

# PROCLAMATION

## Declaring 2019 as the “Year of the Bible”

### I. Whereas, the Bible has played an integral part in American history.....

- ❖ With the war with Britain cutting off the supply of Bibles to the United States, Congress instructed its Committee of Commerce on September 11, 1777, to import 20,000 Bibles into the country from "Scotland, Holland, or elsewhere."

*(Posted on December 18, 2018, <https://wallbuilders.com/aitken-bible-congress/> )*

- ❖ During World War I, thousands of American soldiers heading to France and Belgium in 1917 were given pocket Bibles with the forward written by President Woodrow Wilson declaring: "The Bible is the Word of Life."  
*("There's A Reason Why Soldiers Receive a Bible," by William Federer, WorldNet Daily, October 3, 2018, <https://www.wnd.com/2018/10/theres-a-reason-soldiers-receive-bibles/#4RRsryJahbSPFpRI>)*

- ❖ A group of contemporary political scientists embarked on an ambitious ten-year project during the 1970's to analyze 15,000 political writings from the Founding Era to determine the origin of the ideas behind the Constitution and Declaration of Independence. Isolating 3,154 quotations from the writings, the study listed the Bible as the original source and primary influence, accounting for 34 % of the direct quotations.

*(Donald S. Lutz "The Origins of American Constitutionalism" (Baton Rouge Louisiana State University Press,) 1988  
David Barton "Original Intent: The Courts, the Constitution, & Religion," pp.219-220, Wallbuilders Press 2008)*

### II. Whereas, national leaders have historically promoted the study of the Bible.....

- ❖ The 97th Congress passed Senate Joint Resolution 165 on October 4, 1982, authorizing then-President Ronald Reagan to declare 1983 as "The Year of the Bible." The resolution begins by saying, "Whereas the Bible, the Word of God, has made a unique contribution in shaping the United States as a distinctive and blessed nation and people," and goes on to declare "that renewing our knowledge of and faith in God through Holy Scripture can strengthen us as a nation and a people." Moreover, on February 3, 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed Proclamation 5018 declaring 1983 the Year of the Bible saying, "I encourage all citizens, each in his or her own way, to reexamine and rediscover its priceless and timeless message."

*(Posted on December 18, 2018, <https://www.wnd.com/2018/10/theres-a-reason-soldiers-receive-bibles/> )*

- ❖ President Franklin Roosevelt agreed on the week of December 7, 1941 to host celebratory meetings at the White House to commemorate "National Bible Week." Due to the attack at Pearl Harbor, the Bible was read on national radio.

*(Posted on December 18, 2018, <https://nationalbible.org/about/history/?from=3> )*

- ❖ President George H.W. Bush signed Joint Resolution 164 on February 22, 1990, declaring 1990 as the "International Year of Bible Reading," stating: "When you have read the Bible you will know that it is the Word of God."

*(Posted on December 18, 2018, <https://www.wnd.com/2018/10/theres-a-reason-soldiers-receive-bibles/> )*

- ❖ Governors of 36 states approve 1920 as "Year of the Bible" with Ohio Governor J. M. Cox saying: "There should be a Bible in every home available to the hand of every man, woman and child. There can be no greater agency for good."

*("Bible year plan favored," New York Times, April 4, 1920, (Posted on December 18, 2018, <https://www.nytimes.com/1920/04/04/archives/bible-year-plan-favored-thirtysix-governors-mayors-and-others.html> )*

### III. Whereas, the accuracy of the Bible has been verified by archaeological evidence and validated thru fulfilled prophecy.....

- ❖ The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls at Qumran in 1949 had significant effects in corroborating evidence for the Scriptures. The ancient texts, found hidden in pots in cliff-top caves by a monastic religious community, confirm

the reliability of the Old Testament text. These texts, which were copied and studied by the Essenes, include one complete Old Testament book (Isaiah) and thousands of fragments, representing every Old Testament book except Esther.

