

Declaration of Dependence [on God]

July 4, 2002

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for a people to declare their dependence upon God, and to reaffirm their covenant to which the laws of God bind them, an appropriate response to God requires that they should declare before mankind the causes which bind them to this covenant.

We hold these truths to be Biblically evident, that all men are created equal before the Law of God and are covenantally responsible to Him; that we have been bestowed by our Creator with certain but contingent promises; that among these are eternal life and liberty from sin.—That to receive these promises, faith in God and subsequent obedience to His Word through baptism are essential,—That whenever anything in the life of a Believer becomes destructive to these ends it is the responsibility of the believer to repent of those things by altering or abolishing them, and institute a new way of life, restoring its foundation on God's Law.

The Word of God, indeed, will dictate, that such reformation is necessary at the first detection (however light and transient the cause) of anything that would lure us away from the path of righteousness—and accordingly all experience has shown, that mankind is more disposed to his own will and way of doing things, than to right himself by abolishing the forms to which he is accustomed and follow God's way. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to separate him from his covenant with God and reduce him under absolute despotism (to sin), it is the duty of brothers and sisters in Christ to restore those biblical forms that will ensure his future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of the Christadelphian Ecclesias worldwide, and such is now the necessity that constrains its members to declare their complete dependence on God. The history humanity is, for the most part, a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the casting away of the Law of God and establishment of an absolute tyranny of religious humanism over everything that is just and right and true.

In every stage of these oppressions we have the desire to do what is good, but cannot carry it out. For the evil we do not want to do—this we keep on doing. We must, therefore, declare our full obedience and dependence on God and His unchanging eternal Law.

We, therefore, the ambassadors of the Lord Jesus Christ, the citizens of the future Commonwealth of Israel, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, thankfully acknowledge God's faithfulness towards us. As God has spared our lives, and has given us life and the knowledge of His Truth, we pledge to seek the guidance of God, and to choose His Way and not our own. This ecclesia is, and of right ought to be of one mind in submission to God, and our ecclesial leaders must affirm their allegiance to govern according to His Word. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the favor and protection of Yahweh Elohim, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our service and mutual submission.

Signed,
