

road is going to be hard, there's no question about it. It'll test our will; it'll test our determination. But the enemy that struck us is going to find out what we're made out of. They've already found out a small taste about what we're made out of.

You know, when they hit us, they must have thought we were so self-absorbed and so materialistic that we would sue them. [Laughter] They were wrong. They're also wrong about one other thing. Our Nation—our Nation is not only a strong and determined nation, we are a compassionate nation. We're a nation who will show the world our true face by not only putting a military in place that's well paid, well trained, well equipped but also by loving a neighbor like we'd like to be loved ourselves.

Today I had two fine Americans—if you all would stand, please—come out to the airport. These good folks take time out of their lives. These are citizens that have heard a call to love a neighbor like they'd like to be loved themselves. They spend extra time helping a neighbor in need. They've asked the question, "What can I do to make my society a better place"—you can sit down if you like—"how can I serve something—how can I serve something greater than myself?" Thank you all for coming to the airport. Thank you for

your service to your community. Thank you for teaching children to read. Thank you for mentoring. Thank you for having served in AmeriCorps.

You see, if you want to help in the war against terror, find somebody whose heart may be broken and help mend it by loving them. Walk across the street and say to a shut-in, "I care for you." Mentor a child on how to read. If you're a mom or a dad, love your children with all your heart and all your soul. It's the accumulation of millions of acts of kindness and decency that define the true nature of our country. And by loving a neighbor like you'd like to be loved yourself, you help stand square in the face of evil.

The evil ones hit us. I believe the world can be more peaceful. I know our Nation can be more compassionate. And as a result, those who died on September the 11th and those who died subsequently defending freedom will not have died in vain.

Thank you all for coming. God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3 p.m. at the Georgia Institute of Technology. In his remarks, he referred to G. Wayne Clough, president, Georgia Institute of Technology; Representative Saxby Chambliss of Georgia; Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority; and Gov. Roy Barnes of Georgia and his wife, Marie.

## Message on the Observance of Passover, 5762 *March 27, 2002*

I send greetings to all Americans and to all people around the world who are observing Passover this week, which begins at sundown on March 27.

Passover marks a uniquely special time in the Jewish calendar, commemorating Judaism's foremost traditions of freedom, faith, and family. In celebrating the Israelites' liberation from enslavement and

their exodus from Egypt, Passover reminds Jews of their sacred tradition. It is a time for Jewish families to share together in long-established rituals and to offer prayers that celebrate the renewal of hope in the blessings of freedom.

The story of the Exodus speaks across the millennia. By God's power and blessing,

the children of Abraham overcame Pharaoh's tyranny forty centuries ago and found freedom in the promised land. Every year at Passover, Jews relive the experience of the Exodus and remember the miracles that provided them their path to freedom.

As we seek peace throughout the world, we are reminded that freedom is a precious gift. At this Passover, I hope that people of every faith will affirm that freedom is

the right of all people. And as Jews observe this sacred time, I hope that your faith will be strengthened in the remembrance of your miraculous and living heritage.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for a blessed Passover.

GEORGE W. BUSH

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### Message on the Observance of Easter, 2002 March 27, 2002

I send greetings to everyone observing Easter this year. During this joyful season of new life and renewal, Christians around the world celebrate the central event of their faith—the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, whom Christians believe is the Messiah, the Son of God.

The life and teachings of Jesus have inspired people throughout the ages to strive for a better world and a more meaningful life. Jesus' death stands out in history as the perfect example of unconditional love. The four Gospels of the Christian Bible recount Jesus' amazing life, his miraculous death, resurrection, and ascension, and his unending offer of salvation to all. The story of Jesus' wondrous resurrection comes alive again for Christians each year at Easter.

Easter Sunday commemorates in song and celebration the joy and promise of Christ's triumph over evil and death. Christians around the world gather together to sing well-loved hymns to God's glory, remembering the signs and wonders of God's grace revealed in Jesus. And they again will

hear Gospel readings such as Saint Luke's rendering of that first Easter morning when the Angel asked: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!"

Easter's message of renewal is especially meaningful now during this challenging time in our Nation's history. On September 11, 2001, America suffered devastating loss. In the wake of great evil, however, Americans responded with strength, compassion, and generosity. As we fight to promote freedom around the world and to protect innocent lives in America, we remember the call of the *Battle Hymn of the Republic*: "As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free."

Laura joins me in sending best wishes for a wonderful Easter.

GEORGE W. BUSH

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