

***A MANIFESTO***  
***For The Christian Church***

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**Declaration and Covenant**  
**July 4, 1986**

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**An Act of Contrition and Humble Repentance**  
**A Solemn Covenant**  
**A Statement of Essential Truths and a Call to Action**

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**Dr. Jay Grimstead, D. Min., General Editor**  
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*A Manifesto for the Christian Church*

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**Murphys, CA 95247**

# Christian Leaders Who in 1986 Signed A Manifesto for the Christian Church

The following Christian leaders signed A Manifesto for the Christian Church in 1986. Among these Christian leaders are some who have since passed on or who have since retracted their support for COR, its vision, and its goals.

Dr. Joseph Aldrich, Pres.  
Multnomah School of the Bible

Dr. Charles Blair, D.D., Pastor  
Calvary Temple

Rev. Ray Allen, President  
ACT Ministries, Inc.

Dr. Richard Bliss, Ed.D., Director of Curriculum  
Institute for Creation Research

Dr. Gary Amos, Professor  
Law and Public Policy-CBN University

Mr. Ron Boehme, Director  
Youth With a Mission; Revive America

Rev. Francis Anfuso, President  
Christian Equippers Int.

Rev. W. Wellington Boone, Pastor & Founder  
Manna Christian Fellowship Churches

Dr. Gleason Archer, Ph.D., Professor  
Old Testament, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

Dr. Harold O. J. Brown, Ph.D., Professor  
Bibl. & Sys. Theo., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

Dr. Virginia Armstrong, Ph.D., Executive Director  
Blackstone Institute of Public Law and Policy

Dr. Emanuele Cannistraci, Pastor  
Evangel Christian Fellowship

Dr. Theodore Baehr, J.D., President  
Good News Communications

Rev. Jack Carter, Professor  
Biblical Studies - C.F.N.I.

Dr. David W. Balsiger, L.H.D., Publisher-Editor  
Biblical News Service

Rev. David Chilton, Pastor  
Church of the Redeemer

Dr. William Barker, Th.D., Editor  
Presbyterian Journal

Mrs. Evelyn Christenson, President  
Evelyn Christenson Ministries

Rev. Ern Baxter, President  
Ern Baxter Ministries

Dr. Glenn Cole, D.D., Pastor  
Capital Christian Center

Mr. John Beckett, President  
Intercessors for America

Dr. Robert Coleman, Professor  
Trinity Evang. Free Div. School

Dick Bernal, Pastor  
Jubilee Christian Center

Dr. Lawrence Crabb, Ph.D., Director  
Inst. Bibl. Counsel, Grace Theological Seminary

Mr. E. Calvin Beisner  
Author, Editor

Mr. Art Cunningham, Manager  
Hughes Aircraft

Rev. Dick Benjamin, Pastor  
Abbotts Loop Christian Center

Mr. Gary DeMar, President  
American Vision

Rev. Luther Blackwell, Pastor  
New Life Fellowship

Mr. Ted DeMoss, President  
Christian Business Men's Committee

Mrs. Gladys Dickelman, Executive Director  
National Day of Prayer

Mr. Colonel Doner, President  
Christian Action Network

Rev. Jeff Donnan, President  
Christians for Justice, International

Dr. Robert Dugan, Director  
NAE-Public Affairs

Mr. Laury Eck, Attorney  
Christian Mediation

Dr. Ted Engstrom, President  
World Vision International

Mr. Michael Farris, President  
Home School Legal Defense Association

Mr. Roger Flemming, Asst. U.S. Director  
The Navigators

Mr. Marshall Foster, President  
Mayflower Institute

Rev. Gerald Fry, Pastor  
Clavary Community Church

Mr. Bill Garaway, President  
Business with a Purpose

Dr. Arthur Gay, D.Min., Pastor  
South Park Church

Mr. Peter Gemma, Executive Director  
National ProLife Political Action Co.

Dr. Duane Gish, Ph.D., Vice President  
Institute for Creation Research

Mr. Jose Gonzales, President  
Semilla, Inc.

Dr. Charles Green, President  
Network of Christian Ministries

Rev. Dan Greenlee, Pastor  
Calvary Cathedral

Col. Robert Grete, Principal  
Rocky Bayou Christian School

Dr. Jay Grimstead, D.Min., Found. Dir.  
Coalition on Revival

Rev. Ronald Haus, President  
1st Century Broadcasting

Dr. Lewis Hicks  
Physician

Dr. Dick Hillis, D.D. Pres. Emeritus  
Overseas Crusades

Dr. Steven Hotze  
Physician

Dr. David Howard, L.H.D., Gen. Director  
World Evangelical Fellowship

Rev. Dick Iverson, President  
Portland Bible College

Dr. Ron Jenson, D.Min., President  
International Leadership

Mrs. Dee Jepsen, Chairman  
Board of Regents, CBN University

Col. Glen Jones, National Director  
Military Ministry, Campus Crusade

Mr. Roy Jones, Coalitions Director  
Republican Senatorial Committee

Rev. Raymond P. Joseph, Pastor  
Southfield Presbyterian Church

Dr. D. James Kennedy, Ph.D., Pastor  
Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church

Joseph Kickasola, Professor  
Law & Public Policy-CBN University

Dr. Paul Kienel, Ed.D., Pastor  
Association of Christian Schools Intl.

