

The History, The Reason and The Substance Of Our National Motto

"IN GOD WE TRUST" The History Of Our National Motto

In the history of the creation of our National Motto, the following is given:

In a letter dated November 20, 1861, the 25th Secretary of the Treasury, Salmon P. Chase, wrote to James Pollock, Director of the Mint at Philadelphia:

"Dear Sir: No nation can be strong except in the strength of God, or safe except in His defense. The trust of our people in God should be declared on our national coins."

"You will cause a device to be prepared without unnecessary delay with a motto expressing in the fewest and tersest words possible this national recognition."

This event was officially recognized on a Government web site. This information was once found at the following web address.

www.ustreas.gov/education/fact-sheets/currency/in-god-we-trust.shtml .

God knows that this world is in trouble. Most people live without faith in God. Therefore, people are left to themselves to deal with a fragile environment and limited resources.

The Son of God came to save us and our world. Over 2,000 years ago, He gave to the world the one and only solution for our troubles.

There are two great laws for building up the kingdom of God in Heaven and on Earth (recorded in the New Testament, Matthew 22:37- 40) that seem to make it so difficult for people. The number one law that we need to abide by is to love God. The other law is to love our neighbors as ourselves. Jesus taught that we cannot truly love God if we do not also love our neighbors as ourselves who are also the children of creation and have the same basic needs as you and I and we all do.

Despite the difficulties in our world, people can live with faith and hope for the victory of their faith because, over 2,000 years ago when the Son of God walked among us, He taught us as it is recorded in John 16:32 - 33:

"Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

Before peace can come to the whole world, people must hear and follow the one and only solution for our needs as taught by Jesus and recorded in the New Testament, Matthew 6:31 - 33:

"Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

In 1774 our nation's Founders recognized that they needed to be dependent only on God in order to win their battle for independence and freedom. The result was that God was with our people to help us win the victory for our independence against what were seemingly impossible odds.

It was on the date of September 7, 1774, at 9 o'clock in the morning, that the historic First Continental Congress convened to determine their course of action for the future of America. That historic meeting was opened with prayer after those attending agreed that it was more important to be united in the cause of liberty than by which particular religion prayed in petition for help from God. That prayer became recognized as the first prayer that was given in Congress.

There are a few special words within that prayer that speak volumes on why this nation has been blessed and why our people have been helped by the hand of God against our enemies. Consider carefully these few words from that prayer:

"Look down in mercy, we beseech Thee, on these our American States, who have fled to Thee from the rod of the oppressor and thrown themselves on Thy gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only on Thee."

These are the words of prayer for the founding of this nation. These are the greatest words of prayer for America that can be given that when spoken in truth from the heart of the people in all sincerity, result in great miracles of help from God. When our people humble themselves in recognition of their dependence upon God, miracles result for the help of our nation to prosper and become known as the land of the free and the home of the brave.

That sincere prayer from those who were the founders of this nation, to have "thrown themselves on Thy gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only on Thee", was uttered in hope of a sacred contract between God and our people.

It has been regarded as a miracle that America won the battle in the fight for our freedom and independence against the world's greatest military power at that time.

It was regarded a miracle when the people became united under the laws of the United States Constitution, laws that upheld the people's contract with God to be henceforth dependent only on Him. They created the Constitution to form a central government for the states, a central government that was to be bound by the laws of the Constitution under the control of the people who wanted to be dependent only on God rather than on any man made government.

1788, May 28 - George Washington to the Marquis de Lafayette:

"The plot thickens fast. A few short weeks will determine the political fate of America for the present generation and probably produce no small influence on the happiness of society through a long succession of ages to come. Should every thing proceed with harmony and consent according to our actual wishes and expectations; I will confess to you sincerely, my dear Marquis; it will be so much beyond any thing we had a right to imagine or expect eighteen months ago, that it will demonstrate as visibly the finger of Providence, as any possible event in the course of human affairs can ever designate it."

1838, January 27 - Abraham Lincoln in his address at the Young Men's Lyceum in Springfield, Illinois:

"I know the American People are much attached to their Government; - I know they would suffer much for its sake; - I know they would endure evils long and patiently, before they would ever think of exchanging it for another. Yet, notwithstanding all this, if the laws be continually despised and disregarded, if their rights to be secure in their persons and property, are held by no better tenure than the caprice of a mob, the alienation of their affections from the Government is the natural consequence; and to that, sooner or later, it must come."

"Here then, is one point at which danger may be expected."

“The question recurs, ”how shall we fortify against it?” The answer is simple. Let every American, every lover of liberty, every well wisher to his posterity, swear by the blood of the Revolution, never to violate in the least particular, the laws of the country; and never to tolerate their violation by others. As the patriots of seventy-six did to the support of the Declaration of Independence, so to the support of the Constitution and Laws, let every American pledge his life, his property, and his sacred honor;- let every man remember that to violate the law, is to trample on the blood of his father, and to tear the character of his own, and his children’s liberty. Let reverence for the laws, be breathed by every American mother, to the lisping babe, that prattles on her lap - let it be taught in schools, in seminaries, and in colleges; let it be written in Primers, spelling books, and in Almanacs; - let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, and enforced in courts of justice. And, in short, let it become the political religion of the nation; and let the old and the young, the rich and the poor, the grave and the gay, of all sexes and tongues, and colors and conditions, sacrifice unceasingly upon its altars.”

