



The Lion of Judah



“Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.”

(Revelation 5:5)

ONE NATION, UNDER GOD

More and more we hear or read of many people claiming that the United States of America was not founded as a Christian nation.

⇒ In addition, the phrase “separation of church and state” has become the justification for removing God from our government, school and public places

These conclusions are not based on fact but rather are a result of the old axiom, “if you tell a lie often enough people will believe it.”

⇒ Therefore, the following presents the words of the founding fathers and the founding documents which leave no doubt that **the USA was intended to be a Christian nation**

The following quotations were taken from, *America’s God and Country Encyclopedia of Quotations*, compiled by William J. Federer and published by FAME Publishing, Inc., 1994 (see further references at the end of this document).

FOUNDING DOCUMENTS: (date order)

Declaration of Independence:

⇒ July 2, 1776: *When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of **Nature’s God** entitles them... We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal. That they are endowed by their **Creator** with certain inalienable rights... appealing to the **Supreme Judge** of the world for the rectitude of our intentions... and for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of **Divine Providence**...*

Continental Congress:

⇒ September 11, 1777: *The use of the **Bible** is so universal and its importance so great... it was resolved accordingly to direct said Committee of Commerce to import 20,000 copies of the **Bible**.* ¹

Congress of the Confederation:

⇒ July 13, 1787: Article III: **Religion**, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall be forever encouraged. ²

First Amendment to the Constitution:

⇒ December 15, 1791: *Congress shall make no law respecting an **establishment of religion**, or **prohibiting the free exercise thereof***

FOUNDING FATHERS: (alphabetical order)

Samuel Adams: known as the “Father of the American Revolution;” signed the Declaration of Independence; instigated the Boston Tea Party

⇒ July 2, 1776: “We have this day restored the **Sovereign** to Whom all men ought to be obedient. He reigns in heaven and from the rising to the setting of the sun, **let His kingdom come.**” ³

John Adams: Member of the Continental Congress, signer of the Declaration of Independence, 2nd President of the United States of America, cousin of Samuel Adams

⇒ June 28, 1813: “The general principles on which the Fathers achieved independence, were the only Principles in which that beautiful Assembly of young Gentlemen could Unite... And what were these general Principles? I answer, the general **Principles of Christianity**, in which all these Sects were United.” ⁴

John Quincy Adams: Son of John Adams, 6th President of the United States of America

⇒ July 4, 1821: “The highest glory of the American Revolution was this; it connected in one indissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of **Christianity.**” ⁵

⇒ July 4, 1837: “Why is it that, next to the birthday of the **Savior** of the World, your most joyous and most venerated festival returns on this day (i.e. July 4th). Is it not that, in the chain of human events, the birthday of the nation is indissolubly linked with the birthday of the **Savior**? Is it not that the Declaration of Independence first organized the social compact on the foundation of the **Redeemer’s** mission upon earth?” ⁶

Benjamin Franklin: Governor of Pennsylvania, signed the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution; author, scientist, printer

⇒ March, 1778: “Whoever shall introduce into public affairs the principles of primitive **Christianity** shall change the face of the world.” ⁷

⇒ June 28, 1787: A recommendation that was approved by the Constitutional Convention: “We have been assured, Sir, in the **Sacred Writings**, that ‘except the **Lord** build the House, they labor in vain that build it.’ I firmly believe this... I therefore beg leave to move that henceforth **prayers** imploring the assistance of **Heaven** and its blessing on our deliberations, be held **in this Assembly** every morning before we proceed to business.” ⁸

Alexander Hamilton: signer of the Constitution, first Secretary of the Treasury, authored 51 of the 85 *Federalist Papers*

⇒ 1787, shortly after the Constitutional Convention: “I sincerely esteem it a system which without the finger of **God**, never could have been suggested and agreed upon by such a diversity of interests.”

⇒ April, 1802 in a letter to James Baynard: “I now offer you the outline of the plan they have suggested. Let an association be formed to be denominated ‘The **Christian Constitutional Society**,’ its object to be first: the support of the **Christian religion**; second: the support of the United States.”