Dr. David Kiteley, Pastor  
Shiloh Christian Fellowship

Dr. Henry Krabbendam, Ph.D., Professor  
Covenant College

Dr. Tim Lahaye, D.Min., President  
American Coalition for Traditional Values

Dr. Richard Lappert, Ph.D., Consultant  
Connecticut State Department of Education

Dr. Harold Lindsell, Ph.D., Editor Emeritus  
Christianity Today

Dr. Paul Lindstrom, Director  
Christian Liberty Academy

Dr. Allan MacRae, Ph.D., Pres. Emeritus  
Biblical Theological Seminary

Rev. Ronald Marr, Editor & Publisher  
Christian Enquirer

Dr. Peter Marshall  
Author, Lecturer

Mrs. Connaught Marshner, Director  
Child & Family Protection Institute

Rev. Bob Martin, Exec. Brd. Member  
Maranatha Christian Churches

Mr. Robert Martin, General Manager  
Fieldstead & Company

Mr. Ted McAteer, President  
Religious Roundtable

Dr. Josh McDowell, D.D., President  
Josh McDowell Ministries

Mr. R. E. McMaster, Jr., Editor  
The Reaper

Dr. Robertson McQuilkin, D.D., President  
Columbia Bible College

Bishop John L. Meares, Pastor  
Evangel Temple

Mr. Robert Metcalf, Founder  
Christian Studies Center

Rev. Lou Montecalvo, Pastor  
Redeemer Temple Southeast Church

Rev. Joseph Morecraft, Pastor  
Chalcedon Presbyterian Church

Rev. Bob Mumford, President  
Lifechangers

Dr. Gary North, Ph.D., President  
Institute for Christian Economics

Dr. Raymond Ortlund, D.D., President  
Renewal Ministries

Dr. J. I. Packer, Ph.D., Professor  
Systematic Theology, Regent College

Dr. Luis Palau, President  
Luis Palau Evangelistic Team

Dr. Ed Payne, M.D., Professor  
Medical College of Georgia

Rev. Dennis Peacocke, President  
Strategic Christian Services

Dr. John Perkins, D.D., President  
Voice of Calvary Ministries

Dr. William Reed, M.D., President  
Christian Medical Foundation

Mr. Jerry Regier, President  
Family Research Council

Dr. George Rekers, Ph.D., Professor  
University of S.C. School of Medicine

Dr. Adrian Rogers, Pastor  
Bellevue Baptist Church

Dr. R. J. Rushdoony, Ph.D., President  
Chalcedon Foundation

Dr. Michael Rusten, Ph.D.  
Business Consultant

Rev. Ron Sadlow, Associate Pastor  
Second Presbyterian Church

Dr. Robert Saucy, Th.D., Chairman  
Dept. of Systematic Theo., Talbot Sem.

Mrs. Edith Schaeffer  
Author, Lecturer

Mr. George Scipione, Director  
Christian Counseling and Education

Rev. Owen Shackett, Pastor  
The Peoples Church of the Northwest

Mr. Herbert Schlossberg  
Author, Researcher

Mr. Shelby Sharp  
Attorney at Law

Mr. Mark Siljander  
Former Member of Congress

Dr. Robert Simonds, Th.D., President  
National Assoc. of Christian Educ.

Rev. Charles Simpson, Pastor  
Gulf Coast Covenant Church

Dr. Ralph Winter, Ph.D., General Director  
U.S. Center for World Missions

Mr. John Sparks, J.D., Professor  
Law and Economics, Grove City Coll.

Dr. Don Zoller, Chairman  
Outreach Ministries, McLean Bible Church

Mrs. Carolyn Sundseth, Former Assoc. Director  
White House Office of Public Liaison

Mr. Bob Thoburn, Pastor, Founder  
Fairfax Christian School

Mr. Lary Tomczak, Editor  
The People of Destiny Magazine

Dr. Paul Toms, D.D., Pastor  
Park Street Church

Dr. Joseph Tson, D.D., President  
Romanian Missionary Society

Brother Andrew van der Bijl, Founder  
Open Doors

Dr. Jack Van Impe, Ph.D., President  
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Dr. Peter Wagner, Professor  
School of World Missions, Fuller Seminary

Dr. Larry Walker, Ph.D., Professor  
Old Testament, Mid-America Baptist Seminary

Dr. Robert Walker, President  
Christian Life Magazine

Mr. Russ Walton, President  
Plymouth Rock Foundation

Mr. Bob Weiner, President  
Maranatha Campus Ministries

Dr. Luder Whitlock, President  
Reformed Theological Seminary

Rev. Al Whittinghill, Evangelist  
Ambassadors for Christ

Rev. Donald Wildmon, President  
American Family Association

Rev. Jerry Wiles, Exec. Vice President  
Bible Pathway Ministries

Rev. Mike Williams, Pastor  
Hillside Church

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## **What is the Coalition on Revival?**

The Coalition on Revival is a network of evangelical leaders from every major denominational and theological perspective who share a vision for and a to revival, renewal, and reformation in Church and society in America.

