What does it take to impeach a President?

We have heard the word “impeachment” so often over the past three years, but what do we really know about what it means or entails? Impeachment is actually a rare occurrence in our nation. Only three Presidents in our history have been subjected to impeachment hearings by the House, two have been formally impeached, and none have been removed from office because of it.

The Constitution permits Congress to remove presidents before their terms are up if enough lawmakers vote to say that they committed “treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.” The House has the sole power to formally charge a federal officer with wrongdoing—the charges are called the articles of impeachment. The actual impeachment process involves both the House and Senate—the Senate’s role is to conduct the trial of the federal officer based on the charged wrongdoing—the “articles of impeachment” from the House. It is the Senate’s sole power to determine (by 2/3 vote) if the officer shall be removed from office.

In looking at the phases of impeachment proceedings, there are three, with a lead-in phase of inquiry. However, reports are that once a House inquiry process begins, it is a train that is hard to stop. The inquiry step can be full of discovery, allegations, and is often as embattled as the impeachment process itself. According to The Washington Post, Rep. Jerrold Nadler claims the formal inquiry process has already begun. We will see if it is just a threat, or reality soon enough.

THE THREE PHASES OF THE IMPEACHMENT PROCESS IN THE HOUSE

1. Pray for TRUTH and FAIRNESS over this issue. (Matthew 12:25)

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On what grounds will Rep. Nadler call for impeachment?

“Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors” is the Constitutional standard for impeachment—what will the charges against President Trump contain? Although we will not know until those leading the process release a formal resolution, but based on consistent talking points from Jerrold Nadler and cohorts, likely the charges will revolve around Russian election influence and the Foreign Emoluments Clause. These issues have been thoroughly investigated for the past two years and have been found to be empty charges. However it may not stop Rep. Nadler from moving forward with charges against the President. Further hearings, subpoenas and discovery would be next. Polls show an overwhelming majority (79%) of Americans are not in favor of moving forward with any kind of impeachment hearings. 5. Pray that only the truth will be sought in any actions that might be taken by Congress.

Who represents the President?

In addition to near unanimous support of the President by House and Senate Republicans and a huge anti-impeachment sentiment by the American people, President Trump has a legal team that supports him by navigating the constant barrage of legal and investigative threats that Democrats have made since his inauguration. Attorney Jay Sekulow and Honorable Rudy Guiliani both are principals on the Trump legal team. 6. Pray for the entire team, as they seek to represent the President, and members of his family. It is important to remember that the President and his family, like all Americans, are to be considered innocent until proven guilty. Media coverage, baseless claims from pundits, and accusations by many Democrat politicians, has made due process nearly impossible for the President. 7. Pray for fairness for the President and for his family as he continues to be personally attacked, with no formal charges or evidence. 8. Pray, ultimately, that truth and justice would prevail.

9. Pray Joshua 1:9 over the President.