

JULY 4th, 2010

Introduction: On July 4th, 1837, the 61st anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, John Quincy Adams proclaimed, "...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? Is it not that in the chain of events, the birthday of the nation is indissolubly linked with the birthday of the Savior? That it forms a leading event in the progress of the Gospel dispensation? Is it not the Declaration of Independence first organized the social compact of the foundation of the Redeemer's mission upon earth." 234 years have passed. America is worth preserving! It is an impervious fact that most all of our early church fathers believed in God. Their candor in expressing their faith in the need of God's divine favor upon America is also obvious. (Proverbs 1:10-11, 29:2. It does make a difference who rules a country.)

- A. George Washington said, "If I could entertain the slightest apprehension that the Constitution framed in the convention where I had the honor to preside, might possibly endanger the religious rights of any ecclesiastical society, I would have never placed my signature on it."
1. The First Amendment reads this way:
"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."
The 47 million people who flooded into the shores of America through Ellis island, from 1820 through 1975, children from every nation and tribe, along with those born in this country, some 300 million strong now, deserve to live in this country as the framers designed it.
 - a. George Washington, our first president and father of our country, prayed, "*Bless o Lord the whole race of mankind, and let the world be filled with the knowledge of Thee and Thy Son Jesus Christ.*"
 - b. It was Patrick Henry who said, "*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.*"
 - c. Thomas Jefferson, third president of the U.S. said, "*God who gave us life gave us liberty.*"
 - d. Benjamin Franklin, signer of the Declaration of Independence, said, "*Whoever shall introduce into public affairs the principles of primitive Christianity will change the face of the world.*"
 - e. Samuel Adams, signer of the Declaration, said, "*...the Supreme Ruler of the universe, having been pleased ... to establish the independence of the United States of America ... that with true repentance and contrition of our heart ... implore the forgiveness of our sins through the merits of Jesus Christ...*"
 - f. Andrew Jackson, our 7th president, referring to the Bible said, "*That Book, sir, is the rock upon which our republic rests.*"
 - g. On July 4th, 1776, 234 years ago, delegates to the Continental Congress voted to accept the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia's Independence Hall. On August 2nd, fifty-six men signed their names to this historic document, giving birth to a new nation. Here was their pledge: "*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.*"
 2. The psalmist David promises God's blessing upon the nation who unashamedly proclaims God as the Creator. Psalm 33:12.
 - a. There are serious consequences when a nation allows the heathen to hijack its faith. Isaiah 60:12.
 - b. America is ripe for revival! Joel 2:12-17.
 - 1.) Joel promises a great heaven-sent, Holy Spirit anointed revival, and we are poised to see it in our day. Joel 2:28-32.