People of Anabaptist, Arminian, Lutheran, Calvinist, and Wesleyan denominational backgrounds are all represented among COR's leaders. Pre-, a-, and post-millennialists are cooperating with each other, sharing the exciting task of getting God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven insofar as that is possible between now and whenever Christ comes back to Earth. Charismatics and non-charismatics, covenant and dispensationalist theologians, have joined arm in arm in prayer and hard work to see revival, renewal, and reformation in the Christian Church and the American culture.

COR's vision is to see Christians everywhere doing all they can in the power of the Holy Spirit to take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ (2 Cor. 10: 5), in every aspect of life. Toward that end, we have developed a series of worldview documents that set forth what we believe are the fundamental and essential points of the total Christian world and life view. The COR worldview documents state what we believe are the biblical principles for all spheres of human life including theology, evangelism, discipleship, law, civil governments, economics, education, family, medicine, psychology and counseling, arts and media, business and professions, and science and technology. We believe that the COR worldview documents state where the entire Church must stand and what action it must take to accomplish its task in the remaining years of the Twentieth Century and on into the next century.

COR steering committee members from all walks of life were joined by many hundreds of other interested Christian scholars, pastors, and laymen in developing the COR documents during many series of workshops and conventions. Each document therefore, reflects input from theologians, philosophers, professionals in their respective fields, pastors, and lay Christians. We have sought to avoid denominational and theological bias in the documents; our aim has been to focus on principles so fundamental that we are convinced no Bible-believing Christian who studied the major questions related to each sphere of life would come to a contradictory conclusion.

COR views itself as a "Bible obedience, holiness movement" that crosses denominational and theological lines. The next step on its agenda, now that its basic documents are complete, is to disseminate them widely and to educate hundreds of thousands of Christians on how to make Christ Lord of absolutely every aspect of life. We plan to do that through publications, and through seminars, and training workshops in the major cities of America and Canada. COR will also work in cooperation with other Christian networking groups to help unify the pastors in major population centers around the vision of mobilizing their people to "Get God's will done in their city as it is in heaven" to whatever degree that is possible before the return of Christ. We believe America can be turned around and once again function as a Christian nation as it did in its earlier years. We believe that wherever the pastors of any city in the world join together in unity to make Christ Lord of every sphere of life, and, with Spirit led strategy, mobilize their people into a unified spiritual army; that city can and will become "a city set upon a hill" and be "a place where righteousness dwells."

## **About the Manifesto**

On July 4, 1986 at a Solemn Assembly in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D. C., and during a three-day Coalition on Revival Congress on the Christian Worldview, 60 of COR's national Steering Committee members and another 400 Christian leaders from a broad spectrum of theological viewpoints signed The Manifesto for the Christian Church. The focus of the first portion of the Manifesto is repentance by the Church for not being the "salt and light" it should have been and for allowing the forces of darkness, by default, to replace the Christian roots of our nation with secularized relativism and disintegration. The Manifesto states where the signers believe the Church must stand and what action it must take at this point in history to fulfill the Great Commission. The signers are convinced that no revival or reformation of the Church or society, of any depth or longevity, can happen until the leadership of the Body of Christ commits itself to living and teaching the kind of Biblical Christianity called for by this Manifesto. Their hope is that pastors and Christian leaders in every major metropolitan area will call their people to a local Solemn Assembly for repentance and rededication to the Christian task wherein the Manifesto can be read publicly and the local Body of Christ can begin mobilizing itself into a united team of courageous, world-changing, servants of Christ. May it be used by God as a trumpet call to help awaken, unify, and mobilize the Body of Christ to accomplish all Christ demands of us at this critical point in history.



# Preamble

To promote Biblical obedience, peace, unity, love, joy, and compassion among all men, and to secure for ourselves and future generations the blessing of God Almighty, we hereby enter into a Solemn Covenant, grounded in the following declaration:

God, eternal Creator, Author of liberty, has spoken with reason, accuracy, and clarity concerning justice, truth, and reality in Heaven and on Earth.

In bold defiance of God's Word, the Bible, the fallen race of man has perverted justice, truth, and reality, leaving a painful legacy of negligence, confusion, chaos, and exploitation; and, thus, has created a compelling need for correction and redemption by our merciful God. In this twentieth century, evil has so multiplied that all life and liberty are at risk of destruction by the godless or by the judgment of God.

The Church of Jesus Christ, now grown lukewarm and indifferent in pursuing its redemptive priestly ministry and corrective prophetic authority, largely has tolerated or participated in the dominant evils and error of this sin-filled age, further adding to our planetary crisis. That future generations of God's children and nations yet unborn may learn of righteousness and judgment without suffering the cost of repeated sins, we declare with brokenness the record of our grievous transgression of the Divine Law.

