

DECLARATION of DEPENDENCE!

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Trinity C.U. July 3, 2011 Matthew 4:1-17

You all know this is the 4th of July weekend.... and there have been and will be all kinds of celebrations. Why? The DECLARATION of INDEPENDENCE! The American War of Independence began as a war between Great Britain and the 13 American Colonies, and ended with a war between several European powers. The war was the result of the political Revolution which centered around the dispute with Great Britain over the "Stamp Act" of 1765. Taxes and abuses of various kinds.

They DECLARED INDEPENDENCE because of the Taxes... Control... & Abuses....

- There were 56 signatures on the Declaration....

They DECIDED To FIGHT For INDEPENDENCE... It would be worth the effort...

They DEPENDED UPON The HIGHER POWER...

- The final statement is... "And for the support of this DECLARATION, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."

I am calling for a DECLARATION of DEPENDENCE..... Upon JESUS!!!

I. GOD HAS DECLARED MANKIND'S SITUATION...

A. We Are Under The Bondage of Satan Himself....

1. He Is The Deceiver... the first couple... and every individual after them...
- He is a liar and the father of lies...

2. He Is The Designer.... the god of this world... [2Cor.4:3,4; 2Thes.2:9]

3. He Is The Destroyer... murderer... [John 8:44]

4. He Captures People... at his will... [2 Tim.2:26]

B. We Are Under The Bondage of Self = Me, Me, Me...

1. We are born sinners... [Rom.3:23]

2. We are lost sinners.... the ones Jesus came to seek and to save.... [Mt.18:11]

3. We are "blind".... to the truth... [2 Cor.4:3,4]

4. We are "dead" in trespasses and sin... [Eph.2:1]

11. GOD DETERMINED TO "FIGHT" For YOU! [Even Though You Are In Bondage]

A. God Has Provided The SAVIOR.... from the beginning... [Gen.3:15; 22:8.. Abraham]

B. God Has Provided His WORD... Jesus is the Living Word... we have the written Word...

C. God Has Provided His VICTORY... [1Cor. 15:57,58]

1. He breaks the power of canceled sin!!

2. We need not be under sins power!! [Rom.6:14]

D. God Does Expect Our Involvement.... Paul said... "I have fought a good fight..." [2Tim.4:7,8]

III. GOD CALLS For YOUR DEPENDENCE UPON HIM....

- Yes... we are all sinners... Jesus died to save us FROM our sins.... [Mt.1:21]

- Yes... we are all lost without Him... Jesus came to seek and save... [Lu.19:10]

- Yes... we are all blinded by the god of this world... Jesus came to open blinded eyes...

- Yes... we are all dead in trespasses and sins... Jesus came to give new life... [John 10:9,10]

- Yes... we are all in bondage to Satan.... The Son (and His Word) makes Believers FREE!! [Jn.8:32, 36]

- YES... We Are All Called... to DEPEND UPON JESUS..... TO PLEDGE TO HIM...

- We are to Pledge ourselves to Him... we now belong to Him... [1Cor.6:19,20]

- We are to Pledge ourselves to Each Other... examples, encouragers, exhorters....

- We are to Pledge our very lives... our future... our very reputation To God!!!

YES... THIS IS COMMITMENT..... DEDICATION..... SERVICE FOR HIS GLORY!!!

HOW OBEDIENTLY DEPENDENT ARE YOU?????

Luke 9:23

And he said to them all, **If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.**