

SPECIAL REQUEST FOR URGENT PRAYER ON ABORTION AND WITCHCRAFT

Currently two issues need serious prayer in our country. The first is the *Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Amendment Bill* (abortion) and the other the *Traditional Health Practitioners Bill*. The first bill extends the number of facilities offering abortion and allows nurses to perform them, while the second provides for state recognition of witchdoctors. These issues are of historic significance in the spiritual history of South Africa, because they deal with two significant evils facing the South African society. Abortion has killed more than 650,000 babies since legalised on demand in 1996, it is also causing persecution of conscientiously objecting Christian health care workers in hospitals and clinics throughout South Africa.

The above laws were originally passed in 2004, without proper and fair public debate or hearings. Nevertheless, in 2006, the *Constitutional Court* ruled that the public hearings had not been properly conducted, thus giving us a window of mercy to repent of our sins. In the Bible, newborn babies were sacrificed to Baal (**Jer.32:35**). Today babies are sacrificed by abortion to the gods of choice, materialism and liberty. Right now, we are not just dealing with a political process. This is not just prayer about two moral/ethical issues. There are spiritual forces at work that strongly influence governments and political decisions. As Christians we must not be ignorant about the spiritual battle that we are involved in and the influence of demonic powers on nations and governments (**Dn.10:20; 2Cor.10:3-6; Eph.6:12**).

Let us make a special effort to pray about these issues in our different prayer groups, Bible study groups and everywhere and when we have an opportunity.

Prayer pointers:

- Give thanks to God for giving us another chance at changing these laws.
- Pray that the church will be the voice of God's heart in very practical and uplifting ways.
- Pray for those activists who take a bold stand in representing Christian values in our Government, for favour, for humility and much authority.
- Ask for them to have wisdom and revelation in their debates with media, in lobbying government and in lobbying Christian groups and churches.
- Lift up the government before the Lord, as for their eyes to be opened to righteousness and justice and Biblical principles.
- Let us not pray against the government, but rather for them to have revelation of God's plans and purposes, so His kingdom will become visible in our government as it is His intend. (See the prayer following).