

## Sun Myung Moon's words on the Watergate Scandal from 1972 to 1979

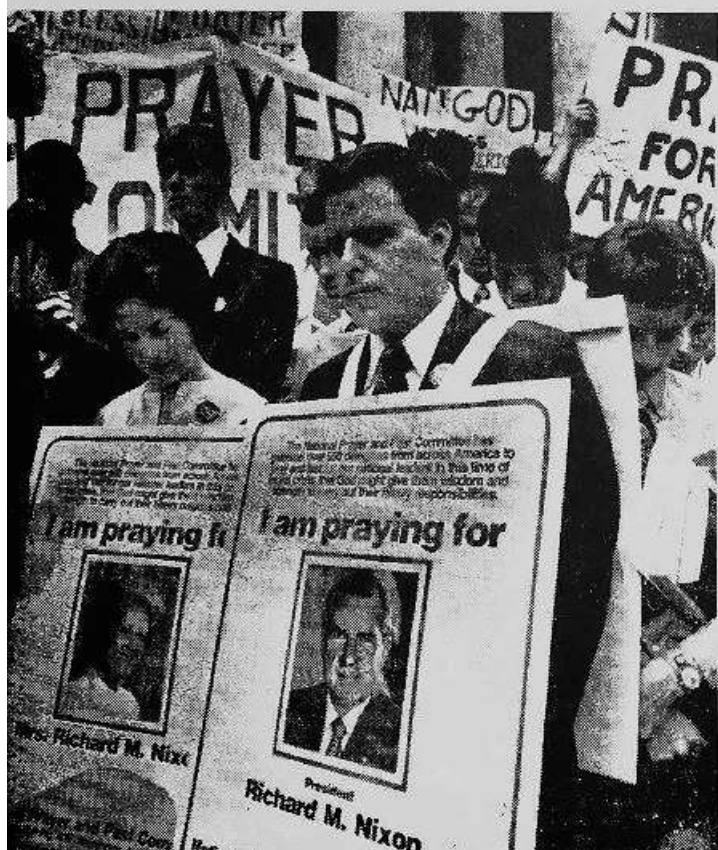
Compiled by Taekon Lee  
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In 1972 and 1973 the US president was brought to his knees. I conveyed the Watergate Statement to President Nixon, telling him there would be a way for him to survive if he listened to what I had to say. I also sent similar letters to every US senator and congressman. Watergate was not just a coincidence, but a chance for me to connect to the White House. It is a historical fact that we have been able to maintain ties with the White House for two consecutive years. When people study the Watergate incident, without fail they will see that my name is historically recorded there supporting America and the presidency. Although people may want to deny this, it cannot be denied. (069-308, 1974/01/01)

# The New York Times

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, JULY 23, 1974



## Nixon Backers Begin Fast and Prayer Vigil at Capitol

WASHINGTON, July 22 (AP)—About 350 supporters of President Nixon gathered on the steps of the Capitol today to begin what they said would be a 72-hour fast and prayer session.

Standing beneath American flags and signs saying "God Bless President Nixon," the crowd heard speeches decrying the impeachment proceedings against Mr. Nixon as no solution to the "Watergate morality."

"We should take note that both Hitler and Lenin took power on the heels of leaders made impotent by constraints upon their office and lack of cohesive support," said Neil Salonen, president of the National Prayer and Fast Committee.

The organization, which claims a nationwide membership of about 25,000, was

come to Washington for a week of rallies and anti-impeachment efforts by the Citizens Committee for Fairness to the President.

Rabbi Baruch M. Korff, chairman of the citizens committee, briefly addressed the Capitol rally, saying the group was emulating the "founding fathers who, 198 years ago, declared a day of prayer, a day of fasting."

"Now that we are undergoing a crisis of the gravest dimensions, it is incumbent upon us to seek spiritual divine guidance," he said.

founded in January by the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, head of the Unification Church of America. Mr. Moon, a Korean, sponsored several weeks of pro-Nixon activities in the capital earlier in the year.

