# July 4, 2020 Declaration of Spiritual Independence Matthew 18.15-17







Painted 42 years after the event. Apparently the painter knew the styles and décor of the day.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQvxFZTpdYE&feature=youtu.bel



IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united\* States of America, When in the Course of human events,

[\*United was an adjective then, not a proper noun]

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,

a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the **separation**.

#### Separation = conflict unresolvable

- 1. What are the legitimate bases for separation?
- 2. What were those bases in 1776?
- 3. Is there application to our lives?

[According to the RTF originators, Chester and Betsy Kylstra, abandonment/separation is the MOST fundamental wound. Don't do separation lightly!!]

#### **Conflict resolution**

Step #1 Mtt. 18.15-17 "Now if your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault while you're with him alone. If he listens to you, you have won your brother.

[Some have said about an interpersonal difficulty, It's not a Mt 18 issue. To me, every conflict, difficulty is under these principles!]

Step #2 Mtt. 18.15-17 But if he does not listen, take with you one or two more, so that 'by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may stand.'

[Dvarim/Dt 19:15 A single witness shall not rise up against a person for any offense or sin that he commits. By the word of two or three witnesses is a case to be established.]

Step #3 Mtt. 18.15-17 But if he refuses to listen to them, tell it to Messiah's community. And if he refuses to listen even to Messiah's community, let him be to you as a pagan and a tax collector.

# Separation = conflict unresolvable

# Are there causes for separation in the Kingdom?

Ro 16.17 **Contentiousness** 1. Now I urge you, brothers and sisters, to keep your eye on those who are causing divisions and stumbling blocks, contrary to the teaching that you learned. Turn away from them.

[Irredeemably divisive and complaining]

<sup>1 Cor. 5.11</sup> **Not to mix together** with anyone who is being **called a brother** if he  $_2$  is sexually immoral or  $_3$  greedy or an  $_4$  idolater or a  $_5$  slanderer or a  $_6$  drunkard or a  $_7$  swindler—not even to eat with such a fellow.

# 7 issues for separation = conflict unresolvable.

[Contentiousness, sexual profligacy, greed, idolatry, slander, drunkenness, swindler Go through all the procedures and spirit of love and restoration and body re-building]

# Did the Americans of 1776 follow this concept?

In every stage of these Oppressions <sub>1</sub>We have Petitioned for Redress <u>in the most humble terms</u>: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our Brittish brethren. <sub>2</sub>We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. <sub>3</sub>We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here.

<sup>4</sup>We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have ₅conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence.

#### Five steps and modes of attempted resolution

- 1. Petitioned
- 2. Warned
- 3. Reminded
- 4. Appealed
- 5. Conjured/stirred

#### First application to us:

How thorough and creative have we been, in our lives, to resolve difficulties? Consider: *Covenant Relationships* book by Asher Intrater... cf "Tyranny of mobility."

What were the grievances of the Americans?

#### There are 26 enumerated grievances!

The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

1. He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

- 2. He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.
- 3. He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.
- 4. He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.
- 5. He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.
  - [Threw a monkey wrench into the gears and wheels of governmental processes.]
- 6. He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.
- 7. He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers.
- 8. He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.
- 9. He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harrass our people, and eat out their substance.
- 10. He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.
- 11. He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.
- 12. He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:
  - For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:
  - For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States: [Boston massacre.]
  - For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:
  - For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:
  - For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:
  - For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences
  - For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies
  - For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:
  - For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.
- 13. He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.
- 14. He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.
- 15. He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of

- death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.
- 16. He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.
- 17. He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

[#17 We'll come back to]

26 grievances, if you count all the subpoints. Many methods of attempted reconciliation. So then, separation and LIBERTY!

They too [British officials] have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our **Separation**, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends. 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, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be **Free and Independent States**; [Separation] that they are **Absolved from all Allegiance** to the British Crown... 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. [Cheer!]

#### **Effects of the Declaration**

- 1. All men are created equal. (Ultimately, end of slavery!)
- 2. Right of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

The Declaration has been a GREAT transformative document internationally!