## **An Act of Contrition and Humble Repentance**

We humbly and openly confess that too often, as a people and as individuals:

1. We have failed to care adequately for the souls of men who will spend eternity in the fires of hell if they fail to receive for themselves the atoning blood of Christ, bowing their knees before Him as Lord of their lives and King of the universe;
2. We have disobeyed God's clear commands in Scripture;
3. We have built our own egos rather than advancing the Kingdom of Christ;
4. We have all too often fallen short of the integrity, faithfulness, and total honesty with each other that God requires of us before the watching world;
5. We have failed to confront falsehood and unrighteousness consistently in the Church or in the world because of our fear of man and of losing prestige or security;

6. We have been content to reduce the power of the transcendent gospel to mere creedal form devoid of spiritual content or present reality by our harlotry with the idols of personal peace and affluence;
7. We have neglected our God-ordained duties to be the world's salt, light, teacher, and example; as a result, the world is in desperate trouble and western civilization stands on the brink of self-destruction;
8. We and our fathers have settled for a sub-standard, false version of Christianity in our local churches and denominations;
9. We have tolerated sin within our ranks when we should have administered church discipline and excommunication;
10. We have allowed heresies to creep into our churches and institutions of higher learning, failing to demand of our teachers that they teach and stand upon the faithful and inerrant written Word of God;
11. We have heaped to ourselves teachers and pastors to tickle our ears with pleasant falsehoods and entertaining fables rather than convicting us of sin and demanding that we live righteous lives of obedience to the Bible;
12. We sold our children's minds and souls to the godless influence of secularized education and the media;
13. We have allowed our churches to become irrelevant, powerless ghettos while those who hate or neglect God and His righteous standards for society have stolen the America of our founding fathers out from under our slumbering eyes;
14. We Have allowed misguided policies, flagrant sins, and hideous atrocities to be enacted by our elected and appointed officials – legislative, executive, and judicial – without rising up en masse, and demanding that they be corrected in the name of God and for the sake of justice;
15. We have permitted both Christian and non-Christian men of our society to fail in leadership, becoming emasculated, tamed, dependent, self-centered, and soft; and, in the opposite extreme, we have allowed some men to abuse their authority by their lack of sacrificial love for their families;
16. We have lived beyond our means by misusing credit, so trading our liberty for financial bondage;
17. We have adopted the covetousness and materialism of our surrounding culture, seeking the approval of men and neglecting the fear of the Lord;
18. We have been caught up in a self-centered, false version of Christianity, focusing on our own needs and desires rather than on God's glory and on sacrificing ourselves for the needs of our Christian brothers and fellow humans;
19. We have concerned ourselves more with Heaven, the future, and escaping this world at Christ's Second Coming, than with preparing His Bride to be spotless, beautiful, glorious, and pleasing to Him when He comes;

20. We foolishly have allowed Satan to divide us from other members in His Body through pride, jealousy, and competition, through a lack of humble serving of one another, and by concentrating on divisive minor issues rather than the clear Biblical articles of faith upon which we agree;

21. We have rested, idle and uncaring, while Satanically inspired Marxist Communism and a revival of pagan religions has enslaved two-thirds of our planet, causing massive, needless suffering to the peoples under their sway;

22. We have failed to conduct our lives or manage our affairs in the conscious certainty that God's eternal standards for personal and social righteousness are unchanging and inexorable in their absolute cause-and-effect relationships, thus dishonoring God and playing the fool in our personal lives and social policies;

*Therefore:*

1. In brokenness and humility, we cast ourselves before the throne of Almighty God beseeching Him to forgive these sins of ours and our fathers that we have so grievously and callously committed against Him, against each other and against the dying world. We call upon our Father in Heaven to apply to these our sins the purifying, atoning blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

2. In repentance, shame, and sorrow we ask our fellow Christians -all whom we have offended, ignored, and despised; before whom we have not been honest, open, vulnerable and tender; and whose ministries we have falsely believed we could do well without -to forgive us in the name of Jesus and for the sake of His glory and the unity of His Body. We hereby declare that we forgive all Christian brothers and sisters who have so treated us.

3. In shame and sorrow, we ask forgiveness of those fellow humans who have not bowed their knee to Jesus as King of the universe or yet come under the saving power of His shed Blood.

Forgive us for caring so little for your souls that we have not ministered more aggressively and lovingly to you about your eternal destiny and your fear of death.

Forgive us for our attempt to evangelize you that have been impersonal, mechanical, or insensitive.

Forgive us for displaying before you ugly, uninspiring lives devoid of God's integrity, compassion, and power.

Forgive us for being such poor examples of Christ's love by our disunity that you have rejected both Him and us, to your own spiritual impoverishment.

Forgive us for our failure to demonstrate to you biblical answers for your difficulties and problems in life.

Forgive us for failing to occupy our proper position as servants in the affairs of law, government, economics, business, education, media, the arts, medicine, and science as the Creator's salt and light to the world, so that these spheres of life might offer you more help, justice, hope, peace, and joy.

We have failed you miserably and we beg you to forgive us in the name of the great God who created us all for His glory.

And now, O God, forgive our willful disobedience, hardness of heart, and selfish indulgence. Hear our prayers, forgive our sin, and heal our land, O lord; thus fulfilling the merciful promise of your Word.

“O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and take action! For Thine own sake, O my God, do not delay, because Thy people are called by Thy name.” (Daniel 9: 19)

## **A Solemn Covenant**

Now, for the Glory of God, having repented of our sin and counted the cost of true discipleship, willing either to be martyred or to reign with Him, we hereby solemnly covenant with Almighty God and with one another, to live henceforth in full, serious obedience to all the Bible’s commands that apply to us today, to the best of our ability and in dependence on the power of the Holy Spirit, from now until the day we die, so help us God.

