

A NATION IN TROUBLE

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, etc. Having undertaken, **for the Glory of God and advancement of the Christian Faith** and 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 of another, Covenant and Combine ourselves together into a Civil Body Politic,

Declaration of Independence:

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, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

Washington's Prayer:

"dispose us all, to do Justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that Charity, humility and pacific temper of mind, which were the Characteristics of the **Divine Author of our blessed Religion**, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy Nation.

John Adams

was a self-confessed "church going animal,"

Benjamin Franklin

*"the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this Truth--that **God governs in the Affairs of Men**... I also believe... [that] without His concurring Aid, we shall succeed in this political Building no better than the Builders of Babel."*

First Amendment

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or **prohibiting the free exercise thereof**...”

Gettysburg address:

“It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that 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.”

2 Chron 7:14 (NIV)

(2 Chr 7:14 NIV) if my people,
who are called by my name,
will humble themselves and
pray and
seek my face and
turn from their wicked ways,
then will I hear from heaven and
will forgive their sin and
will heal their land.

Daniel 9:1-19

Point 1

Start with humility .

Daniel humbled himself

(Daniel 9:3 NIV) So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.

Humble yourselves

(James 4:8-10 NIV) Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Point 2

Take personal responsibility.

We have sinned

(Daniel 9:5-6 NIV) we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws. We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.

God has a job for us

(Eph 2:10 NIV) For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

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Point 3

Realize our own failings .

Because of your mercy

Daniel 9:18 Give ear, O God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears your Name. We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy.

Turn from your evil ways

(Ezek 33:11 NIV) Say to them, 'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?'

The power of repentance

(Ezek 18:27-28 NIV) But if a wicked man turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he will save his life. Because he considers all the offenses he has committed and turns away from them, he will surely live; he will not die.

Point 4

If we are going to call ourselves
Christians lets live up to that name.

People that bear your name

(Daniel 9:19 NIV) O Lord, listen! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, hear and act! For your sake, O my God, do not delay, because your city and your people bear your Name."

Become my people

(Zec 2:11 NIV) "Many nations will be joined with the LORD in that day and will become my people. I will live among you and you will know that the LORD Almighty has sent me to you."

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Called Christians...

*(Acts 11:26 NIV) and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called **Christians** first at Antioch.*

Ambassadors

(2 Cor 5:18-20 NIV) All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

Conclusion