(Posted on December 18, 2018, <http://www.evidencebible.com/witnessingtool/deadseascrolls.shtml> )

- ❖ The Tel Dan inscription, discovered in a Northern Israel excavation in 1993, includes Aramaic writing on a ninth-century B.C. stone slab furnishing the first historical evidence of King David from the Bible.  
(Posted on December 18, 2018, <https://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/biblical-artifacts/artifacts-and-the-bible/the-tel-dan-inscription-the-first-historical-evidence-of-the-king-david-bible-story/> )
- ❖ A team of archaeologists discovered a tomb in 1968 north of Jerusalem in Givat Hamivtar containing the remains of a crucified man dated to the first century AD. The discovery confirmed the method of crucifixion.  
(Posted on December 18, 2018, <https://biblicalarchaeologygraves.blogspot.com/2014/12/bonus-83-givat-hamivtar-heel-bone.html> )
- ❖ The Old Testament of the Bible, completed 450 years before the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, contains over 300 prophecies that Jesus fulfilled through His life, death and resurrection. The odds of 1 person fulfilling just 8 prophecies are a staggering 1 chance in 10 to the 17th power. If 10<sup>17</sup> silver dollars were laid on the face of Texas, the coins would cover all of Texas two-feet deep. If one of those silver dollars was marked and the whole mass of coins covering Texas stirred thoroughly, one man fulfilling eight prophecies would be the same probability as one blindfolded man picking the marked silver dollar from the mass of coins covering Texas. This means that the fulfillment of these eight prophecies alone illustrates the supernatural qualities of the Bible.  
(Posted on December 18, 2018, [http://sciencespeaks.dstoner.net/Christ\\_of\\_Prophecy.html#c9](http://sciencespeaks.dstoner.net/Christ_of_Prophecy.html#c9) )

#### **IV. Whereas, science is just now confirming truths in nature that the Bible has already disclosed thousands of years prior....**

- ❖ According to a 2018 study surveying the genetic 'bar codes' of five million animals from more than 100,000 animal species, all humans may be descended from just TWO people and a catastrophic event may have wiped out ALL species. The scientists heading the study: Mark Stoeckle and David Thaler, concluded that ninety percent of all animal species alive today come from parents that all began giving birth at roughly the same time. 'This conclusion is very surprising,' Thaler admitted, 'and I fought against it as hard as I could.' In short, this study confirms the Genesis account of Adam and Eve, of animals being created the same week as humans, and the existence of a world-wide flood.  
(Posted on December 18, 2018, [https://www.afa.net/the-stand/faith/2018/11/adam-and-eve-genetic-science-confirms-bibleagain/?fbclid=IwAR3LMSPiVmFIlrHpTl4fAD0FSp7IJvVbJf9qeoc\\_d8ldzqUPT](https://www.afa.net/the-stand/faith/2018/11/adam-and-eve-genetic-science-confirms-bibleagain/?fbclid=IwAR3LMSPiVmFIlrHpTl4fAD0FSp7IJvVbJf9qeoc_d8ldzqUPT) )
- ❖ The Bible, written over 2,000 years ago is devoid of scientific error. A few examples of scientific truths written in the Scriptures long before they were "discovered" by scientists: the shape of the earth is mentioned in Isaiah 40:22. Gravity can be found in Job 26:7. Ecclesiastes 1:6 mentions atmospheric circulation. A reference to ocean currents can be found in Psalm 8:8, and the hydraulic cycle is described in Ecclesiastes 1:7 and Isaiah 55:10. The second law of thermodynamics is outlined in Psalm 102:25-27 and Romans 8:21.  
(Posted on December 18, 2018, <https://thedailyhatch.org/2013/08/26/peter-stoner-and-biblical-prophecy/> )

**Therefore, as leading clergymen of 150 congregations across North Central Ohio, we formally reaffirm the Bible as being living, active and GOD-breathed; and demonstrating thru history to be the anvil that has worn many hammers out. Consequently, since Bible illiteracy is plaguing our politically-correct society, since the Bible is being censored by governments and cultural institutions, and since the authority of both the Old and New Testament Scriptures of the Bible are being subverted by some religious circles, we do proclaim 2019 as the "Year of the Bible." Furthermore, we encourage all Ohioans to examine the Bible and to rediscover its priceless and timeless message. In conclusion, we maintain that the following words still resonate in our day:  
The grass may wither and the flowers may fall, but the Word of our GOD endures forever.**

**The following leading clergymen representing (150) congregations from North Central Ohio have formally endorsed this proclamation declaring 2019 as the “Year of the Bible” given on January 15, 2019 at the BibleWalk Museum:**