We hereby voluntarily invite others in the family of God to hold us accountable to live in full obedience to the Bible, and to show us with demonstrated love whatever they observe between our lives and what is written in the Bible. We submit in advance to Biblical church discipline as described in Matthew 18: 15-20.

We commit ourselves, in the presence of God Almighty and of our Christian brothers and sisters:

to live to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever-the chief reasons for our existence in time and eternity;

to offer ourselves as living sacrifices to be used as God wills to build up the Body of Christ on earth that it may become biblical, holy, strong, courageous, unified, and effective in fulfilling its commissioned task on earth;

to do all we can, in the lives of our fellow humans and in the societies in which we live, to see God’s will done on earth as it is in heaven, insofar as that is possible between now and the physical return of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.

## **A Statement of Essential Truths and a Call to Action**

Whereas, our souls are burdened with the unbiblical, Laodicean state of the Church in our age; and,

Whereas, the Body of Christ on earth has failed to be the salt, light, and teacher of a dark and dying world; and,

Whereas, we believe that we, the sleeping, uncaring, uncourageous, and unholy members of the Body of Christ bear much of the blame for the fact that our own society and Western civilization are on the brink of self destruction;

**We therefore declare:**

That a broad acceptance by the Bible-believing Church of the basic biblical affirmations stated herein should be considered essential, primary, foundational, and non-negotiable by all Christians who wish to work and pray toward the revival of the Church and the reformation of society; and,

That the Body of Christ, in order to fulfill her Lord's Great Commission to make Bible-obeying disciples of all nations, needs to commit itself to the following statements of truth and plans of action.

***A. The Church Must Learn What is Reality.***

*1. Inerrancy of the Bible.*

We affirm that the original manuscripts of the Old and New Testaments of the Bible were so inspired by God, that the human authors wrote the exact words and sentences God inspired them to write without error and without misrepresenting God, history or the created world in any way. What the Bible says, God says. Those inside and outside the Christian Church who teach that the Bible is partly true and partly false, and that it is up to us humans to decide which parts are which, stand in opposition to the view of the Bible held by Moses, David, Jesus, Paul, the early Church, the Reformers, and all of mainstream Christianity, down to the last century, and are, by their destructive teaching, undermining the faith of the next generation.

*2. The Bible is the Final Test of All Truth Claims.*

We affirm that this God-inspired, inerrant Bible is the only absolute, objective, final test for all truth claims, and the clearest verbal picture of reality that has ever come into the hands of mankind. By it, and it alone, are all philosophies, books, values, actions, and plans to be measured as to their consistency with reality, visible and invisible. Whatever statements or values are in opposition to the statements and values of the Bible err to the degree of their opposition.

*3. The Bible States Reality for All Areas of Life and Thought.*

We affirm that the Bible is not only God's statements to us regarding religion, salvation, eternity, and righteousness, but also the final measurement and depository of certain fundamental facts of reality and basic principles that God wants all mankind to know in the spheres of law, government, economics, business, education, arts and communication, medicine, psychology, and science. All theories and practices of these spheres of life are only true, right, and realistic to the degree that they agree with the Bible. The Bible furnishes mankind with the only logical and verbal connection between time and eternity, religion and science, the visible and invisible worlds.

*4. Cause and Effect Relationships of God's Commandments.*

We affirm that God built the universe and man in accordance with the laws of His own Being in such a way that there is a cause and effect relationship between obeying the laws and commandments deposited in His Word and being blessed by God. Those people or nations that live in opposition to biblical laws and commandments will, sooner or later, be cursed and destroyed. This is not to say that we can force God's hand to bless us, but rather that it is always best for us to obey His will.

It is, therefore, to the great benefit of all mankind, Christian and non-Christian alike, to bring every society's judicial and legal systems into as close an approximation to the laws and commandments of the Bible as its citizens will allow.

5. *Worldview.*

We affirm that the Bible presents God's own world view, which is consistent and practical and answers all of the basic life questions of man. To function properly in the Church and in the world, Christians must seek to understand, to the best of their ability, the full theological worldview presented in the Bible. They must be willing to measure all points of their own theology by the Bible and, in submission to the Bible, to make whatever changes are called for in their own theology.

6. *The 42 Articles of The Essentials of the Christian Worldview.*

We affirm that the Coalition On Revival's *42 Articles of The Essentials of the Christian Worldview* states the basic doctrines of historic Christianity and can serve as a theological test and guardrail to keep an individual or a church from heresy.

***B. The Christian Church Must Live Under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and, Therefore, in Full Obedience to the Bible.***

7. *Lordship of Christ Non-Optional.*

We affirm that living under the total Lordship of Jesus Christ in every area of life is not optional for those who would call themselves Christians. Though obedience to the Bible's commands does not earn or retain salvation, still the Bible is clear in its teachings that no one who lives a life of deliberate, consistent disobedience to the Bible's commands does not earn or retain salvation, still the Bible is clear in its teachings that no one who lives a life of deliberate, consistent disobedience to the Bible's commands ought to call himself a Christian. We are saved by faith alone, but not by a faith that is alone, devoid of obedience.

8. *Living Above Deliberate Sin.*

We affirm that it is possible and expected by God that Christians will and must live above conscious, deliberate choices to sin. We are capable of this because of our new nature the indwelling Holy Spirit and the ability of Christ's shed blood to break the power of canceled sin. This is not to say that the most holy of us do not need daily to say, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors."

