

This thinksneet is pp.246f of Chas. W. Lowry's TO PRAY OR NOT TO PRAY! A HANDBOOK FOR STUDY OF RECENT SUPREME COURT DECISIONS AND AMERICAN CHURCH-STATE DOCTRINE (University Press of Wash. DC/63). Notions that the USA is a secular state and that America is a pluralistic culture are radically defective, though the conventional wisdom.

## A Creed for Americans

- \*\*\* In the name of God, Amen. (MAYFLOWER COMPACT, PLYMOUTH ROCK, MASSACHUSETTS, 1620)
- \*\*\* Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof. (LEVITICUS 25, 10: INSCRIPTION ON LIBERTY BELL AT INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, 1752)
- \*\*\* 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—
- \*\*\* That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new Government. (DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, 1776)
- \*\*\* No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the Invisible Hand which conducts the affairs of men more than the people of the United States. Every step by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency. (WASHINGTON, FIRST INAUGURAL ADDRESS, NEW YORK, NEW YORK, 1789)
- \*\*\* Our reliance is in the love of liberty which God has planted in our bosoms. Our defense is in the preservation of the spirit which prizes liberty as the heritage of all men, in all lands, everywhere. (LINCOLN, SPEECH AT EDWARDSVILLE, ILLINOIS, 1858)
- \*\*\* We cannot escape history. . . . No personal significance, or insignificance, can spare one or another of us. The fiery trial through which we pass, will light us down, in honor or dishonor, to the latest generation. (LINCOLN, MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, WASHINGTON, D. C., 1862)
- \*\*\* We here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth. (LINCOLN, ADDRESS AT GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA, 1863)
- \*\*\* One Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. (PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, 1892, 1954)
- \*\*\* In God We Trust. (NATIONAL MOTTO, 1814, 1864, 1955, 1956)