

# **Invocation Prayer**

**Tim Peters-Christian Activist**

**United Nations Day Memorial Convocation**

**Korea Council on Foreign Relations**

**October 24, 2016**

*Good morning to all in attendance today! May I ask that we bow our heads in prayer:*

Heavenly Father, we gather today with all the human rights of a free society to acknowledge the significant role of the United Nations in protecting the sovereignty and freedoms of the the Republic of Korea./

On this UN Day, we express our profound gratitude for the 97,500 United Nations soldiers from 27 nations who gave their lives in Korea between 1950 and 1953. Of that number, 36,574 came from my own homeland of America. / We hasten to add that 217,000 brave soldiers of South Korea gave the ultimate sacrifice for their beloved homeland, as well as a tragic number of Korean civilians who perished in three years of crossfire./

We acknowledge, Lord, that Your intervention has enabled the United Nations to play a key role in the history of this republic. In times of crisis, the UN has issued crucial Security Council resolutions to protect its sovereignty. / At the very infancy of the nation, the UN acted to facilitate free and fair elections. Finally, the formation of the UN Command has endured as a crucial security mechanism coordinating UN member states with South Korea to both counter and prevent North Korean aggression from 1950 until the present./ Today, after 41 years of reduced visibility, we seek to rededicate the *UN Day* to its rightful place in Korea's national calendar.

Behind the outcome of the Korean War's conflict, Lord, and South Korea's extraordinary economic prosperity in the following 63 years, we recognize Your guidance, protection and blessing. / May we never forget King David's sobering words in Psalm 127: "*Unless the Lord builds the house, the laborer toils in vain; unless the Lord watches the city, the watchman guards it but in vain.*"

In recognizing the United Nations as an instrument of Your sovereign will, Father, to protect the precious freedoms of 50 million South Koreans, we now ask You, in all humility and urgency, to break down the barriers

preventing the remaining 25 million Koreans in the North from experiencing those same human rights and prosperity. / Prepare the hearts of South Korea's population for reunification with compassion and generosity.

Father, we end this invocation with *hearts that are heavy with the increased tensions on the Korean Peninsula in 2016*. Reckless and aggressive rhetoric from leadership in the North has increased along with frequent testing of nuclear and ballistic missile programs./ We sincerely ask, Lord, that Your Hand will restrain the forces that seek destruction and domination on this peninsula. From the depths of our hearts, we beseech you to bring about Korean reunification without bloodshed and conflict. / We plead the blood of Your Son over all of these requests. Amen.

Oct. 24, 2016 (460)