



The First Draft – June 15, 2022

Bible text from Nehemiah 9

*4*Then Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani stood on the stairs of the Levites and cried out with a loud voice to the Lord their God. *5*And the Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said:

“Stand up and bless the Lord your God Forever and ever!

*“Blessed be Your glorious name, Which is exalted above all blessing and praise! *6*You alone are the Lord; You have made heaven, The heaven of heavens, with all their host, The earth and everything on it, The seas and all that is in them, And You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You.*

1. **We reaffirm** that God, in particular, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob -- the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ -- is Creator of all, and worthy of worship, and is to be acknowledged as such throughout all public institutions in America, even as our Declaration of Independence refers to Him as such in four places.

Paragraph 1 in the Declaration of Independence mentions *"the laws of nature and of nature's God "*

Paragraph 2 *We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights,*

Final paragraph: *We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world ...And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence*

7“You are the Lord God, Who chose Abram, And brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans, And gave him the name Abraham; *8*You found his heart faithful before You, And made a covenant with him To give the land of the Canaanites, The Hittites,

the Amorites, The Perizzites, the Jebusites, And the Girgashites—To give it to his descendants. You have performed Your words, For You are righteous.

2. **We declare** that America is a chosen nation, that God has brought people from virtually every tribe tongue and nation to give them a land in which they may serve and worship God freely, a foretaste of Heaven, and that He found the first Pilgrims to be faithful before Him, and accepted their covenant appeals for blessings for their generation and the generations to follow.

From the Mayflower Compact:

***IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN.** We, whose names are underwritten, the Loyal Subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord King James, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. Having undertaken for the Glory of God, and Advancement of the Christian Faith, and the Honour of our King and Country, a Voyage to plant the first Colony in the northern Parts of Virginia; Do by these Presents, solemnly and mutually, in the Presence of God and one another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil Body Politick, for our better Ordering and Preservation, and Furtherance of the Ends aforesaid:*

***9**“You saw the affliction of our fathers in Egypt, And heard their cry by the Red Sea. **10**You showed signs and wonders against Pharaoh, Against all his servants, And against all the people of his land. For You knew that they acted proudly against them. So You made a name for Yourself, as it is this day. **11**And You divided the sea before them, So that they went through the midst of the sea on the dry land; And their persecutors You threw into the deep, As a stone into the mighty waters. **12**Moreover You led them by day with a cloudy pillar, And by night with a pillar of fire, To give them light on the road Which they should travel.*

3. **We recognize** that God saw the affliction of the first Pilgrims in Europe and gave them safe passage across the vast sea, that He delivered their descendants in battle from their former persecutors by signs, wonders, and miracles, and that he continues to protect our nation even as he leads many oppressed from every nation to our shores to find liberty and freedom and to have opportunity to see the light of the Gospel.

Miracles during the Revolutionary War were commonplace. One example was

During the early spring of 1776, with the British in control of Boston, Washington ordered cannons brought through the snow from Fort Ticonderoga

(some 300 miles away) to fortify Dorchester Heights overlooking Boston harbor. Seeing the danger, British General Howe ordered an amphibious assault on the American position. However, the night before the assault was to begin, “a hurricane or terrible storm... a southeaster of gale proportions” hit the Boston area and disrupted Howe’s plans, so he called off his attack on the American position due to “the badness of the weather.” As a result of the sudden storm and the strength of the American position commanding movement in and out of Boston harbor, General Howe ordered the British troops to evacuate Boston (see *The Weather Factor*, Ludlum, pp. 33–34). Washington again wrote to his brother, “this remarkable Interposition of Providence is for some wise purpose, I have not a doubt”

13 “You came down also on Mount Sinai, And spoke with them from heaven, And gave them just ordinances and true laws, Good statutes and commandments. *14* You made known to them Your holy Sabbath, And commanded them precepts, statutes and laws,

4. **We reaffirm** that the laws of our land find their foundations in the Ten Commandments and the good statutes and ordinances of the Bible, thus creating a society with true justice for all, and that these good statutes and ordinances should be acted upon and displayed in public schools, public parks, and government buildings.

What our founders said about the Scriptures

- a. **John Adams:** “The Bible contains the most profound philosophy, the most perfect morality, and the most refined policy that ever was conceived upon earth.”
- b. **John Quincy Adams:** “[The Bible] is of all books in the world that which contributes most to make men good, wise, and happy.”
- c. **Elias Boudinot**, the great Cherokee publisher: “Were you to ask me to recommend the most valuable book in the world, I should fix on the Bible as the most instructive, both to the wise and ignorant.”
- d. **John Jay:** “Let us therefore persevere steadfastly in distributing the Scriptures far and near, and without note or comment. We are assured that they ‘are profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness (2 Tim. 3:16).’”
- e. **Thomas Jefferson:** “The doctrines of Jesus are simple and tend all to the happiness of man. ... Had the doctrines of Jesus been preached always as pure as they came from his lips, the whole civilized world would now have been Christian.”

- f. **Benjamin Rush:** “The Bible contains more truths than any other book in the world.”

*By the hand of Moses Your servant. **15**You gave them bread from heaven for their hunger, And brought them water out of the rock for their thirst, And told them to go in to possess the land Which You had sworn to give them.*

5. **We acknowledge** that God has made this land a rich land which abounds with heaven-sent provision.