Mr. Salonen said that some of those at the Capitol had

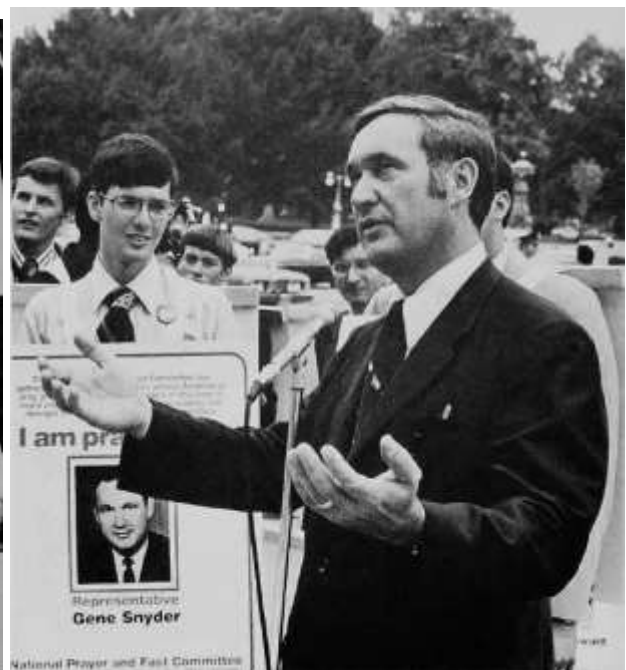
Neil Salonen, president of the National Prayer and Fast Committee, and his wife on the steps of the Capitol yesterday as they began their demonstration.

When America was in turmoil over the Watergate scandal, I cried out for the people to return to God. In order to return to God we need forgiveness, and I told the American people that in order to receive forgiveness they have to forgive. In the Watergate Statement I was declaring that we should forgive. If we cannot forgive the sins of others, we cannot be forgiven. Using one person, President Nixon, as their representative, I was telling the people that individually, as churches, and as a nation, "You are also sinners. You should first repent and forgive President Nixon." I was the one in America who introduced the idea of pardoning President Nixon.

The democratic world is collapsing because Christianity is collapsing. Christianity is collapsing because while the problems in each nation and the whole world multiply, leaders and peoples are not conferring with God but doing things on their own. It is the same as at the time of the Human Fall in the Garden of Eden. (071-247, 1974/05/01)



When I first came to America, I was but one individual who had received the command of heaven, and I had only three years to convey my ideas to all 240 million citizens. Irrespective of whether they listened or not, I had to make an impression and let them know. How would I do this? I had no foundation, no cooperation, and there was even opposition. How could I overcome this situation? I had to go straight forward and reach their hearts. That is why early on I met with prominent senators. I also met with congressional representatives and then I met many prominent and distinguished people. I then considered how to reach the White House, and that's when the Watergate incident exploded. Because of this incident, it became possible for me to meet President Nixon. Americans were in a state of opposition, hopelessness and disappointment. At that point I thought that I should show them a way forward based on Christian love. (075-203, 1975/01/02)



"For a long time, I researched various religions and religious people. I met with many congressmen and other prominent figures. I also met the prominent people of the nation. I met them, but they had no desire in their hearts to save the world. During the Watergate incident, I saw that America can slip and fall to the bottom of the pit with just a minor mistake, and that the religious leaders, including world-renowned people like Billy Graham, should stand at the front line and lead a citizens' movement to protect America. However, these people were not thinking this way at all.

That is why this person called Moon, who was born in Asia, took responsibility. However, this is not something that is done easily. I had to risk my life and consult with God to find out what He wanted. The person standing here in front of you is not a politician. I am someone who acts according to God's Word. Someone should protect the nation and the world, and show humankind the way to go. I knew this and that is why I resolved to tread this risky path. The Unification Church made this final resolution. (072-025, 1974/05/07)