John Hancock: president of the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, first member of the Continental Congress to sign the Declaration of Independence

⇒ April 15, 1775: *“In circumstances as dark as these, it becomes us, as Men and **Christians**, to reflect that, whilst every prudent Measure should be taken to ward off the impending Judgements... All confidence must be withheld from the Means we use; and reposed only on the **GOD** who rules the **Armies of Heaven**, and without whose **Blessing** the best human Counsels are but Foolishness – and all created Power Vanity.”*⁹

Patrick Henry: American Revolutionary leader, five-time governor of Virginia, famous orator best known for his statement, *“Give me Liberty or give me death!”*

⇒ March 23, 1775: *“It is only in this way that we can hope to arrive at truth, and fulfill the great responsibility which we hold to **God** and our country... An appeal to arms and to the **God of Hosts** is all that is left us!... Sir, we are not weak, if we make a proper use of the means which the **God of nature** hath placed in our power. Three millions of people, armed in the **Holy** cause of Liberty... We shall not fight our battle alone. There is a **just God** who presides over the destinies of nation.”*¹⁰

⇒ June 12, 1776, Article 16 of the Virginia Bill of Rights: *“That religion, or the duty which we owe to our **Creator**, and the manner of discharging it... is the mutual duty of all to practice **Christian** forbearance, love, and charity towards each other.”*¹¹

⇒ Date Unknown: *“It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by **Christians**; not on religions, but on the **Gospel of Jesus Christ**.”*¹²

Andrew Jackson: 7th President of the United States of America, Senator and judge on the Tennessee Supreme Court

⇒ March 4, 1833 (Second Inaugural Address): *“Finally, it is my **fervent prayer** to that **Almighty Being**... that **He** will so overrule all my intentions and actions and inspire the hearts of my fellow-citizens that we may be preserved from dangers of all kinds and continue forever a united happy people.”*¹³

⇒ June 8, 1845 (in reference to the **Bible**): *“That book, Sir, is the **Rock** upon which our republic rests.”*¹⁴

John Jay: first Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, President of the Continental Congress

⇒ October 12, 1816: *“Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our **Christian nation** to select and prefer **Christians** for their rulers.”*¹⁵

⇒ Date Unknown: *“In forming and settling my belief relative to the **doctrines of Christianity**, I adopted no articles from creeds but such only as, on careful examination, I found to be confirmed by the **Bible**.”*¹⁶

Thomas Jefferson: 3rd President of the United States of America, Governor of Virginia, penned the words of the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, 1776

⇒ 1781 (excerpts engraved on the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C.): *“**God** who gave us life gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these*

liberties are of the **Gift of God**? That they are not to be violated but with **His wrath**? Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that **God is just**; that **His justice** cannot sleep forever.”¹⁷

- ⇒ November 16, 1798: “No power over the **freedom of religion**... [is] delegated to the United States by the Constitution.”¹⁸
- ⇒ January 1, 1802 in a letter to the Baptist Association of Danbury, Connecticut to calm their fears that Congress was not in the process of choosing any one **single Christian** denomination, as was the case with the Anglican Church in England: “that the... legislature should ‘make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,’ thus building a wall of separation between Church and State.”
 - This was a letter, not an official government document; the so-called “wall of separation” was with respect to establishing a **single Christian denomination**, not separating **Christ** from government
- ⇒ March 4, 1805 (Second Inaugural Address): “I shall need, too, the favor of that **Being** in whose hands we are, **who led our forefathers**, as Israel of old, from their native land and planted them in a country flowing with all the necessities and comforts of life, who has **covered our infancy with His Providence** and our riper years with **His wisdom and power**, and to whose goodness I ask you to join with me in supplications that **He will so enlighten the minds of your servants, guide their councils** and prosper their measures.”¹⁹
- ⇒ Date Unknown: “[Religion is] deemed in other countries incompatible with good government and yet **proved by our experience** to be its best support.”²⁰

Francis Scott Key: American lawyer and poet, author of “The Star Spangled Banner” later adding the music from the old hymn, *To Anacreon in Heaven*”

- ⇒ Fourth verse of the *Star Spangled Banner*: “And this be our motto, **‘In God is our trust!’**”
- ⇒ February 22, 1812: “The patriot who feels himself in the service of **God**, who acknowledges **Him** in all his ways, has the promise of **Almighty** direction, and will find **His Word** in his greatest darkness, ‘a lantern to his feet and a lamp unto his paths.’ He will therefore seek to establish for his country in the eyes of the world, such a character as shall make her not unworthy of the name of a **Christian nation**...”²¹

John Langdon: signer of the Constitution of the United States of America, U.S. Senator, Governor of New Hampshire

- ⇒ October 21, 1785 (official Proclamation for a General Thanksgiving): “It therefore becomes our indispensable Duty, not only to acknowledge, in general with the rest of Mankind, our **dependence on the Supreme Ruler of the Universe**, but as a People peculiarly favoured to testify our Gratitude to the **Author of all our Mercies**, in the most solemn and public manner.”²²
- ⇒ February 21, 1786 (official Proclamation for a Day of Public Fasting and Prayer): “... that the citizens of this State may with on heart and voice penitently confess their manifold sins and transgressions, and fervently implore the **divine benediction**... that he would be pleased to bless the great Council of the United States of America... that he would always be pleased to keep this State under his most **holy** protection... and above all that he would rain down righteousness upon the earth, revive religion, and spread abroad the knowledge of the **true God, the Savior of man**, throughout the world.”²³

