

## MESSAGE FROM ED MEESE

20 May 2021

To My Friends at The Council For National Policy and the Alliance Defending Freedom:

Although I cannot be with you in person, I want to join in the presentation of the Originalism and Religious Liberty Award to my friend Bill Barr.

It is significant that this award is presented by the Alliance Defending Freedom, which is a foremost legal organization defending our religious liberty under the Constitution. ADF has shown how dedicated citizens, working together, can establish a bulwark against those political forces that seek to diminish or eliminate the free expression of religion, which is has been so important to the history and traditions of our Country. Under the leadership of Alan Sears, and now Mike Farris, ADF has achieved a remarkable record of legal successes.

I am honored to have my name associated with this award, which has been distinguished by the outstanding individuals who have received the award over the past years. That tradition continues today with former Attorney General Bill Barr as this year's recipient.

Bill has achieved an exceptional record of service to our nation and as a dedicated servant leader in the Kingdom of God. He has held important positions in the Central Intelligence Agency, the White House, and the Department of Justice before twice becoming Attorney General of the United States, appointed by two presidents.

As the Attorney General, Bill provided excellent leadership and sound judgement under the most difficult situations and has been a superb example of professionalism and courage. He has championed the causes of fidelity to the constitution and of religious liberty in his governance of the Justice Department and in his leadership on major litigation and legal policy matters. In his public pronouncements on critical subjects of religion and morality, such as his famous speech at the University of Notre Dame, he has espoused the highest ideals of our Nation's history and traditions. For his outspoken defense of these principles, he has been accurately acclaimed as a true "cultural warrior."

Because of this distinguished record, and all that Bill has meant to us here, I am proud to join you today to honor Bill Barr, an outstanding lawyer and great American patriot.

Ed Meese