We need to look again at #17. Something in the language and assumptions that may seem minor, but really is of great significance to loving our country with understanding.

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[https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript]

Was that just careless, emotion charged, and inappropriate language, no great significance? [My personal story, partially told last week ...]

- My first sense of sin was racism directed at a black housecleaner in my apartment building.
- Then High School project to help a minority community just north of my school district.
- My first outreach work as a believer was in inner city Cincinnati. 1970-74
- 1982-88 Native Canadian work in Winnipeg, Manitoba: Indian Metis Holiness Chapel *[So I am a woke Wolkenfeld.]*

Where is Winnipeg?]



Gets to be -40° F [F and C come together that cold]. Nevertheless, large city.



Canada 2011 Census there were approximately 730,018 living in the Winnipeg Metropolitan Area Missionaries to the Native Canadians/Indians 6 years.













Our home, former furrier's mansion built about 1898, at first move in. We moved in to original paint, more or less. Series of miracles to make house habitable.

- We worked with and met native people who as children were forced from their homes to Methodist or Catholic boarding schools and beaten for using their native language, even in the dormitory.
- We heard about the long march.

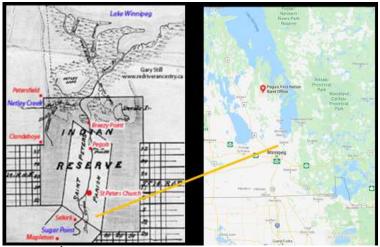
[Also abused sexually, by priest.]



[http://www.peguissurrendertrust.com/our-history/]

The surrender of St. Peters Reserve in 1907 was the subject of two royal commissions. They concluded the land transfer was illegal. The relocation of the band to its current home in Peguis, 220 kilometres north of Winnipeg, has been called Canada's Trail of Tears, after the forced relocation of the **Cherokee nation in the U.S. in the 1830s.** 

[http://www.nationalpost.com/news/Historic+aboriginal+land+claim+settlement+fails/1216658/story.html]



Prime agricultural land to less prime 100-mile march to the north.

On June 29, 1998, after 91 years of struggle by Peguis First Nation, Canada confirmed it agreed with Peguis that the 1907 surrender of the St. Peter's Reserve was void and legally invalid due to Canada's failure to comply with requirements of the Indian Act of 1906. Canada and Peguis entered into negotiations to compensate Peguis for its loss of land and economic loss as a result of this illegal

surrender. [http://www.peguissurrendertrust.com/our-history/]

Peguis Indian Band Chief Glenn Hudson at a news conference Spring, 2008.

On June 13, 2009, Peguis members voted in favour of the proposed settlement claim and the agreement was ratified by the parties on October 4, 2010.

The total settlement amount was \$126,094,903. Upon payment of settlement costs and legal fees Canada deposited \$118,750,000 in to the Peguis First Nation Surrender Claim Trust. Of this amount \$10,500,000 was set aside for a per-capita payment to the beneficiaries.

[https://peguisfirstnation.ca/about/surrender-claim-trust/

Robbed of their ancestral land, repaid]

Shmot/Ex 23.9 "You are not to oppress a foreigner, for you know how a foreigner feels, since you were foreigners in the land of Egypt.

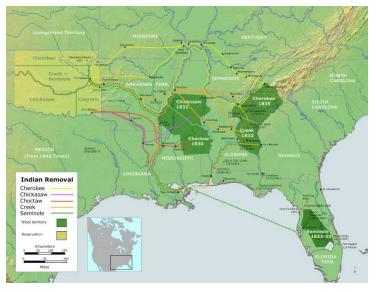
# THE SPIRITURE ROOTS KANSAS CITY Discovering the Past to Shape Our Future BILL HIGH AND ANNIKA BERGEN

#### **Cherokee Trail of tears?**

The Indian Removal Act was signed into law on May 28, 1830, by United States President Andrew Jackson. The law authorized the president to negotiate with southern Native American tribes for their removal to federal territory west of the Mississippi River in exchange for white settlement of their ancestral lands. The act has been referred to as a unitary act of systematic genocide, because it ... [made] certain the death of vast numbers of its population.