“While ever a state of feeling, such as this, shall universally, or even, very generally prevail throughout the nation, vain will be every effort, and fruitless every attempt, to subvert our national freedom.”

"IN GOD WE TRUST"

The Reason For Our National Motto

Americans speak much of liberty. The laws of our United States Constitution and Bill of Rights speak of liberty.

Do laws give people liberty? They definitely make a difference, especially when the laws are obeyed. However, laws alone have never and can never guarantee people their liberty.

At various times throughout the histories of civilizations, people have lived in freedom under laws that supported freedom and they were soon brought under bondage.

Our nation's Founding Fathers recognized this history and wrote our United States Constitution with binding laws to protect the people from the fate of those previous freedom supporting democracies.

For a very good description of some of the more important events of that day, click [HERE](#) for the link to that description.

Also, an event is told of a lady asking Benjamin Franklin what kind of a government had been given us. Benjamin Franklin replied, " A republic, ma'am, if you can keep it."

Our hope is that we, the American people, will never come under bondage. Our hope is that, as we seek to live by our National Motto, our cause for liberty will grow stronger. Through trusting in God, the threat of fear created by present day terrorism will not drive us into the tyranny of a government using war and terrorism as an excuse to abandon our rights that are protected by the laws of the Constitution.

It is through fear that we would be willing to give up our liberty for the promise of security. Without trust in God, this will certainly be the case. Even now, in these times of increasing wars and terrorism, there has been discussion of civil rights verses security. Talk of altering or giving up some laws of our liberty in the Constitution for a promise of security. Evidence of this debate can be seen [HERE](http://www.bordc.org/) at <http://www.bordc.org/>

It is through having trust in God that men can overcome fear and be willing to stand in support of people's rights and vote for the honor of our laws of liberty that are written in the Constitution.

(New Testament | Hebrews 2:14 – 15)

14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

We the People must always be willing to stand in defense of our laws of liberty as other faithful Americans have been willing to do before us. Let us never forget to be grateful to all those who stood to preserve our liberty.

Americans who choose to TRUST IN GOD, as our National Motto suggests, are no longer subject to the bondage that can come through having fear of death.

They choose, instead, to serve the cause of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness which are the unalienable rights of all mankind as it is written within our Declaration of Independence and protected by the laws of the United States Constitution.

"IN GOD WE TRUST"

The Substance Of Our National Motto

Faith can be considered to be the substance of "IN GOD WE TRUST".

(Old Testament | Isaiah 45:5 – 8)

5 I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me:

6 That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else.

7 I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things.

8 Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together; I the LORD have created it.

The fact that man exists is a miracle. That man was created by God in the image of God is a miracle. That man was created in God's image with his own independent identity and free will is a miracle. That man is free to either follow the will of God or to oppose the will of God, is a miracle.

Should it trouble anyone that the Lord has created all these things, even the framework for our freedom to do evil?

God allows us, His creations created in His image, the miracle of our own independent identity with freedom of choice of action to act within the bounds of His set laws. We are free to do good or evil with the life that He has given us.

(Old Testament | Exodus 7:10 – 12)

10 And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent.

11 Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments.

12 For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.

In this scripture, we see that faith in truth holds more virtue than does mere belief in unrighteous actions. Aaron's rod had superior command over the sorcerers and magicians rods. The power of faith comes in being true to God's commands. Devils have power to believe but, they also have knowledge of their unrighteousness.

(Old Testament | Exodus 9:13 – 16)

13 And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

14 For I will at this time send all my plagues upon thine heart, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people; that thou mayest know that there is none like me in all the earth.

15 For now I will stretch out my hand, that I may smite thee and thy people with pestilence; and thou shalt be cut off from the earth.

16 And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.

(New Testament | Hebrews 11:1 – 3)

1 NOW faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.

3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

(New Testament | Matthew 8:26)

26 And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

(New Testament | Matthew 14:29 – 31)

29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

(Old Testament | Exodus 3:13 – 15)

13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?

14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

15 And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

(New Testament | John 8:56 – 58)

56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.

57 Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham?

58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

The Battle Hymn of the Republic

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword:
His truth is marching on.
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps,
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps:
His day is marching on.
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
His day is marching on.

I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of steel:
"As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace shall deal;
Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel,
Since God is marching on.
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Since God is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment-seat:
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him! be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me.
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free,
While God is marching on.
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
While God is marching on.

He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave,
He is Wisdom to the mighty, He is Succour to the brave,
So the world shall be His footstool, and the soul of Time His slave,
Our God is marching on.
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Glory, glory, hallelujah!
Our God is marching on.