

7-2-2025 – Declaration of Dependence

July 4th – Independence Day. Celebrate freedom. Next year, 250 yrs.

1776. June 7 – Lee resolution. Thomas Jefferson wrote most of **D of I**.

(Benjamin Franklin & John Adams made edits).

--- **July 2** - Congress voted to declare independence/ Lee resolution adopted.

- John Adams thought this decision to sever ties with Great Britain would be the date celebrated.

- - Over next 2 days, Congress made revisions... **D of I** was adopted **July 4th**.

-- Both Adams & Jefferson died on July 4, 1826. (50 yrs)

D of I had 3 intended audiences: the king, the colonists, the world.

Had **3 purposes**: to rally the troops – win foreign allies – announce the creation of a new country. . . “to declare the causes which impel them to the separation.” This was to defy the most powerful nation on Earth.

Preamble: “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.”

Then listed 27 grievances against King George III & Parliament. Ended:

“That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States.”

Throughout July, all 13 colonies gave their approval of the D of I.

- **August 2** – Continental Congress signed the **D of I**. John Hancock, Pres of the Congress signed it first. 56 Delegates signed it.
- This holiday celebrates declaring a break w/ Britain & its King and claiming independence.

We celebrate national independence . . . But we were not created by God to be independent people.

❖ **John 15:5** - “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; ***apart from me you can do nothing.***”

➤ **We were created to be dependent on God.**

➤ All of **creation** is **dependent on God**. All was created by God, for God.

▪ **Col. 1:16** – “For **in him** all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and **for him.**”

• God created this world for Himself . . . and **He maintains** it.

• He provides all that sustains creation: sun & water – make plants grow – that feeds all creation.

♦ **People** are the **only thing in creation** that seem to think they **aren't dependent on God.** **Don't need anything/anyone.**

We may declare political independence . . . but we can't declare our independence from God.

We need His strength . . .

We need His peace . . .

We need His mercy . . .

We need His grace.

We need His love . . .

We need His forgiveness.

Tonight – declare & renew your declaration of dependence on God.