The Cherokee worked together to stop this relocation, but were unsuccessful; they were eventually forcibly removed by the United States government in a march to the west that later became known as the Trail of Tears.

The Spiritual Roots of Kansas City [Pp 23-25, 27, 28]

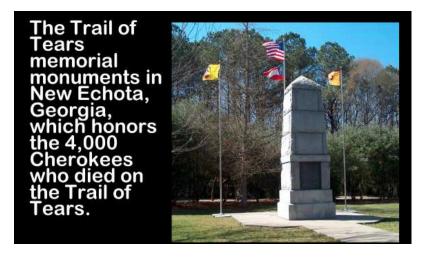


The Trail of Tears was a series of forced relocations of approximately 60,000 Native Americans in the United States from their ancestral homelands in the Southeastern United States, to areas to the west of the Mississippi River that had been designated as Indian Territory. The forced relocations were carried out by government authorities following the passage of the Indian Removal Act in 1830.

Shameful sounding law: "Indian Removal Act."

The relocated peoples suffered from exposure, disease, and starvation while en route to their new designated reserve, and approximately 4,000 died before reaching their destinations or shortly after from disease. The forced removals included members of the Cherokee, Muscogee (Creek), Seminole, Chickasaw, and Choctaw nations, as well as their African slaves.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trail\_of\_Tears]



Shmot/Ex 23.9 "You are not to oppress a foreigner, for you know how a foreigner feels, since you were foreigners in the land of Egypt.

[Some background ...]



1763–64: Britain wages biological warfare with smallpox
The British give smallpox-contaminated blankets to
Shawnee and Lenape (Delaware) communities — an action
sanctioned by the British officers Sir Jeffery Amherst and
his replacement, General Thomas Gage.

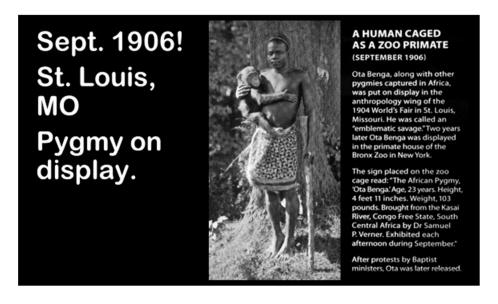
1763-64: Britain wages biological warfare with smallpox "Out of our regard to them ... we gave them two Blankets and an Handkerchief out of the Small Pox Hospital. I hope it will have the desired effect." — An eyewitness, quoted in Elizabeth A. Fenn, Pox Americana: The Great Smallpox Epidemic of 1775-81, 2001

1768: Britain stops protecting American colonies from Native attack

As American settlements continue to encroach on Native lands, the colonies express worry about attacks by Native peoples. Britain, weary of losses to the Ottawa chief Pontiac after the Seven Years' War and facing increasing resentment over colonial taxes, tells its American colonies to handle the "merciless Indian Savages" themselves.

[https://www.nlm.nih.gov/nativevoices/timeline/230.html

Might be where Thomas Jefferson got his language in the Declaration.]



#### **Australia**

The treatment of Australian aborigines has a horrible racist history. Most people aren't aware that over 100 years ago, Aborigines were actually slaughtered and collected as specimens for research and museum placement. Why? Well, it all had to do with evolution! Charles Darwin believed that the Australian aborigines were the primitive "missing links" of evolution.

As a result, hunters came to Australia to kill the aborigines and bring their bodies home as specimens for museums. In fact, in the early 1900s, the Aborigines were listed as animals in a booklet produced by an Australian museum! There are many accounts of hunters tracking down Aboriginal men, women, and children. They were killed like animals (even skinned), their skulls were boiled down, and the best specimens were shipped to America, England, and Germany. It's been estimated that perhaps 10,000 graves of Australian Aboriginal people were desecrated so that specimens could be obtained.

It was yet another attempt by museums to confirm the widespread belief that Aborigines were the supposed missing link. Even many American evolutionists were involved in gathering specimens of what they considered to be "sub humans."

[You could say, I'm not Australian, I'm not an evolutionist. This doesn't affect me. We're not talking about guilt. We're talking about compassion.