Abraham Lincoln: 16th President of the United States of America

- ⇒ March 4, 1861 (Inaugural Address): “*Intelligence, patriotism, **Christianity**, and a firm reliance on **Him** who has never yet forsaken this favored land, are still competent to adjust in the best way all our present difficulty.*” ²⁴
- ⇒ October 3, 1863 (formal proclamation passed by an Act of Congress, initiating the first annual National Day of Thanksgiving): “*No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the **most high God**, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy... I do, therefore, invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States... to set apart and observe the last Thursday in November next as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our **beneficent Father** who dwelleth in the **heavens**.*” ²⁵
- ⇒ November 19, 1863, Gettysburg Address: “*... we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain – that this nation, **under God**, shall have a new birth of freedom – and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.*” ²⁶

James Madison: known as the “Chief Architect of the Constitution,” 4th President of the United States of America, instrumental member of the Constitutional Convention, authored 29 of the 85 Federalist Papers (Alexander Hamilton wrote 51 others)

- ⇒ 1778: “*We have staked the whole future of American civilization, **not** upon the power of Government, far from it. We have staked the future of all of our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government... to sustain ourselves according to the **Ten Commandments of God**.*”²⁷
- ⇒ June 20, 1785: “**Religion [is] the basis and Foundation of Government.**”²⁸
- ⇒ 1785 session of the General Assembly of the State of Virginia: “*It is the duty of every man to **render to the Creator such homage**... Before any man can be considered as a member of Civil Society, he must be **considered as a subject of the Governor of the Universe**.*” ²⁹

James Monroe: 5th President of the United States of America, served in the Virginia Assembly, the Constitutional Convention, the U.S. Senate, as Governor of Virginia

- ⇒ March 5, 1821: “*The liberty, prosperity, and happiness of our country will always be the object of my most fervent **prayers** to the **Supreme Author of All Good**.*” ³⁰

Gouverneur Morris: writer of the final draft of the Constitution of the United States of America, a U.S. Senator, spoke 173 times during the Constitutional debates, more than any other delegate

- ⇒ circa 1792: “**Religion is the only solid basis** of good morals; therefore **education** should teach the **precepts of religion**, and the **duties of man toward God**.” ³¹

Thomas Paine: American Revolutionary author who wrote a famous 16-pamphlet series entitled, *The American Crisis*, which he signed “Common Sense”

- ⇒ December 23, 1776 (read aloud to the Colonial Army at Valley Forge by order of General Washington): “*The cause of America is in a great measure the cause of all mankind. Where, say some, is the king of America? I’ll tell you, friend, **He reigns above**... let a day be solemnly set apart for proclaiming the charter; let it be placed on the **divine law**, the **Word of God**; let a crown be placed thereon.*” ³²

Edmund Jennings Randolph: an American Revolutionary leader, member of the Continental Congress and delegate to the Constitutional Convention, Governor of Virginia, U.S. Attorney General and U.S. Secretary of State

⇒ June 28, 1787 “That a **sermon** be **preached** at the request of the convention on the 4th of July, the anniversary of Independence and thenceforward prayers be used in ye Convention every morning.”³³ [**prayers** have opened both houses of Congress ever since]

Roger Sherman: U.S. Congressman, U.S. Senator, Superior Court Judge, the only one of the Founding Fathers to sign all four of the major founding documents: The Articles of Association, 1774; The Declaration of Independence, 1776, The Articles of Confederation, 1777; and The Constitution of the United States, 1787

⇒ February, 1776: “... that all civil rights and the right to hold office were to be extended to persons of **any Christian denomination.**”³⁴

United States Supreme Court: “ordained and established” by the Judiciary Act of Congress in 1789; the current Supreme Court Building was completed in 1935; engraved in stone above the head of the Chief Justice are the **Ten Commandments** with the great American eagle protecting them

⇒ At the beginning of each courts session, as the Justices stand before their desks, the clerk opens with the invocation: “**God** save the United States and this Honorable Court.”

