

Proclamation

by

Matthew G. Bevin
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

- WHEREAS, 2017 marks the 2nd year Kentucky has led the nation in celebrating the Bible's significant impact on Kentucky and American institutions and culture by leaders in each county taking shifts to read through the entire Bible in Kentucky's Bible Reading Marathon beginning January 1, 2017; and
- WHEREAS, After President Abraham Lincoln was presented a Bible on September 7, 1864 by the Loyal Colored People of Baltimore, he replied, 'The Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man'; and
- WHEREAS, John Jay, first Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, proclaimed: 'The Bible is the best of all books, for it is the Word of God and teaches us the way to be happy in this world and in the next'; and
- WHEREAS, President Harry S. Truman said, 'The fundamental basis of this Nation's law was given to Moses on the Mount. The fundamental basis of our Bill of Rights comes from the teachings which we get from Exodus and St. Matthew, from Isaiah and St. Paul'; and
- WHEREAS, In addition to encouraging Americans to rediscover the Bible's 'priceless and timeless message,' President Ronald Reagan's 1983 Year of the Bible Proclamation stated, 'Of the many influences that have shaped the United States into a distinctive nation and people, none may be said to be more fundamental and enduring than the Bible'; and
- WHEREAS, The Preamble of Kentucky's Constitution states, 'We, the people of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, grateful to Almighty God for the civil, political and religious liberties we enjoy';
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, MATTHEW G. BEVIN, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim 2017 as the

YEAR OF THE BIBLE

in Kentucky.

DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort the 19th day of December, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Sixteen and in the 225th year of the Commonwealth.

Handwritten signature of Matthew G. Bevin in black ink.

MATTHEW G. BEVIN
GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of Alison Lundergan Grimes in black ink.

ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES
SECRETARY OF STATE

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