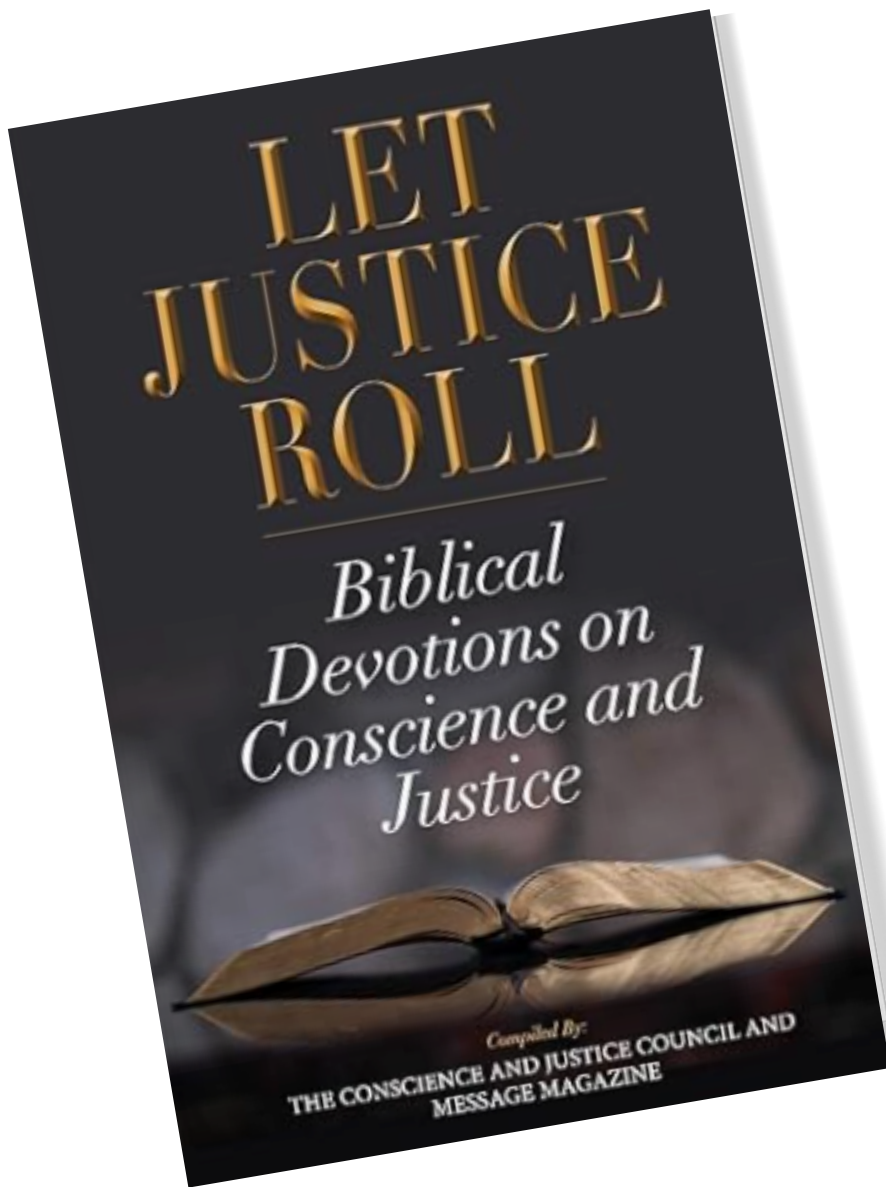
**Must be registered for the  
Conscience & Justice Council  
Convention**

### KEY DATES

**Submit By:** September 18, 2025

**Expo:** September 28, 2025





## Let Justice Roll: Biblical Devotions on Conscience and Justice

"Let Justice Roll" is a compelling devotional that walks the reader through 365 days of biblical insights in freedom of conscience, and social justice. This compilation of articles represents the work of a nationwide network of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty (PARL) advocates and other connected community activists.

The components of conscience and justice ministry include conscience, discipleship, engagement, fellowship, the power of the Holy Spirit, love, and prophecy. This is a must-read book for all followers of Christ and those who seek spiritual growth. Get ready to explore the profound biblical insights in this masterful book.

Order your copy [HERE](#)



## OUR PURPOSE

This newsletter aims to highlight news articles relating to religious liberty, civil rights, and social justice. The Conscience & Justice Council desires to be attuned with society so that we may change the nation by impacting one community at a time. Articles linked above are meant to provoke thought and discussion on important topics, and do not always express options or views endorsed by the CJC.

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