

Hope in the Midst of Crisis & Chaos

Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-AZ, shocked Congress' lower chamber during a dramatic appearance to cast her vote in support of a bill aimed at averting an economic crisis. Reporters describe the event as “electrifying” and DNC Chairwoman Debbie Wasserman-Shultz said, "It was electrifying," and that even the hardest of hearts couldn't help but be emotional during Giffords' first public appearance since being shot in the head on January 8 in Tucson, AZ.

Giffords crossed strictly-drawn party lines with more than just her vote. Even the House's top Republican leadership couldn't help tossing their self-declared victory aside to comment on her miraculous presence. "I think certainly with the dramatic entrance of Gabby Giffords, it shows that we're all American," said House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, R-VA.. "And it is about making sure that we are doing everything we can for the people who put us here, and set aside all the bickering and the differences and actually come together and produce a bill that is a compromise for everybody."

Jesus has called us to put aside our differences and operate in a spirit of unity. On the night before he was crucified, he prayed for the unity of believers:

“I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. “I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. John 17:20-23, New Living Translation (NLT)

When a real-life miracle appears, suddenly there is hope where there was only despair and unity where only division existed. The grace of God, operating through the power of the Holy Spirit is this miracle-working, ‘electrifying,’ transforming power. We men need to walk in the authority and power we have as “joint heirs with Christ” in the Kingdom. Miracles will follow. The glory of God will be revealed. Unity will follow. Love and compassion will be evidenced. Even the “hardest of hearts” will be changed, and the lost will come to know that saving power of Jesus.