#### https://www.gbs.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Gods-Revivalist-2020-JAN-FEB-web.pdf



Jamie Lash: "There is no room for racism in the Body of Messiah. Justice and mercy are meant for believers of every color and race. The sad truth is that racism is woven into the fabric of our society, beginning with the Jamestown colony in 1619. Slaves may have loved Yeshua, but they were not honored as part of His Body. They were not even considered fully human.

"I was deeply moved by an interview between African American pastor T.D. Jakes and Carl Lentz, during which Bishop Jakes explained that he has a hard time celebrating July 4th, since 'liberty and justice for all' has not always been the experience of his people. He made some eye-opening (to me) statements that have since been confirmed by a few of my brothers and sisters of color in the Body. One of them was that black parents often feel the need to have conversations with their children in which they tell them to make sure that they save receipts in stores to show that they have not stolen anything. I never had to have such conversations with my sons."



[https://www.jewishjewels.org/news-letters/unity-in-the-body-of-messiah/]

Even among Jewish people, there is racial prejudice.

Evan Levine said, I believe last summer on this platform, that in Israel, your level of prestigious treatment is generally proportional to the lightness of your skin color.

Askhenizim > Sephardim > Ethiopians.

I know of an Israeli Ashkenaz woman in love with a Sephardi. Father forbad. Married an abuser.

[Examine your heart reaction to a person of color!!]

Racism and anti-Semitism are in the same gamut of thinking.

The Ku Klux Klan, called the KKK or the Klan, is an American white supremacist hate group whose primary targets are African Americans as well as Jews, immigrants, leftists, members of the LGBT community and, until recently, Catholics.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ku Klux Klan]





Leo Frank, the superintendent of the National Pencil Company in Atlanta, was convicted of the murder of factory worker Mary Phagan in 1913.

On the night of August 16, 1915, twenty-five prominent citizens of Marietta, identifying themselves as the Knights of Mary Phagan, caravanned to [his prison], took Frank from his cell, and drove him back to Marietta, Phagan's hometown, where they hanged him from an oak tree.

Only months later, many of these same men would take part in the nighttime ceremony at Stone Mountain that established the modern Ku Klux Klan.

[https://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/leo-frank-case]

Anti-Semitism and Racism are fundamentally the same.

By Ezra Stone, United with Israel Multi-talented [Jewish] actress and musician Emmy Rossum took to Twitter this week to blast anti-Semites in the entertainment industry, referring to Mel Gibson's alleged use of the word "oven-dodgers" to refer to Jews as "disgusting" and "sad, but "not a surprising or unique experience."

On other occasions, Rossum explained she has been told she looks "too ethnic." She said she has been passed over for roles and has been told directors preferred actresses that are "more 'American' looking," "ideally a blonde with blue eyes, someone that just looks nicer."

Rossum posted the comments in response to revelations made by award-winning [Jewish] actress and film-producer Winona Ryder in a recent Sunday Times interview. She recalled an exchange with Gibson in which, she says, he asked her at a party whether she was an "oven dodger," a slur popular with anti-Semites and Holocaust deniers that refers to the ovens the Germans used in World War II to cremate the bodies of the Jewish victims they murdered during the Holocaust.

[https://unitedwithisrael.org/actress-blows-whistle-on-jew-hatred-in-entertainment-industry/?utm\_source=newsletters\_unitedwithisrael\_org&utm\_medium=email&utm\_content=%E2%80%98Declare+War+on+Israel%27%2C+Says+Jor\_danian+MP%3B+US+Army+Thwarts+Neo-Nazi+Soldier%27s+Attack+on+Own+Unit%3B+Actress+Blows+Whistle+on+Jew-Hatred+in+Hollywood&utm\_campaign=20200628\_m159007731\_%E2%80%98Declare+War+on+Israel%27%2C+Says+Jordanian+MP%3B+US+Army+Thwarts+Neo-Nazi+Soldier%27s+Attack+on+Own+Unit%3B+Actress+Blows+Whistle+on+Jew-Hatred+in+Hollywood&utm\_term=more\_btn\_light\_png]



Activist Shaun King called Monday for the removal of statues, murals and stained-glass windows that depict Jesus as a "white European," which he claimed, "are a form of white supremacy."