***16**“But they and our fathers acted proudly, Hardened their necks, And did not heed Your commandments. **17**They refused to obey, And they were not mindful of Your wonders That You did among them. But they hardened their necks, And in their rebellion They appointed a leader To return to their bondage. But You are God, Ready to pardon, Gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, Abundant in kindness, And did not forsake them.*

6. **We confess** that despite having been blessed so abundantly by God, we have repeatedly ignored Him in our pride, disobeying His commandments, rebelliously even appointing leaders who would return us to bondage. But we also confess that God is ever ready to pardon, that He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in kindness, and that He has not yet forsaken us completely.

***18**“Even when they made a molded calf for themselves, And said, ‘This is your god That brought you up out of Egypt,’ And worked great provocations, **19**Yet in Your manifold mercies You did not forsake them in the wilderness. The pillar of the cloud did not depart from them by day, To lead them on the road; Nor the pillar of fire by night, To show them light, And the way they should go. **20**You also gave Your good Spirit to instruct them, And did not withhold Your manna from their mouth, And gave them water for their thirst. **21**Forty years You sustained them in the wilderness; They lacked nothing; Their clothes did not wear out And their feet did not swell.*

7. **We confess** that we have made idols of people and things and ideologies that are contrary to God's Word and have provoked God's wrath at times. But because of God's mercies and despite our rebellion. He has continued to lead this country into prosperity and blessings, sustaining it by His Spirit and grace.

[22](#)“Moreover You gave them kingdoms and nations And divided them into [\[h\]](#)districts. So they took possession of the land of Sihon, The land of the king of Heshbon, And the land of Og king of Bashan.

8. **We decree** that America shall uphold a federal system of government, where power is not concentrated in a centralized source, but distributed among the states. We reject all monarchical forms of government as well as authoritarianism and totalitarianism.

.[23](#)You also multiplied their children as the stars of heaven, And brought them into the land Which You had told their fathers To go in and possess.[24](#)So the people went in And possessed the land; You subdued before them the inhabitants of the land, The Canaanites, And gave them into their hands, With their kings And the people of the land, That they might do with them as they wished.[25](#)And they took strong cities and a rich land, And possessed houses full of all goods, Cisterns already dug, vineyards, olive groves, And fruit trees in abundance. So they ate and were filled and grew fat, And delighted themselves in Your great goodness.

9. **We decree** that as the early settlers conquered and tamed the wilderness and multiplied in numbers, so are we destined to capitalize on the many riches and resources of this continent, leading to even greater riches. More importantly through love, we are to multiply in numbers as believers, taking the land and bringing all the peoples of the land into the blessings of the Gospel.

[26](#)“Nevertheless they were disobedient and rebelled against You, Cast Your law behind their backs And killed Your prophets, who testified against them To turn them to Yourself; And they worked great provocations

10. **We reject** the cancel culture and welcome the words of godly prophetic voices which would call us to true justice for all people.

.[27](#)Therefore You delivered them into the hand of their enemies, Who oppressed them; And in the time of their trouble, When they cried to You, You heard from heaven; And according to Your abundant mercies You gave them deliverers who saved them From the hand of their enemies.[28](#)“But after they had rest, They again did evil before You. Therefore You left them in the hand of their enemies, So that they had dominion over them; Yet when they returned and cried out to You, You heard from heaven; And many times You delivered them according to Your mercies,[29](#)And testified against them, That You might bring them back to Your law. Yet they acted proudly, And did not heed Your commandments, But sinned against Your judgments, ‘Which if a man does, he shall live by them. ‘And they shrugged their shoulders, Stiffened their necks, And

would not hear.³⁰ Yet for many years You had patience with them, And testified against them by Your Spirit in Your prophets. Yet they would not listen; Therefore You gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands.³¹ Nevertheless in Your great mercy You did not utterly consume them nor forsake them; For You are God, gracious and merciful.

11. **We pray** that America will never come to the place where it must undergo the judgement of God at the hands of foreign invaders. If it does, we commit to cry out to God in repentance, that in his mercy, he will raise up deliverers for us. And we will boldly call people to return to the Word of God.

³²“Now therefore, our God, The great, the mighty, and awesome God, Who keeps covenant and mercy: Do not let all the trouble seem small before You That has come upon us, Our kings and our princes, Our priests and our prophets, Our fathers and on all Your people, From the days of the kings of Assyria until this day.³³ However You are just in all that has befallen us; For You have dealt faithfully, But we have done wickedly.³⁴ Neither our kings nor our princes, Our priests nor our fathers, Have kept Your law, Nor heeded Your commandments and Your testimonies, With which You testified against them.³⁵ For they have not served You in their kingdom, Or in the many good things that You gave them, Or in the large and rich land which You set before them; Nor did they turn from their wicked works.

³⁶“Here we are, servants today! And the land that You gave to our fathers, To eat its fruit and its bounty, Here we are, servants in it!³⁷ And it yields much increase to the kings You have set over us, Because of our sins; Also they have dominion over our bodies and our cattle At their pleasure; And we are in great distress.

³⁸“And because of all this, We make a sure covenant and write it; Our leaders, our Levites, and our priests seal it.”

12. **We covenant** that we, the Body of Christ in this nation, will be quick to repent, quick to pray, especially for all who are in authority, quick to know God's Word, and quick to be ever thankful for the God-given blessings in our land, never forgetting the source of all wisdom and blessings.