9. *The Great Commission.*

We affirm that the Great Commission is a mandate by our Lord to go forth into all the world and make Bible-obeying disciples of all nations. Getting men's souls saved is only a preliminary part of fulfilling the Great Commission. Our work is incomplete unless we teach them to obey all He commanded. The word of the Lord's prayer for God's will to "be done on earth as it is in heaven" are another way to state the essence of the same Great Commission.

*10. Christ's Lordship Extends to the Entire Universe.*

We affirm that a full understanding of the Lordship of Christ is to realize that, when Jesus stated, "All authority in heaven and earth has been given to Me," He was declaring that whatever power Satan held over the world was broken by His death on the cross and His victorious resurrection. As Son of God and representative man, Jesus regained authority over the earth which Adam, as representative man, lost. This is the meaning of His being seated at the right hand of God. When Jesus returns, He will gain no greater authority over this earth and the forces of Satan than He had from the moment He ascended to and sat upon His throne, though He will exercise His authority in full power, then in a way He is not fully exercising it now.

*11. Christian Maturity.*

We affirm that all Christians must be nurtured by those who are their spiritual leaders if they are to reach their full level of Christian maturity. No Christian or group of Christians has the right before God to live year after year on a spiritual plateau, stagnating in Christian immaturity. Christian maturity is capable enough of definition that the apostles categorized their people as either mature or immature. It is measured by the extent of one's conformity to the image of Christ, made visible by biblical obedience in every area of life.

*12. The Necessity of Human Accountability.*

We affirm that because of our infinite capacity for self-deception, all of us who strive for Christian maturity and a biblically obedient life need to be held accountable to live in obedience to the Bible by living, trustworthy brothers and sisters. Apart from this our obedience must always fall short of its potential. This brother-to-brother accountability should be entered into mutually by voluntary association.

*13. The Need for Confrontation.*

We affirm that in a life where there exists "the world, the flesh and the devil," there is need for living confrontation over matters of falsehood and unrighteousness in the Church and in the world. It is impossible for any group of people to live truly biblically obedient lives without applying to each other regular confrontation, exhortation, rebuke and church discipline. Church discipline must be an on-going part of any congregation that chooses truly to live according to the Bible.

***C. The Church Must Live in Love and Unity with Each Other.****14. Only One Body.*

We affirm that although there are many denominational and theological divisions within the body of Christ, in reality there exists only one Body of Christ to which all true Christians of all denominations belong. This central fact must be exemplified by churches and pastors at a local level and in a visible way. The desire in Christ's heart is that His Body demonstrate visible, real Body unity, love, and interdependence.

15. *Local pastors' Prayer Fellowships.*

We affirm that the unity of the Body of Christ must be demonstrated and can be greatly aided by local pastors praying together in honest fellowship for each other's lives and ministries. Their prayer and fellowship must go deep, to the point of sincere love, sacrifice, and experiencing joy at each other's success.

16. *Humility Required.*

We affirm that before local body unity will be real or have a large effect, pastors and Christian leaders must be willing to allow others to get credit for, or have control of joint projects, and to work in programs under the name of another church or leader. Humility and faithful servanthood are essential for true body unity, locally and nationally.

17. *Loyalty and Support of Leaders in the Body.*

We affirm that within any local church or para-church organization there must be a real and visible unity of spirit, purpose, and leadership. Struggles for power and poorly defined organizational chains of command must be seen as problems not to be tolerated, except for temporary periods, until the unity around the proper leadership can be defined and established. A pastor or para-church leader needs his staff and board to be deeply loyal and unified around his leadership, without his vision being forced to compete with other visions within the church or organization.

***D. The Christian Church Must be Salt and Light to the World.***

18. *Light and Salt are to Influence the World.*

We affirm that to be salt and light to the world means to influence it for good and to show it the way to live and conduct its affairs. In short, it means getting God's will to "be done on earth as it is in heaven" and to "make disciples of all nations, teaching them to obey whatsoever I have commanded You," Christ instituted the Church as the world's teacher. The world will not know how to live or which direction to go without the Church's biblical influence on its theories, laws, actions, and institutions. To be salt and light, the Church cannot exist in a Christian "ghetto or have a dichotomous view that falsely divides life into the spiritual versus the physical-historical-measurable.

19. *Storming the Gates of Hell.*

We affirm that part of the task of the bearers of the Christian gospel is to identify, find, cast out, and break the Satanic power of demons over those to whom we minister. All Christian ministers inside and outside the institutional church must know how to deal with and overpower demons that oppress or harass people in their care. They must do this in the name of Christ and by the power of His presently effective blood.



20. *Social Evils To Oppose.*

We affirm that all Bible-believing Christians must take a non-neutral stance in opposing, praying against, and speaking against social moral evils such as the following.

