

# THE WICKER REPORT

By: United States Senator Roger Wicker



ple. They expect the president they elected to be able to choose who will help lead his administration.

These expectations are not radical, given the bipartisan cooperation on executive appointments in the past.

In the months following President Obama's inauguration, the Senate confirmed nearly all of his nominees by a simple voice vote. And yet, only 10 percent of President Trump's nominees have been approved this way. Earlier this year, Democrats forced a historically slow confirmation of the President's Cabinet, going so far as to boycott committee hearings with his nominees. To put these stall tactics into perspective, no other U.S. president since George Washington has had to wait as long as President Trump did for his Cabinet to be filled.

These delays disrupt the Senate's constitutional duty to provide "advice and consent" on

executive appointments. But they also threaten the vitality of our government and the services it provides, including national security. President Trump needs his full national security team in place to keep our nation safe, support our veterans, and secure our borders. However, only six of his 22 nominations to the Department of Defense have been confirmed. The Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security face a similar shortage of presidential appointees.

### Bills Affecting Defense, Drug Research Ready for Senate Action

The next few weeks should proceed without the obstruction of the past few months. In addition to confirming nominees, the Senate has a number of important legislative items to consider that will have an impact on American lives and the well-being of our communities. That includes legislation to bring life-saving drug research to patients and the passage of the annual defense authorization bill to ensure our troops have the resources they need at home and abroad. Congress also faces tough decisions about federal spending and the urgent task of repealing and replacing the collapsing Obamacare system.

# Living an obedient life

By Gary Andrews  
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Obedience is something that all of us must have, whether it is to someone on this earth or to our Heavenly Father, for us to be successful in whatever we are trying to do.

Obedience, according to the dictionary, is the state, fact, or an instance of obeying, or a willingness to obey; submission.

When we are willing to be obedient to the ones over us, then we are going to see the rewards from what has been promised. In today's society and job market, we must be obedient to our employers to succeed.

In the home children must be obedient to their parents to have a complete and happy home and only this comes when the parents are in obedience to what the Lord God tells us to do.

The Bible is full of examples of obedient men and women. Even through all of their trials

Senate Democrats should put politics aside to address these items of national importance. The political theater needs to end. There is too much work to be done.

and tribulations we read where our Old Testament ancestors obeyed God to find fulfillment in their lives.

Today we are still answering to the same God. Even though we are so far advanced in technology and luxuries on earth, the same God of our ancestors is still in control and, ultimately, we must answer to Him for our actions on earth.

Man has not come to the point of where he is at now without the blessings of Almighty God. Our allegiance and obedience belong to Him that sustains us through our lowest and weakest moments to our highest of highs.

Over the past few years we have been witness to what Satan is trying to do on this earth. We have also been witness to natural disasters and I firmly believe that this is God's way of getting our attention.

Whether our problems are man created or from natural sources we see more and more of our people falling on their knees asking God for help. It is my hope that you and your family acknowledge God for all creation and read His word so that we can obey Him.

Prayer: Father lead me in the way you want me to go and help me get myself out of the way. Lord thank you for loving me and protecting me from my enemies. Amen.

Suggested daily Bible readings: Sunday - Genesis 6:8-22; Monday - 1 John 5:1-5; Tuesday - 2 Timothy 2:14-19; Wednesday - Isaiah 45:9; Thursday - Hebrews 13:17; Friday - James 1:19-26; Saturday - Proverbs 7:1-5.

Gary Andrews is the author of *Encouraging Words: 30-days in God's Word*. To obtain a copy go to his website [www.gadevotionals.com](http://www.gadevotionals.com).

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