

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## **A PROCLAMATION**

## CHRISTIAN HERITAGE WEEK

WHEREAS:	The Preamble to the State of Georgia's Constitution states, "To perpetuate the principles of free government, ensure justice to all, preserve peace, promote the interest and happiness of the citizen and of the family, and transmit to posterity the enjoyment of liberty, we the people of Georgia, relying upon the protection and guidance of Almighty God, do ordain and establish this Constitution"; and
WHEREAS:	At the Constitutional Convention in 1787, Benjamin Franklin stated, "It is impossible to build an empire without our Father's aid. I believe the sacred writings which say that 'Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it."' (Psalm 127:1); and
WHEREAS:	George Washington, the first president of the United States, spoke these words: "animated alone by the pure spirit of Christianity, and conducting ourselves as the faithful subjects of our free government, we may enjoy every temporal and spiritual felicity"; and
WHEREAS:	Author of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson, wrote: "Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed the conviction that these liberties are the gift of God?"; and
WHEREAS:	James Madison, the father of the U.S. Constitution, advocated "the diffusion of the light of Christianity in our nation" in his Memorial and Remonstrance. Patrick Henry quoted Proverbs 14:34, referring to our nation: "Righteousness alone can exalt a nation, but sin is a disgrace to many people." George Mason affirmed this by saying "that it is the mutual duty of all to practice Christian forbearance, love, and charity toward each other"; and
WHEREAS:	These, and many of the other great men and women scattered throughout America's history, were Christian statesmen of high caliber and integrity who expressed their faith; now
THEREFORE:	I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 28 – May 4, 2019, as CHRISTIAN HERITAGE WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.