Rev. Anthony Cooper, Shelby Life Church	Rev. Robert Obrien, Apostolic Faith Assembly
Rev. Jerry Obrien, Faith Harvest Fellowship	Rev. Les Farley, My Father’s House
Rev. Russell Stanford, All GOD’s Believers	Rev. Randy Raynes, Mansfield Fellowship Baptist
Rev. Keith Carlisle, Ontario First Wesleyan	Rev. William Henderson, Bellville First Baptist
Rev. Ron Smalls, Woodville Grace Brethren	Rev. Larry Hulver, New Liberty Baptist
Rev. Les Vnasdale, Cornerstone Grace Brethren	Rev. Walter Keib, Shelby First Baptist
Rev. James Streib, Lexington Fusion Branch	Rev. Chris Thomas, Diamond Hills Baptist
Rev. Chad Hayes, Caeserea Baptist	Rev. John Bouquet, Savannah Bethel Baptist
Rev. James Spencer, People’s Baptist	Rev. Dallas Waggle, Lucas Foursquare Gospel
Rev. Aaron Rose, Lexington Fusion Church	Rev. Mike Stine, Clear Fork Alliance
Rev. Doug Tackett, Taylortown Community	Rev. Paul Lintern, Oakland Lutheran
Rev. Paul Lintern, Southside Christian	Rev. Ron Puff, Pleasant Valley Baptist
Rev. Patrick Bailey, North Bend Brethren	Rabbi William Hallbrook, Sar Shalom Center
Rev. Jerry Laudermilk, Ontario Abundant Life	Rev. Steve Schag, Shelby Calvary Baptist
Rev. Rick Lewis, Shelby Church of GOD	Rev. Eric Byrom, Mansfield Grace Fellowship
Rev. Mark Dettmer, Pleasant Grove Community	Rev. Glenn Phillips, Hillside First Church of GOD
Rev. William Crank, Cornerstone Freewill Baptist	Rev. David Bates, Unity Freewill Baptist
Rev. Bruce Philippi, Journey Life Center	Rev. Don Wilson, Mansfield Faith Assembly
Rev. Phil Green, Real Life Community	Rev. Ferlie Yates, Hanna Road Church of GOD
Rev. Ben Gregg, Plymouth Church of GOD	Rev. Hank Webb, Belmont Community Church
Rev. Mark Bailey, Mansfield Freewill Baptist	Rev. DeWayne Smith, Main Street United Methodist
Rev. J.C. Church, Bucyrus Victory in Truth	Rev. Bill Howell, Shiloh Messiah House of Prayer
Rev. Floyd Allen, Philippian Community Church	Rev. Mark Meyer, Lexington Grace Point Sanctuary
Rev. Daniel Baer, Mansfield Gospel Assembly	Rev. Matt Pond, Shelby First Freewill Baptist
Rev. Bill Lewis, Butler River of Life	Rev. Brian Phillips, New Beginnings Freewill Baptist
Rev. Art Kennard, Maranatha Christian Center	Rev. Darrin Thurber, Mansfield Seventh Day Adventist
Rev. James Hill, Paradise View Freewill Baptist	Rev. David Guild, Mansfield Foursquare Gospel
Rev. Bruce Copley, Faith Chapel	Rev. Walt Jordan, Oaisis of Love Church
Rev. Mike Rose, Hope on the Hill Chapel	Rev. James Marshall, Ganges Community Church
Rev. Larry Hill, Bethel Freewill Baptist	Rev. Steve Brenneman, Awakening Christian Center
Rev. Steve Burkhalter, Potter’s House Mansfield	Rev. George Lewis, Shelby Temple of GOD
Rev. Ted Howard, Apostolic Holiness	Rev. Joe Maggelet, Ashland Fellowship Christian Athletes
Rev. Aaron Williams, Maddox Memorial COGIC	Rev. Mark Abel, Southview Grace Brethren
Rev. Steve Baldrige, Rome Community Church	Rev. Howdie Burnette, Perrysville Baptist
Rev. Jody Odom, Ambassadors for Christ	Rev. Dink Porter, First Church of the Open Bible
Rev. Paul Mathewson, Maranatha Bible Baptist	Rev. Mike Wilson, Lincoln Heights Baptist
Rev. George Swain, Homerville Grace Brethren	Rev. David Green, Mansfield Sovereign Baptist
Rev. John Campos, Bowman St. Church of GOD	Rev. Kevin Evans, Ganges Liberty Baptist
Rev. Joe Smith, Westside Baptist	Rev. David Ferrell, Mansfield Holiness Chapel
Rev. Clarence Sanderfer, New Life Baptist	Rev. Rich Hurles, Plymouth Lifepoint Community
Rev. John Temple, Trinity Community Church	Rev. Troy Wooten, Christian Life Center
Rev. Ron Kosa, Living Word Church	Rev. Caesar Coney, Mansfield Christ Temple
Rev. Mark Wireman, Shiloh Pentecostal	Rev. Bryan Schatzinger, Calvary Chapel