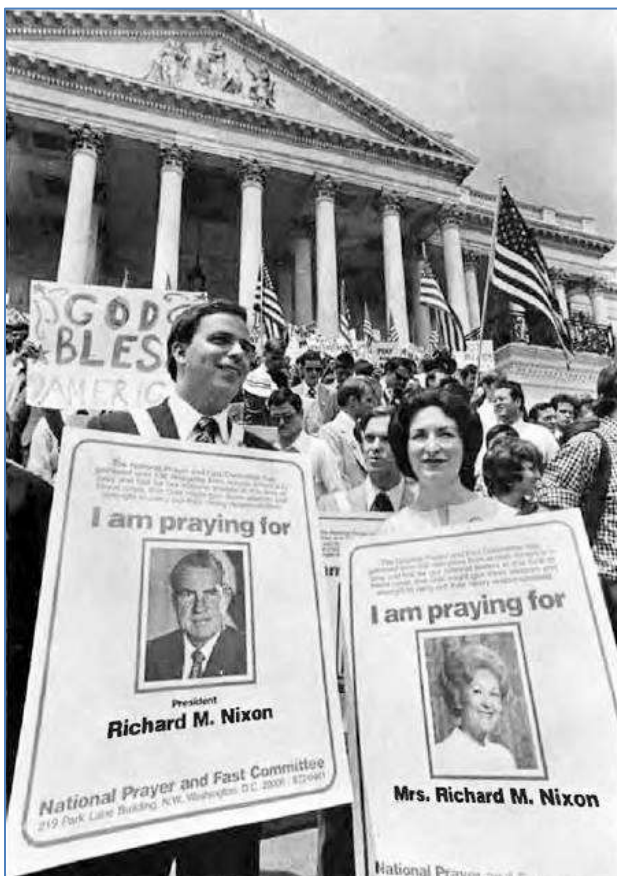
In 1972, I proclaimed the Word in seven cities throughout America. Based on that foundation, I evangelized 21 cities in 1973. During this time, centered on the Watergate incident, which had come out months before, I concluded the 21-city tour on January 28, nearing the end of the second seven years of the 21-year course. After that, I came here to Washington and met President Nixon.

I did not ask to meet him, but President Nixon himself set a date and offered to meet me. We did not meet by coincidence. If a head of state wants to meet the president, they customarily have to make an appointment one and a half years in advance, so this encounter with him was an historic event. He had cleared his schedule and did not meet with anyone during the two weeks leading up to January 30, when he was to give his State of the Union address to Congress. On February 1, after his address, I was the first person he met. He had turned down all meetings with state representatives and ambassadors in order to meet with me.

When I met him, I said, "Let us pray." President Nixon bowed his head in prayer. It was an historic precedent that we could pray as we began such a meeting. We had an exceptional meeting. He thanked me, saying that Reverend Moon showed more concern about him than anyone else in the nation. I could feel that he was overwhelmed and happy. I cannot deny that it was a historic moment, comparable to that of a Roman emperor meeting Jesus. (070-281, 1974/02/14)



As a result of the Watergate incident, America's future had become uncertain. I opened a way for Christianity and helped stabilize this country. We also established a way for the democratic world and America to go forward. This is possible because I met with President Nixon according to God's Will. That is why I prayed when I met him. It was not coincidence. People may not know, but it was already determined that we would overcome a major obstacle at that point in the providential era. (070-236, 1974/02/10)



My support for President Nixon was not for him as an individual, but for his position as president. American citizens should know this in the future. The leader of the nation should have authority when he establishes new policies and decides the fate of the nation. That is why I supported him.

If President Nixon had remained in office, the Vietnam war would not have ended as it did and Cambodia would not have been left in the state it was. I predicted that President Nixon's departure would lead to the current outcome. It is a national shame to have left behind billions of dollars' worth of weapons for the communist world. It should be considered a major defeat for this leading country in the democratic world. (080-040, 1975/10/04)



I supported President Nixon so that America could end the Vietnam War quickly and with victory. I thought that with this victory, Asia's defense zone would be expanded. I concluded that the Nixon Doctrine had to be revised. If the Nixon Doctrine had stood, the security threat surrounding Korea would immediately have subsided. God desires to see America and her president unite and join in solidarity with Asia.

However, the American people separated from their president. Seeing this, I insisted that they should forgive, love and unite. Then Christianity would have become one with President Nixon and with all American citizens. If that had occurred as a result of what I advocated, people eventually would have united with me. I came here as a benefactor to save and unite America. That is why President Nixon needed my counsel. The Watergate incident could have been resolved very quickly. (106-121, 1979/12/16)

