

*The Declaration of The First Christian Church
of Elm Creek Nebraska, October 28th, 2007*

When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the religious bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the churches of the earth, the station to which the promises of God and the Holy Scriptures entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be Biblically evident, that all men are born equal in sin, that they are offered by their Creator salvation exclusively through Jesus the Christ, through Him eternal life, liberty from the enemy, and the pursuit of holiness. – That to secure these truths, Churches are instituted among men, deriving their just teaching from the Holy pages of Scripture, – That whenever any form of Church becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to pray God revive the Church, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as the Scriptures prescribe to effect their spiritual welfare. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Church long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of disregard for the Holy Scriptures and of the exclusive claim of salvation in Christ alone, pursuing invariably the same object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute apostasy, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such a church, and to provide new guards for their future security. – Such has been the patient sufferance of this church; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former alliances. The more recent history of the present Church of the Disciples of Christ is a history of repeated injuries to Biblical Truth and usurpations of Jesus' Headship, all having in direct object the establishment of an apostate church. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

The public condemnation of Jesus for His own words and the faithful Church that holds to His words. Jesus claimed to have exclusive access to God, God's love, grace and salvation (See John 14:6 and DoC resolution 518 Pg. 2 item 13).

Over 30 years of public and unbiblical support for abortion and homosexuality.

The public proclamation of unbiblical doctrine including relativism, universal salvation, and the notion that salvation may come (or has come) to those outside of Jesus the Christ.

The willful effort to amass earthly wealth.

Partnering with other denominations that support similar unbiblical teaching and behavior.

We, therefore, the Members of the First Christian Church of Elm Creek Nebraska, assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by authority of The Faithful Church and the Holy Scriptures, solemnly publish and declare, that this Christian Church ought to be free and independent, that we are absolved from all allegiance to the Disciples of Christ denomination, and that all religious connection between ourselves and the Disciples of Christ, is and ought to be totally dissolved.