⇒ 1844 in the case of *Vidal v. Girard’s Executors*, 43 U.S. 126,132, Justice Joseph Story delivered the court’s opinion: “The plan of education proposed is **anti-Christian**, and therefore is repugnant to the law... The purest principles of morality are to be taught. Where are they found? Whoever searches for them must go to the source from which a **Christian** man derives his faith – the **Bible.**”

⇒ February 29, 1892, in the case of *Church of Holy Trinity v. United States*, 143 US 457-458, 465-471, 36 L. ed 226, Justice Josiah Brewer rendered the high court’s decision: “Our laws and our institutions must necessarily be based upon and embody the teachings of the **Redeemer** of mankind. It is impossible that it should be otherwise; and in this sense and to the extent our civilization and our institutions are emphatically **Christian.**”

George Washington: 1st President of the United States, the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, chairman of the Constitutional Convention

⇒ July 9, 1776 (a general order to his troops): “The General hopes and trusts that every officer and man, will endeavor so to live, and act, as becomes a **Christian Soldier** defending the dearest Rights and Liberties of his country.”³⁵

⇒ May 2, 1778 (orders to his troops at Valley Forge): “To the distinguished character of Patriot, it should be our highest Glory to laud the more distinguished Character of **Christian.**”³⁶

⇒ April 30, 1789, Inaugural Address: “... in this first official act, my fervent **supplications** to that **Almighty Being** who rules over the universe, who presides in the councils of nations, and whose providential aids can supply every human defect, that **His benediction** may consecrate to the liberties and happiness of the people of the United States a Government instituted by themselves.”³⁷

- ⇒ October 3, 1789, *National Day of Thanksgiving Proclamation*: “Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the **providence of Almighty God**, to **obey His will**, to be grateful for **His benefits** and humbly to implore **His protection and favor...**” ³⁸
- ⇒ October 9, 1789: “While just government protects all in their religious rights, **true religion** affords to government its surest support.” ³⁹
- ⇒ Date Unknown: “It is impossible to rightly govern the world without **God** and the **Bible**.”⁴⁰

Daniel Webster: considered one of the greatest orators in American history, served as a U.S. Congressman, U.S. Senator and as the Secretary of State for three different Presidents

- ⇒ Date Unknown: “If we abide by the principles taught in the **Bible**, our country will go on prospering and to prosper. But if we and our posterity **neglect its instructions and authority**, no man can tell how sudden a **catastrophe** may overwhelm us and bury all our glory in profound obscurity.” ⁴¹
- ⇒ December 22, 1820, speaking at the bicentennial celebration of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock: “Whatever makes men good **Christians**, makes them good citizens... Finally, let us not forget the **religious character of our origin**. Our fathers were brought hither by their high veneration for the **Christian religion**.” ⁴²
- ⇒ June 17, 1843 in a speech at the Bunker Hill Monument, speaking of the Founding Fathers: “The **Bible** came with them. And it is not to be doubted, that to free and universal reading of the **Bible**, in that age, men were much indebted for right views of civil liberty. The **Bible** is a book of **faith**, and a book of **doctrine**, and a book of **morals**, and a book of **religion**, of **special revelation from God**; but it is also a book which teaches man his own individual responsibility, his own dignity, and his equality with his fellow-man. Thank **God!** I – I also – am an American!” ⁴³

¹ Robert Flood, *The Rebirth of America*, Arthur S. DeMoss Foundation, 1986, p. 39

² An Ordinance for the Government of the Territory of the United States, Northwest of the River Ohio, later passed by the United States Congress and signed into law by President George Washington, August 4, 1789

³ Statement made while the Declaration of Independence was being signed, Charles E. Kistler, *This Nation Under God*, Richard C. Badger, The Gorham Press, 1924, p. 71

⁴ In a letter to Thomas Jefferson as recorded in: *In God We Trust – The Religious Beliefs and Ideas of the American Founding Fathers*, Norman Cousins, Harper & Brothers, 1958, p. 230

⁵ John Wingate Thornton, *The Pulpit of the American Revolution*, 1860, Burt Franklin, p. XXIX

⁶ *An Oration Delivered Before the Inhabitants of the Town of Newburyport at their Request on the 61st anniversary of the Declaration of Independence*, Charles Whipple, 1837, pp. 5-6

⁷ Charles E. Kistler, *This Nation Under God*, Richard G. Badger, The Gorham Press, 1924, p. 83

⁸ *Notes of Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787*, reprinted by W. W. Norton & Co., 1987, p. 504

⁹ The Provincial Congress of Massachusetts declared *A Day of Public Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer* signed by the President of the Provincial Congress, John Hancock (William Lincoln, editor, *The Journal of Each Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, 1774-1775*, Dutton & Wentworth, 1838, pp. 114-145)

¹⁰ Speech at the Second Virginia Convention, *History of the United States of America*, George Bancroft, Charles C. Little and James Brown, Third Edition, 1838, p. 29

