

THE LORD'S CHURCH IS UNIQUE IN THAT IT...

1. Was planned and purposed before time began Ephesians 3:8-11
2. Was built by and upon Jesus Christ, God's Son Matthew 16:16-18
3. Was purchased with the shed blood of Christ Acts 20:28
4. Has Jesus Christ as its Savior and Head Ephesians 5:23
5. Has no creed but the New Testament Acts 2:36
6. Has no rule of faith or discipline except Christ's word John 14:20-23
7. Has no earthly headquarters Ephesians 1:21-23
8. Is composed of all the saved Acts 2:47
9. Is sanctified and cleansed by Jesus Christ Ephesians 5:26
10. Works and worships in the name of Jesus Christ Acts 4:12
11. Urges the unity of all believers in Jesus Christ Ephesians 4:1-6
12. Will be gloriously presented unto Jesus Christ Ephesians 5:27

REQUIRES NO MORE FOR MEMBERSHIP THAN IS NECESSARY TO BE SAVED

1. Hear the word of God (Acts 15:7).
2. Believe in Jesus Christ (Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16).
3. Repent of sins (Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 17:30).
4. Confess Christ before men (Matthew 10:32).
5. Be baptized into Christ (Romans 6:3-4; Galatians 3:27).

All Spiritual Blessings Are Found in Christ! (Ephesians 1:3)

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Faithful Sayings

Olsen Park Church of Christ

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Services

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.
10:20 a.m.
6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Elders:

Ken Ford
Charles Kelley
Pat Ledbetter

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Pat Goguen
Neil Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Fred Perez
Rusty Scott

Evangelist:

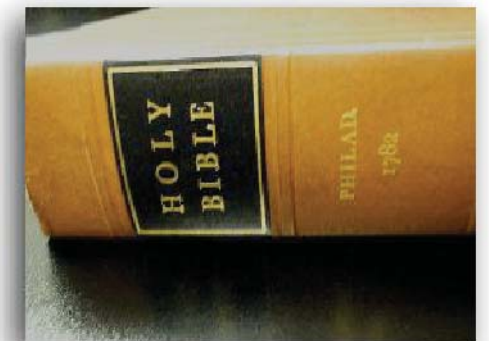
Kyle Pope

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The Bible of the Revolution

In 1782, six years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence the war wearied colonists who had been illegal to print English bibles without royal authority in order to protect the accuracy of the sacred text. Yet when the war began and commerce with England was impeded, shipments of Bibles were stopped. This left the deeply religious patriots, who in the Declaration itself had affirmed

banned together to form a sovereign nation found themselves in the midst of a spiritual crisis. Before the war had begun colonists could easily obtain English bibles through the Oxford and Cambridge University presses which were under the authority of the British crown. In the years before the war it had



their "...Reliance on the protection of Divine Providence," lacking the very source of their spiritual foundation.

The first step taken to remedy this problem involved the newly formed Continental Congress. In July of 1777 three Philadelphia preachers placed a petition before the body bringing the matter to their attention. The petition stated "...The holy scriptures contained in the old and new Testaments are growing so scarce and dear, that we greatly fear that unless timely care be used to prevent it, we shall not have bibles for our schools and families, and for the publick worship of God in our churches." In response the congress first tried to import Bibles from Holland and Scotland. This proved problematic during wartime. The final solution came in 1782 when the congress promoted the first complete printing of the English Bible on American soil. It was produced by Philadelphia printer Robert Aiken, and has been known ever since that time as "The Bible of the Revolution."

One cannot look back on events such as this and not be touched by the

unique spirit which drove the men and women of the early days of America's history. While I would certainly differ with the Calvinistic teachings (on the one extreme) and Unitarian views (on the other extreme) of these "Founding Fathers," at the same time I respect their love for God's word. A casual study of literature from this period shows the stark contrast between the people of that time compared to our own age. The early Americans focused their spirits on the content of Scripture. Its principles permeated their language and their treatment of others. America's sixth president, John Quincy Adams illustrates this in claiming—"The first and almost the only Book deserving of universal attention is the Bible."

Such a spirit is sorely needed by men and women in our day. The Bible is not some "outdated relic of antiquity," it is as relevant to man now as it has ever been! In Scripture we have the mind of God revealed to man giving to us the "words" that will judge us in the Last Day (John 12:48). I ask any who may have questioned the Bible's importance in your life, give it a second chance! Remember - **"The**

word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12 NKJV).

By Kyle Pope

The title page of the Bible printed by Robert Aiken in 1782. It was the first Bible printed on American soil and recommended to the people by the newly founded Congress of United States government. The so-called "Bible of the Revolution" was actually printed near the end of the war. Its text was basically that of the King James Version. It contained the Old & New Testament and excluded the Apocrypha. Ten thousand copies were printed, but only about fifty are known to exist in libraries and private collections.

