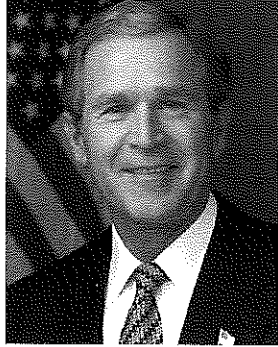




THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



September 17, 2004

I send greetings to those gathered for the National Inaugural Conference of the Korean-American Church Coalition.

Our Nation has always benefited from a strong spiritual foundation. Faith continues to offer strength, hope, and guidance for people in our country and around the world. Through your acts of goodness and compassion, you help others meet the challenges of each new day.

Freedom is the God-given right of all mankind, and the advance of freedom is the calling of our time. Freedom lifts the hopes of people around the world and turns them to the pursuits of peace. My Administration is committed to expanding the protection of human rights across the world, and the United States continues to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of North Korea.

I commend your work to promote unity and protect human rights. Your efforts point the way to a brighter future for our Nation and the world.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes on this special occasion.