- A. Abortion on demand, infanticide, and euthanasia
- B. Adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bestiality and other forms of sexual perversion
- C. Pornography, prostitution, sexual entertainment, rape, and other crimes of exploitation and physical, emotional, or sexual abuse
- D. Drug abuse
- E. Unjust treatment of the poor and disadvantaged
- F. Criminal injustice
- G. Racial Discrimination
- H. Theft, fraud, and violence not in self defense
- I. State usurpation of parental rights and God-given liberties
- J. Statist-collectivist theft from citizens through devaluation of their money and redistribution of their wealth
- K. Atheism, moral relativism, and evolutionism taught as a monopoly viewpoint in public schools
- L. Communism/ Marxism, fascism, Nazism and the one-world government of the New Age Movement

***Now Therefore:***

In hope of God's mercy and blessing upon His Church and a needy world, we humbly call on all who name Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and every Bible-believing church on earth to join us in these acts of repentance, in ratifying this covenant with God and His Church, and in embracing these fundamental and non-negotiable truths and mandates, to the great end that God might be glorified and His will might be done.

## Benediction

May we live to glorify God. May we fellowship with Him eternally. May we offer ourselves a living sacrifice to God and our fellow men. May we be salt and light in the world. May the fruit of our labor, as much as is possible, be the working of God's will on earth as it is in heaven.

May God give us His strength, wisdom, holiness, justice, love and power in full measure. And may God multiply those who enter herein.

# National Christian Leaders

## Who Signed the COR Manifesto in 1986

Dr. Joseph Aldrich, Pres.  
Multinomah School of the Bible

Dr. Henry Krabbendam, Ph. D., Professor  
Biblical Studies, Covenant College

Rev. Ray Allen, President  
ACT Ministries, Inc.

Dr. Tim Lahaye, D. Min., President  
American Coalition for Traditional Values

Dr. Gary Amos, Professor  
Law and Public Policy-CBN University

Dr. Richard Lappert, Ph. D., Consultant  
Connecticut State Department of Education

Rev. Francis Anfuso, President  
Christian Equippers Int.

Dr. Harold Lindsell, Ph. D., Editor Emeritus  
Christianity Today

Dr. Gleason Archer, Ph. D., Professor  
Old Testament, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

Dr. Paul Lindstrom, Director  
Christian Liberty Academy

Dr. Virginia Armstrong, Ph. D., Executive Director  
Blackstone Institute of Public Law and Policy

Dr. Allan MacRae, Ph. D., Pres. Emeritus  
Biblical Theological Seminary

Dr. Theodore Baehr, J. D., President  
Good News Communications

Rev. Ronald Marr, Editor & Publisher  
Christian Enquirer

Dr. David W. Balsiger, L. H. D., Publisher-Editor  
Biblical News Service

Dr. Peter Marshall  
Author, Lecturer

Dr. William Barker, Th. D., Editor  
Presbyterian Journal

Mrs. Connaught Marshner, Director  
Child & Family Protection Institute

Rev. Ern Baxter, President  
Ern Baxter Ministries

Rev. Bob Martin, Exec. Brd. Member  
Maranatha Christian Churches

Mr. John Beckett, President  
Intercessors for America

Mr. Robert Martin, General Manager  
Fieldstead & Company

Dick Bernal, Pastor  
Jubilee Christian Center

Mr. Ted McAteer, President  
Religious Roundtable

Mr. E. Calvin Beisner  
Author, Editor

Dr. Josh McDowell, D. D., President  
Josh McDowell Ministries

Rev. Dick Benjamin, Pastor  
Abbotts Loop Christian Center

Mr. R. E. McMaster, Jr., Editor  
The Reaper

Rev. Luther Blackwell, Pastor  
New Life Fellowship

Dr. Robertson McQuilkin, D. D., President  
Columbia Bible College

Dr. Charles Blair, D. D., Pastor  
Calvary Temple

Bishop John L. Meares, Pastor  
Evangel Temple

Dr. Richard Bliss, Ed. D., Director of Curriculum  
Institute for Creation Research

Mr. Robert Metcalf, Founder  
Christian Studies Center

Mr. Ron Boehme, Director  
Youth With a Mission; Revive America

Rev. Lou Montecalvo, Pastor  
Redeemer Temple Southeast Church

Rev. W. Wellington Boone, Pastor & Founder  
Manna Christian Fellowship Churches

Rev. Joseph Morecraft, Pastor  
Chalcedon Presbyterian Church

Dr. Harold O. J. Brown, Ph. D., Professor  
Bibl. & Sys. Theo., Trinity Evan. Divinity School

Rev. Bob Mumford, President  
Lifechangers

Dr. Emanuele Cannistraci, Pastor  
Evangel Christian Fellowship

Dr. Gary North, Ph. D., President  
Institute for Christian Economics

Rev. Jack Carter, Professor  
Biblical Studies -C. F. N. I.

