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"I had always been a skeptic of the church of personal peace and prosperity . . . of righteous people standing in a holy huddle while the world rages outside the stained glass. But I've learned that there are many people of the cloth who are also in the world - from debt cancellation to the fight against AIDS and for human rights, they are on the march. Jim Wallis isn't just part of this movement—he's out front carrying a bullhorn."

-- **Bono**

"I am grateful that Jim Wallis has decided to write this book, and has chosen this moment to do so. What we need is a way to tap the power of the revival of faith in order to inspire and encourage the secular social reforms that are espoused in all the great religions. This is the pathway described to us in this book."

-- **Jimmy Carter**

"...as passionate, engaging and emotionally moving as readers have come to expect from Wallis."

-- **Publishers Weekly**

The Great Awakening:

Reviving Faith & Politics in a Post-Religious Right America

By Jim Wallis

With a foreword by Jimmy Carter

New Jim Wallis Book is Call to Action for Faith & Justice

***The Great Awakening* is a Hard Look at Politics and the *Moral* State of the Union**

Jim Wallis follows up his *New York Times* bestseller **God's Politics** with a call to action for people who want to address urgent problems that politics has failed to solve. **The Great Awakening: Reviving Faith & Politics in a Post-Religious Right America** (HarperOne, January 22, 2008) heralds a new era for faith and politics.

Wallis is convinced that a grass roots great awakening is sweeping the nation, the kind of revival of faith that in years past fueled movements to end slavery and legal segregation. The agenda of the faith community is changing, and priority is being placed on the big moral issues: global and domestic poverty, the environment and climate change, pandemic diseases, human rights, health care, war and peace. Wallis explains that only a revival of faith can spark the necessary changes in public opinion and political will on those key agendas, and that spiritual transformation is necessary for social change.

Wallis offers a detailed action plan: the new rules of engagement, concrete policy directions, and real-world solutions. It's a politics for the common good based on seven

commitments to values such as integrity, inclusion, equality, family, life, stewardship and peace. This new paradigm for faith and politics articulates a moral center that is:

- traditional on matters of personal behavior and responsibility;
- grounded in moral values including the sanctity of life and family;
- populist in regard to economic fairness and justice;
- communitarian in its sense of social responsibility;
- committed to environmental care;
- compassionate towards those who have been left out;
- engaged in active peacemaking

The two great hungers in our world today are the hunger for spirituality and the hunger for social justice. And the connection between the two is the one the world is waiting for – especially a new generation. In fact, much of the world's needed changes will depend on young people, who come out in large numbers to hear **Wallis** speak. Heartened by their hopefulness, energy, and commitment to justice, he devotes a chapter to challenge them to redefine “what is acceptable and what is possible.”

“Faith is coming back to life as a force for progressive social change, despite how the Religious Right has discredited its role in politics,” **Wallis** insists. This revival will bring people together to find solutions, transcending ideological debates by moving the conversation to higher ground.

Calling on the power of hope and action, **Wallis** says: “Imagine politics being unable to co-opt such a revival but being held accountable to its moral imperatives. Imagine social movements rising out of spiritual revival and actually changing the world, as Wallis inspires us: “Don’t go left or right, *go deeper*. Find the moral choices and challenges just below the political debate. Faith is not just for the next life, the hereafter; it is precisely intended to transform this world in the here and now.”

The Great Awakening will illuminate the way.

About the author:

Jim Wallis is a leading figure at the crossroads of politics and religion in America today. He is the author of eight books, including the *New York Times* bestselling **God’s Politics**, and the founder of Sojourners, a global network of progressive Christians. He speaks 200 times a year across the country and around the world and lives in Washington, D.C. with his wife and two young sons, where he still finds time to be a Little League baseball coach.

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Hardcover, \$25.99

ISBN 978-0-06-055829-1