Jews have felt that about Christian art as well.

[https://vfinews.com/en/news/june-30-2020/tear-them-down-activist-shaun-king-calls-to-remove?subscribed=true&utm\_source=VFI+News+-+English&utm\_campaign=81e464b91b-EMAIL\_CAMPAIGN\_2020\_06\_30\_07\_00&utm\_medium=email&utm\_term=0\_c414809724-

1e464b91b-148559991&mc\_cid=81e464b91b&mc\_eid=[UNIQID]]

#### **Famous Last Supper**

- 1. Yeshua is VERY white European.
- 2. Only Yehuda/Judas looks Jewish
- 3. Bread cf matzah
- 4. Lamb? Rather fish
- 5. Daylight, and supposed to be after dark.



Shmot/Ex 23.9 "You are not to oppress a foreigner, for you know how a foreigner feels, since you were foreigners in the land of Egypt.



Kokeb Gedamu had an appeal on the Rabbi's Conf that the Ethiopians in Israel are at the bottom of the economic ladder, and serve the tourist industry. No tourism with COVID-19.

To alleviate sufferings by black Jews in Ethioipia Or HaOlam just gave \$2000 to Kokeb's ministry.

The problem of overcorrection and woundedness  $\rightarrow$  rage

Dr. Michael Brown: Conservative Christians want to be on the front lines of racial reconciliation and since we reject racism as sin. Understanding the significance of the phrase to our black brothers and sisters, we want to shout out, "Yes, black lives do matter." Many black Christians also want to stand arm in arm with their friends and colleagues who have joined together with the Black Lives Matter movement.

But that movement is, at base, a Marxist-driven, queer-affirming, anti-Christian movement. And if you will not affirm transgender activism and march for queer pride, the knives will soon come out for you. I mean that both figuratively and literally.

You have been forewarned.

I find it even more disturbing when Christian leaders across the nation fall over each other in their zeal to prove their wokeness. They fail to realize that some of the very people they are trying to impress are the same ones who will turn on them in an instant the moment they take a strong stand for biblical values.

Amazon's Jeff Bezos is the latest to face the wrath of the mob.

As Breitbart reported, "According to a number of videos posted to social media, protesters in DC placed a model guillotine in front of Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos' Washington complex. A flyer for the event stated, 'End the abuse and profiteering. Abolish the police, the prisons, and Amazon." And note that, "Alongside the guillotine [was] a sign reading 'support our poor communities, not our wealthy men."

[https://www.charismanews.com/opinion/in-the-line-of-fire/81719-what-are-you-going-to-do-when-they-come-for-you?utm\_source=In%20the%20Line%20of%20Fire&utm\_medium=email&utm\_content=subscriber\_id:5194514&utm\_campaign=Blogger%20-%20Michael%20Brown%20-%202020-07-01]

#### **Conclusion:**

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.

G-d Bless America.

#### **Application 2**

Shmot/Ex 23.9 "You are not to oppress a foreigner, for you know how a foreigner feels, since you were foreigners in the land of Egypt.

[Examine our hearts. What is our inner reaction to people of color?]

### Application 3 Among ourselves?

<sup>Eph.4.32</sup> Be kind to each other, tenderhearted; and forgive each other, just as in the Messiah God has also forgiven you.

#### Pick someone and serve!

[Within or without the cong. Caring for Kids program.]

#### **Application 4**

# Spiritual Independence

Ro. 8.13-15 For if you live according to your old nature, you will certainly die; but if, by the Spirit, you keep **putting to death the practices of the body, you will live**. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to bring you back again into fear; on the contrary, you received the Spirit, who makes us sons and by whose power we cry out, "Abba!"

Full cup. By the death and resurrection power!

[We can't control our inner impulses, but we can control their expression. Skin color reaction. Then the Ruakh will give us LIFE in these areas.

Help with all the above ...]



We are contemplating going with some other communities around the city to take a busload of people to Washington DC for that event on September 26 and stand with the rest of the Believing community and pray.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iXK xZbuuJI&feature=youtu.be]

