Strong Leaders Need Our Prayers

August 9, 2013

“The LORD has shown his good favor to me. He has caused the king and his advisers to show me their favor. In fact, all of the king’s powerful officials have shown favor to me. The strong hand of the LORD my God helped me. That gave me new strength.” Ezra 7:28

Today, so many of our leaders have fallen short of the glory of God. God’s people suffer. Our government suffers. Our institutions suffer. We give thanks to the Lord for the leadership of Dr. David L. Beckley as President of Rust College.

In our text today, the King of Persia, Artaxerxes, gives Ezra, the priest and the teacher, authority to gather all the people needed to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the Jewish nation. The king also gives Ezra all the silver and gold he desires to take with him to help sustain the city of Jerusalem. The king trusts Ezra to do God’s will for the people. The king blesses Ezra and Ezra gives praise to God for the blessing from the king. Ezra recognizes the favor shown to him and gives God the glory for that favor and strength.

We give thanks for the favor shown Rust College under the leadership of Dr. David Beckley. Day to day networking with people who love Rust College appears to give him new strength. Resources from all over the nations pour into Rust College in the form of cash, long term investments, equipment, knowledge, wisdom, and prayers of hope for the sustained future of Rust. Blessings upon blessings have kept the school striving toward excellence for 147 years. Hundreds of parents year after year entrust their young adults to Rust for a well rounded education. We pause to give honor to the anointed leadership of our President, Dr. David L. Beckley.

Prayer: Dear Lord, thank you for your gracious blessings bestowed upon President David L. Beckley. Surround him with brand new mercies each day. Continue to manifest your divine will in him for Rust College. Thank you for the gifted leaders whom you send to work with him. Renew his strength from sunrise to sunrise. Lead him in paths of righteousness. O God, build a fence of protection around his wife, Dr. Gemma Beckley and their children and grandchildren. Keep them safe in your steadfast love. Lord, comfort President Beckley in times of stress and distress. Give his mind clarity of thought and purpose in every decision that rests upon his shoulders. Keep him forever in your love and Care. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Submitted by Rev. Annie Travis