



PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION, INC.

*"It's Time! To empower – one another through love,
casting off and putting on Christ". Romans 13:10-14*

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Progressive National Baptist Convention Calls for National Moral Response to White Christian Nationalism

The Progressive National Baptist Convention (PNBC), a historic denomination born out of the struggle for civil rights, justice, and human dignity, is deeply alarmed and outraged by the continued rise of White Christian Nationalism in American public life.

As a Convention rooted in the prophetic witness of the Black Church tradition and inspired by the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., we believe faith must never be weaponized to divide, dominate, exclude, or diminish the humanity of others.

We are especially troubled by recent and upcoming public gatherings in the nation's capital that merge Christian symbolism with exclusionary politics, extremist rhetoric, and partisan loyalty while excluding the rich diversity of faith traditions and communities that make up our nation. Such displays do not reflect the fullness of the American faith experience nor the inclusive spirit of democracy.

Such expressions distort the Gospel of Jesus Christ by confusing allegiance to country with allegiance to Christ and by elevating political power above the biblical call to justice, humility, truth, and love.

White Christian Nationalism performs a violent idolatry that lifts country above Christ, which ironically threatens the future sustainability and original promises of the very nation it purports to want to make great again.

"When country is lifted above Christ, the Gospel is distorted and democracy is endangered. The Church must never confuse political power with the Kingdom of God," said Rev. Dr. David R. Peoples, President of the Progressive National Baptist Convention.

The Gospel calls us not to supremacy, but to service.
Not to domination, but to justice.
Not to fear, but to love.

PNBC rejects any theology or movement that seeks to elevate one race, culture, political ideology, or national identity as divinely ordained above others. We affirm that every person is created in the image of God and worthy of dignity, freedom, and equal protection under the law.

For generations, the Black Church has stood as a moral witness against slavery, segregation, racial terror, and injustice. We understand all too well the danger of those who attempt to use religion as a tool of oppression rather than liberation.

This moment demands moral clarity.

We call upon people of faith across this nation to reject hatred, reject authoritarianism, reject racial hierarchy, and recommit themselves to the sacred values of justice, compassion, truth, democracy, and beloved community.

The Church belongs to Jesus Christ, not to nationalism, political extremism, or the pursuit of power.

Rev. Dr. David R. Peoples
President
Progressive National Baptist Convention

Rev. Thomas L. Bowen
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Progressive National Baptist Convention

ABOUT PNBC

The Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., (PNBC) is a vital Baptist denomination with an estimated membership of 2.5 million people. PNBC was formed to give full voice, sterling leadership and active support to the American and world fight for human freedom. The convention was the convention-denominational home and platform for the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who addressed every annual session of the Convention until his death in 1968. New generations of Progressive Baptists are continuing the struggle for full voter registration, education and participation in society, economic empowerment and development, and the realization of universal human rights and total human liberation for all people.

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