

President George Washington's Inauguration Prayer

A Covenant Between America and God

Introduction: On April 30, 1789, Washington was sworn in as the first President. Immediately afterward, he went to St Paul's Chapel for a four-hour service. During the service, he prayed and dedicated the United States of America to God.

Washington's Covenant Prayer Follows:

Almighty God: We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government, and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow-citizens of the United States at large.

And finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to 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 without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation.

Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, **through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

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God in America's Three Founding Documents

The three documents are: *Declaration of Independence*, July 4, 1776; *Constitution of the United States*, March 4, 1789; *Treaty of Paris, The Definitive Treaty of Peace between the United States and Great Britain*, September 3, 1783.

Declaration of Independence:

...it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them...

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.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions...

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence...

Constitution:

There is no direct reference to God other than it was created to safe guard our God given rights mentioned in the Declaration of Independence (*That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed*).

Treaty of Paris: Document that created America as an independent nation.

Preamble: In the name of the most holy and undivided Trinity