Dr. Raymond Ortlund, D. D., President  
Renewal Ministries

Rev. David Chilton, Pastor  
Church of the Redeemer

Dr. J. I. Packer, Ph. D., Professor  
Systematic Theology, Regent College

Mrs. Evelyn Christenson, President  
Evelyn Christenson Ministries

Dr. Luis Palau, President  
Luis Palau Evangelistic Team

Dr. Glenn Cole, D. D., Pastor  
Capital Christian Center

Dr. Ed Payne, M. D., Professor  
Medical College of Georgia

Dr. Robert Coleman, Professor  
Trinity Evang. Free Div. School

Rev. Dennis Peacocke, President  
Strategic Christian Services

Dr. Lawrence Crabb, Ph. D., Director  
Inst. Bibl. Counsel, Grace Theological Seminary

Dr. John Perkins, D. D., President  
Voice of Calvary Ministries

Mr. Art Cunningham, Manager  
Hughes Aircraft

Dr. William Reed, M. D., President  
Christian Medical Foundation

Mr. Gary DeMar, President  
American Vision

Mr. Ted DeMoss, President  
Christian Business Men's Committee

Dr. George Rekers, Ph. D., Professor  
University of S. C. School of Medicine

Mrs. Gladys Dickelman, Executive Director  
National Day of Prayer

Dr. Adrian Rogers, Pastor  
Bellevue Baptist Church

Mr. Colonel Doner, President  
Christian Action Network

Dr. R. J. Rushdoony, Ph. D., President  
Chalcedon Foundation

Rev. Jeff Donnan, President  
Christians for Justice, International

Dr. Michael Rusten, Ph. D.  
Business Consultant

Dr. Robert Dugan, Director  
NAE-Public Affairs

Rev. Ron Sadlow, Associate Pastor  
Second Presbyterian Church

Mr. Laury Eck, Attorney  
Christian Mediation

Dr. Robert Saucy, Th. D., Chairman  
Dept. of Systematic Theo., Talbot Sem.

Dr. Ted Engstrom, President  
World Vision International

Mrs. Edith Schaeffer  
Author, Lecturer

Mr. Michael Farris, President  
Home School Legal Defense Association

Mr. George Scipione, Director  
Christian Counseling and Education

Mr. Roger Flemming, Asst. U. S. Director  
The Navigators

Rev. Owen Shackett, Pastor  
The Peoples Church of the Northwest

Mr. Marshall Foster, President  
Mayflower Institute

Mr. Herbert Schlossberg  
Author, Researcher

Rev. Gerald Fry, Pastor  
Clavary Community Church

Mr. Shelby Sharp  
Attorney at Law

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Mr. Bill Garaway, President Business with a Purpose	Dr. Jack Van Impe, Ph. D., President Jack Van Impe Ministries
Mr. Mark Siljander Former Member of Congress	Dr. Dick Hillis, D. D. Pres. Emeritus Overseas Crusades
Dr. Arthur Gay, D. Min., Pastor South Park Church	Dr. Peter Wagner, Professor School of World Missions, Fuller Seminary
Dr. Robert Simonds, Th. D., President National Assoc. of Christian Educ.	Dr. Steven Hotze Physician
Mr. Peter Gemma, Executive Director National ProLife Political Action Co.	Dr. Larry Walker, Ph. D., Professor Old Testament, Mid-America Baptist Seminary
Rev. Charles Simpson, Pastor Gulf Coast Covenant Church	Dr. David Howard, L. H. D., Gen. Director World Evangelical Fellowship
Dr. Duane Gish, Ph. D., Vice President Institute for Creation Research	Dr. Robert Walker, President Christian Life Magazine
Mr. John Sparks, J. D., Professor Law and Economics, Grove City Coll.	Rev. Dick Iverson, President Portland Bible College
Mr. Jose Gonzales, President Semilla, Inc.	Mr. Russ Walton, President Plymouth Rock Foundation
Mrs. Carolyn Sundseth, Former Assoc. Director White House Office of Public Liaison	Dr. Ron Jenson, D. Min., President International Leadership
Dr. Charles Green, President Network of Christian Ministries	Mr. Bob Weiner, President Maranatha Campus Ministries
Mr. Bob Thoburn, Pastor, Founder Fairfax Christian School	Mrs. Dee Jepsen, Chairman Board of Regents, CBN University
Rev. Dan Greenlee, Pastor Calvary Cathedral	Dr. Luder Whitlock, President Reformed Theological Seminary
Mr. Lary Tomczak, Editor The People of Destiny Magazine	Col. Glen Jones, National Director Military Ministry, Campus Crusade
Col. Robert Grete, Principal Rocky Bayou Christian School	Rev. Al Whittinghill, Evangelist Ambassadors for Christ
Dr. Paul Toms, D. D., Pastor Park Street Church	Mr. Roy Jones, Coalitions Director Republican Senatorial Committee
Dr. Jay Grimstead, D. Min., Found. Dir. Coalition on Revival	Rev. Donald Wildmon, President American Family Association
Dr. Joseph Tson, D. D., President Romanian Missionary Society	Rev. Raymond P. Joseph, Pastor Southfield Presbyterian Church
Rev. Ronald Haus, President 1st Century Broadcasting	Rev. Jerry Wiles, Exec. Vice President Bible Pathway Ministries
Brother Andrew van der Bijl, Founder Open Doors	Dr. D. James Kennedy, Ph. D., Pastor Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church
Dr. Lewis Hicks Physician	Rev. Mike Williams, Pastor Hillside Church

Joseph Kickasola, Professor  
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Dr. Ralph Winter, Ph. D., General Director  
U. S. Center for World Missions

Dr. Paul Kienel, Ed. D., Pastor  
Association of Christian Schools Intl.

Dr. Don Zoller, Chairman  
Outreach Ministries, McLean Bible Church

Dr. David Kiteley, Pastor  
Shiloh Christian Fellowship

*Note: Among these Christian leaders are some who have since passed on or changed their status.  
Their current status can be obtained by calling or writing COR.*