



NSDAR Day of Prayer October 11, 2026

Dear Daughters,

"No Kings! No Tyranny!" is perhaps the oldest American political slogan made famous by Thomas Paine's *Common Sense* (1776) and it ties closely with a Biblical point of view regarding kings, at least human kings.

When Israel first wanted a monarch, God told Samuel to warn the people what the "justice of a king" will take from them (1 Samuel 8:9-17). Instead, God raised judges and all served the authority of the Lord. Gideon articulates this after the Israelites want to make him king after he saved them from Midian, "I will not rule over you, nor will my son. The Lord will rule over you" (Judges 8:22). When we later see King David abuse his power and the forced labor and oppression of King Solomon, we know even kings that begin with good intentions following the Lord turn away. They accumulate military might, make political alliances with nations that create unwanted obligations, and gain personal wealth through oppressive means (1 Kings 11). And this is what makes Jesus Christ the only king worthy of being a monarch. The only crown He ever wore on earth was the crown of thorns. At the Last Supper He knelt to wash the disciple's feet. He died for us.

Our ruling system, based on the U.S. Constitution begins “We the People.” It is a system that places power in the hands of the public and creates a future where marginalized groups are a part of its control—not oppressed by a king. I know, our nation has often failed to live up to these ideals, like the Israelites have failed to live up to the Law, and Christians need routine forgiveness for what we have done and what we have left undone. But I believe that it is God’s desire for his children (all are his children) to live in community with mutual love for each other, not to dominate, control, and oppress each other. That is the beauty of the system of three branches equal in weight with none dominating the other. There is no king, but a large group of elected officials who represent the people. Term limits ensure that no one person gets too much power. Their job is to serve the public, not be served by the public. At 65, George Washington demonstrated leadership in what it means to serve and ensure our system works by retiring—not hoarding power.

This is the cry from Thomas Paine at the birth of our nation and the ideals that the Revolutionary War was fought over. The Daughters of the American Revolution protect our history and honor our ancestors.

Here to serve,
Gayle Goudy, Chaplain