FAITH J. H. MCDONNELL, DIRECTOR INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS LIBERTTY PROGRAM
AND CHURCH ALLLIANCE FORA NEW SUDAN INSTITUTE ON RELIGION AND DEMOCRACY WASHINGTON, DC


## THE HISTORY OF THE MOVEMENT TO FIGHT RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION

## EARLY ADVOCACY BEFORE SOCIAL MEDIA

Soviet Union and Eastern Europe
Organizations/Free Soviet Jewry Campaign Individual cases/Members of Congress

- Frank Wolf
- Chris Smith
- Tom Lantos and Annette Lantos
- Jackson-Vanik Amendment


## WHAT DID WE DO?

Mailings from organizations: Information Prayer Points

Write letters, send faxes to prisoners, Congress, Soviet officials, psychiatric hospitals, labor camp commandants

1906ః A NEE MOVEMENT BEGAN

## January 1996: We came together

Why then?

$$
\begin{gathered}
\text { WHY WAS AN } \\
\text { ADVOCACY EFFORT } \\
\text { FOR } \\
\text { PERSECUTED } \\
\text { CHRUSTIANS NEEDED? }
\end{gathered}
$$

# BUILDING <br> A CONSTITUENCY 

"Politics are downstream from culture" Wolf Provoke Interest Provide Information

# INTRODUCTION OF THE WOLF/SPECTER BILL FALL 1997 

Freedom
from Religious Persecution Act

## OPPOSITION TO THE BlLL

- Clinton Administration
- Foreign Policy Establishment and some human rights groups
- Trade Lobby
- Some Churches
- (National Council of Churches)


## STRUGGLE TO PASS BILL

## "doomed"

-     - 


## "dead in the water"

New York Times

## PASSAGE OF THE 1908 INTERNATTONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ACT

Second to last day, 105 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Congress, October 1998
Signed into law by President Clinton, October 27, 1998.

# WHAT CHANGES此 U.S. FOREIGN POLICY TO ADVOCATE FOR RELIGUOUS FREEDOM? 

- State Department Office of Religious Freedom
- U.S. Commission on International Rel. Freedom
- Religious Freedom institutionalized in U.S. government, foreign policy establishment


## ENCOURAGED OTHER LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS:

- Trafficking Victims Protection Act
- Sudan Peace Act
- North Korea Freedom Act
- Sudan Divestment Campaign
- Comprehensive Peace Agreement
- Sudan, North Korea, and Middle East Special Envoys
- Middle East and South Asia Caucus
- Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission


## WIHAT NIGERIA SHOWS US

## Nigeria



## DIRECT COMAMAND FROM GOD:

Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter.
If you say, "But we knew nothing about this," does not HE who weighs the heart perceive it?
Proverbs 24: 11, 12

## ACCOUNTABILITY




## IF WE, THEN

Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?... THEN your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear...IF you do away with the yoke of oppression...THEN your light will rise in the darkness.
Isaiah 58: 6, 8, 9, 10

## Sudan

ALMOST 4000 BOMBS DROPPED ON CIVILIAN TARGETS




How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him, but if Baal is God, follow Him. Then, says the Bible, The people said NOTHING. | Kings 18: 21


THERE IS NO TIME TO WAVER

# UNSPIRUNG PASSION FOR THE PERSECUTED 

- Nehemiah
- David
- Esther
- Moses