¹¹ John Bartlett, *Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations*, Little, Brown & Company, 1855, 1980, p. 383

¹² M.E. Bradford, *The Trumpet Voice of Freedom: Patrick Henry of Virginia*, Plymouth Rock Foundation, 1991, p. iii

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- ¹³ Davis Newton Lott, *The Inaugural Addresses of the American Presidents*, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1961, p. 63
- ¹⁴ George Sivan, *The Bible and Civilization*, Quadrangle/The New York Times Book Co., 1973, p. 178
- ¹⁵ *The Correspondence and Public Papers of John Jay*, Henry P. Johnston, editor, Burt Franklin, publisher, 1970, Vol. IV, p. 393
- ¹⁶ George Pellet, *American Statesman Series*, p. 360
- ¹⁷ In Thomas Jefferson's *Notes on the State of Virginia*, Query XVIII, 1781, 1782, p.237
- ¹⁸ *Kentucky Resolutions of 1798, Article III*, Jonathan Elliot, editor, publisher, 1836, 1861, *The Debates in the Several State Conventions on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution*, Vol. IV, p. 540-544
- ¹⁹ Arthur Schlesinger Jr., editor, *The Chief Executive*, Chelsea House Publishers, 1965, p.20
- ²⁰ Stephen K. McDowell and Mark A. Beililes, *America's Providential History*, Providence Press, 1988, p. 148
- ²¹ *An Oration before the Washington Society of Alexandria*, p. 9, Library of Congress Rare Book Collection
- ²² Tim LaHaye, *Faith of Our Founding Fathers*, Wolgemuth & Hyatt Publishers, Inc. 1987, pp. 165-166
- ²³ *ibid*
- ²⁴ James D. Richardson, *Compilation of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents, 1798-1897*, U.S. Government Printing Office, published by Authority of Congress, 1897, 1899
- ²⁵ *ibid*
- ²⁶ John Bartlett, *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations*, Little, brown and Company, 1855, 1980, p. 523
- ²⁷ Gary DeMar, *God and Government – A Biblical and Historical Study*, American Vision Press, 1982, p. 137
- ²⁸ Robert Rutland, Editor, *The Papers of James Madison*, University of Chicago Press, 1973, Vol. VIII, p. 299
- ²⁹ *A Memorial and Remonstrance*, Library of Congress, Rare Book Collection; Robert Rutland (*ibid*), p. 304
- ³⁰ Second Inaugural Address, James D. Richardson, editor, *A Compilation of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents, 1789-1897*, U.S. Government Printing Office, published by Authority of Congress, 1897, 1899
- ³¹ Jared Sparks, editor, *The Life of Gouverneur Morris, with Selections from His Correspondence and Miscellaneous Papers*, Gray and Bowen, 1832, Vol. III, p. 483
- ³² *The American Crisis, "Common Sense" Thomas Paine – 1776*, Reston, VA
- ³³ Constitutional Convention motion approved, *Notes of Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787*, reprinted by W. W. Norton & Co., 1987, pp. 210-211
- ³⁴ Christopher Collier, *Roger Sherman's Connecticut*, Wesleyan University Press, 1979, p.129
- ³⁵ Jared Sparks, editor, *The Writings of George Washington*, American Stationer's Company, 1837, F. Andrew's, 1834-1847, Vol. III, p. 456
- ³⁶ Henry Whiting, *Revolutionary Orders of General Washington, selected from MSS. of John Whiting*, 1844, p. 74
- ³⁷ Jared Sparks, editor, *The Writings of George Washington*, American Stationer's Company, 1837, F. Andrew's, 1834-1847, Vol. XII, pp. 2-5
- ³⁸ Jared Sparks, editor, *The Writings of George Washington*, American Stationer's Company, 1837, F. Andrew's, 1834-1847, Vol. XII, p. 119
- ³⁹ John Clement Fitzpatrick, editor, *The Writings of George Washington from the Original Manuscript Sources 1749-1799*, United States Government Printing Office, 1931-1944, Vol. XXX, p. 432
- ⁴⁰ Henry Halley, *Halley's Bible Handbook*, Zondervan, 1927, 1965, p. 18
- ⁴¹ Benjamin Franklin Morris, *The Christian Life and Character of the Civil Institutions of the United States of America*, George W. Childs, 1864, p. 270
- ⁴² *The Works of Daniel Webster*, Little, Brown & Company, 1853, Vol. I, p. 48
- ⁴³ John Bartlett, *Barlett's Familiar Quotations*, Little, Brown & Company, 1855, 1980, p. 451