**Rabbi Robert Bauer, Beit El Elyon**  
**Rev. Clinton Hearn, Mt. Hermon Missionary**  
**Rev. Ronnie Conn, Elm St. Freewill Baptist**  
**Rev. Keith Tyson, Ashland Brethren in Christ**  
**Rev. Merle Stewart, Bethesda Fellowship**  
**Rev. Steve Kistler, New Life Church of Christ**  
**Rev. Robert Kurtz, Mansfield Baptist Temple**  
**Rev. Thomas Gruver, Woodlawn United Methodist**  
**Rev. Tim Davis, Newville Baptist**  
**Rev. Rob Ratcliff, North Woodbury Freewill**  
**Rev. Steve Dennis, St Paul Evangelical Lutheran**  
**Rev. Mike Corwin, Bucyrus United Methodist**  
**Bishop Eli Miller, Amish Perry District 2**  
**Rev. Paul Tracy Sr., Ashland Lighthouse Pentecostal**  
**Rev. Louis Blevins, Latter Rain COGIC**  
**Rev. Joe Beran, Berlin United Methodist**  
**Rev. David Mahon, Galion Apostolic Assembly**  
**Rev. John Grimm, Plymouth United Methodist**  
**Rev. Rich Rader, Mayflower Congregational**  
**Rev. Randy Clour, Impact Worship Center**  
**Rev. Gary Grant, Crestline Church of GOD Prophecy**  
**Rev. Dan Zediker, Mission Point Mansfield**  
**Rev. Joe Stafford, Galion Wesley Chapel**  
**Rev. Rick Wiseman, Promised Land Fellowship**  
**Rev. Steven Hodges, Galion Gospel Baptist**  
**Rev. Ben Roby, Ashland Heritage Baptist**  
**Rev. Paul Larsen, Mansfield First English Lutheran**  
**Rev. Jack Sharp, Savannah Presbyterian**  
**Rev. Glenn Hamilton, Lexington Church of the Cross**  
**Rev. Garland Harvey, Shelby First United Methodist**  
**Rev. Matthew Parsons, The Way Church**  
**Rev. Matthew Smith, Love Action Church**

**Rev. David Parsons, Zion's Refuge Baptist**  
**Rev. Richard Diamond, Diamond Hill Cathedral**  
**Rev. Henry Bradley, New Community Temple COGIC**  
**Rev. Todd Grover, Maranatha Baptist**  
**Rev. Jim Randas, Lexington Presbyterian**  
**Rev. Mark Cobb, Mansfield Providence Baptist**  
**Rev. Jason Price, Victory Baptist**  
**Rev. Sylvester Ginn, Hesed Agape Fellowship**  
**Rev. Clyde Kerby, Ministries of Hope & Healing**  
**Rev. T.J. Waters, Lexington Church of Christ**  
**Rev. Dean Jackson, McElroy Rd. Church of Christ**  
**Bishop Andy Keim, Amish Perry District 1**  
**Bishop Owen Detweiler, Amish Batemantown District**  
**Rev. Denny Finnegan, First Evangelical Presbyterian**  
**Rev. Joe Beran, Batemantown United Methodist**  
**Rev. John Hall, Ashland Grace Church**  
**Rev. John Grimm, Shiloh United Methodist**  
**Revs. Justin and Christy Robison, First Church of the Nazarene**  
**Elder Mark Hamilton, Providence Church Mifflin**  
**Rev. Rodney Noblit, Galion Heritage Baptist**  
**Rev. Aaron Boggs, Fredericktown Freewill Baptist**  
**Rev. Bill Fox, Crestline Faith Community Church**  
**Rev. Rick Maddox, Galion Alliance Church**  
**Rev. Les Champer, Shelby Church of the Nazarene**  
**Rev. Darryle Moody, Cardington Church of the Nazarene**  
**Rev. Tommy Theisen, Cross Connect Church**  
**Rev. Randy Miller, Bethel Ashland**  
**Rev. John Dodds, Ridgeway Church of GOD**  
**Rev. William Jordan, Faith Temple Church of GOD in Christ**  
**Rev. Garland Harvey, Tiro United Methodist**  
**Elder Alan Dick, Shelby First Church of GOD**  
**Rev. Stephan Bloomfield, Mt. Gilead First Baptist**