



# No Pressure, Mr. President! The Power Of True Belief In A Time Of Crisis: The National Prayer Breakfast Speech

*Eric Metaxas*

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**America's Bonhoeffer moment is here.**

There is a difference between real faith in God and mere religion. There is a kind of religion that is lifeless and is the bitter enemy of true faith. Think of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's prophetic attempts to waken the sleeping German church, often unwitting allies of Hitler and the Third Reich. Or of William Wilberforce's heroic efforts to rouse his complacent "Christian" countrymen to stand against the monstrous evil of the slave trade. Bonhoeffer and Wilberforce stood against the evil of their times—an evil often repackaged in religious-sounding language.

Eric Metaxas's electrifying message—delivered before the president and dozens of national leaders at the Sixtieth Annual National Prayer Breakfast—calls readers to follow in the steps of Wilberforce and Bonhoeffer, men who lived their faith and swam against the mainstream, instead of drifting along with it. Metaxas makes it clear that phony religiosity offends God himself—and that real prayer is only possible with a living faith in a living God. And that kind of faith can transform the world. No pressure.

## No Pressure, Mr. President! The Power Of True Belief In A Time Of Crisis: The National Prayer Breakfast Speech Details

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## **From Reader Review No Pressure, Mr. President! The Power Of True Belief In A Time Of Crisis: The National Prayer Breakfast Speech for online ebook**

**Ruth M. Hebert says**

### **A Must for any Disillusioned American**

Metadata rallies 3500 to the reality of dead religion and offers an experiential insight into what defines a follower of Christ. Anyone who has read his best selling biographies will be most impressed with his courage and leap of faith before an audience at the National Prayer breakfast in 2012. Would that I had such fearlessness.

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**Melissa says**

This is just a short book. I really didn't get anything from it. Metaxas is a great writer though!

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**Todd says**

Great short read. Metaxas' humor comes out here like it can't in his biographies. His speech was right on point and his descriptions of events before and after are entertaining.

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**Alan says**

Mr. Metaxas' written speech is a powerful today as it was when I listened to it delivered live.

The book itself is the short story of how the speech came to be written. The story is worth the \$4 Amazon asked for it.

The lessons in the speech will rock your world: Are you religious, or do you know the Living and Most High God?

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**Rich says**

Enormous disappointment.

In the first chapter, Metaxas comes across as horribly narcissistic about being asked to speak at the National Prayer Breakfast. In describing his preparation, he comes across as irresponsible and more focused on wanting to be funny than wanting to say anything of significance.

The address itself (chapter two) lacks substance. His jokes are inappropriate (I couldn't help but feel sorry for both his wife AND Nancy Pelosi). Initially, he pits the "churchgoers" against the "true Christians"

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(apparently he is referring to those of insincere faith when he speaks of "churchgoers," but he never identifies them as such -- he basically accuses all "churchgoers" of hypocrisy). He does so in an attempt to mimic Bonhoeffer's call to sincere, active faith -- but he fails miserably, coming across as merely echoing the Emergent Church's blanket criticism of the church as so-called "institutional religion" (forgetting the fact that Bonhoeffer risked his life working with an underground seminary to train pastors to serve in "institutional" churches).

Metaxas also boils down the Christian faith to a pair of basic truths -- an acknowledgement of Jesus (left undefined), and love. For example, when he speaks of those concerned for the unborn, his application is nothing more than a basic encouragement to love those who think differently. In other words, those who are opposed to abortion should love those who support it, and vice versa. He likewise applies this thinking to the treatment of the Jews in Nazi Germany, actually suggesting that the call of Christ would be nothing more than an encouragement for those who are concerned for the Jews to love those who are murdering them, and vice versa. (Coming, once again, from the biographer of Bonhoeffer).

Metaxas may be a good writer and excellent biographer -- but he's no theologian. He seems to have fallen into the trap of numerous other Christian "celebrities," who seem to believe that (a) because they profess faith in "Jesus," and (b) they have achieved a certain level of celebrity, they are therefore qualified to teach theology. One wishes that Metaxas had kept his theological musings confined to the work he did with Veggie Tales.

Overall, the address was an embarrassment. If anything, I've seen that the outstanding work Metaxas produced on Wilberforce and Bonhoeffer seems to have more to do with the character of the men who were the subject of his study and less to do with the writer.

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### **Lawrence says**

Refreshing, honest, funny, rewarding short time spent reading Author and speaker Eric Metaxis' address to a Presidential Prayer Breakfast.

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### **Dirk says**

I like Metaxas' main point about dead religion and his statement that true faith leads to action and changes the world.

However, I am wondering about his many words spent making jokes: did it help getting the message across, or did it distract? Also, he gives a lot of attention to himself in the story leading up to the speech.

I don't know what I would have done, speaking in the company of many highly placed people. Quite intimidating...

His jokes may have broken the ice and shown those present that radical Christians are not the bigots the liberals often think they are. Metaxas' point that Christians must love their enemies, also in the political debate and in the abortion fight, is very good. And I admire his courage of making the case for the protection of the lives of babies. He has a timely message for both liberals and conservatives.

So overall, I like the speech and the surrounding story!

### **Andy says**

Very funny, insightful book on Eric Metaxas' preparation for his speech at the National Prayer Breakfast. He reveals his intellect, and yet his self-effacing humor. The text of his speech is included. Only 60 small pages long, and includes pictures. :)

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### **Mike says**

It is quite interesting hearing the prep that went into his speech and how the event went from his opinion. However, if you've heard the speech and aren't interested in either of those things this book is not for you.

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### **Barbara Bingham says**

#### **I loved it!**

Delightful! Also simple but profound! I thoroughly enjoy reading this book and Mr. Metaxas's "Bonhoeffer" was an amazing read. Highly recommended for those who enjoy a great read.

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