

believe that this could be done without cost. But did they correctly reckon the cost in human irresponsibility—even to their own project—when men are no longer required or expected to take care of their souls? The measures these men adopted to contain religion by containing the soul seem also to endanger freedom.”

On this occasion I must agree with Pat Robertson. Separation of church and state must be a myth if we are to survive as a nation of people who make good decisions for the benefit of our whole society. Keeping God in the Pledge of Allegiance, the Ten Commandments posted on court house walls, and the nation’s flag in our churches are easier alternatives with a more certain outcome than not realizing our responsibility to drive our nation in God’s light as the key

to happiness and success. It makes little sense to separate one from the other.

While I can agree with the intent of Jefferson’s arguments on separation of church and state, our present day reality begs a different solution than what has evolved. Jefferson assumed a responsible constituency that now seems to be lacking in many of our institutions. Most enlightened citizens know the pitfall of this word “assume.”

In closing let’s revisit Jefferson’s remark as quoted. “If a people in a Constitutional democracy think that they can be ... ignorant and free, they imagine a thing that has never been and will never be.” Please insert the word “Godless” between ignorant and free.”

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Who broke the covenant? Over thirty years ago my wife and I joined the Moravian Church by signing the *Brotherly Agreement*, now the *Covenant for Christian Living* (CCL). We covenanted together with the Northern Province of the Moravian Church to believe and live that covenant. We have faithfully done that for thirty-one years. However, recent events, including the spring issue of *The Hinge*, make it evident that the Moravian Church has broken its covenant with us.

The CCL has two clear doctrinal statements, which we were told were Moravian “essentials.” The essentials regarding the exclusivity of Christ and scripture come directly from *The Ground of the Unity* and the Unity Synod. We would not have joined the Moravian Church

without such doctrinal statements as a minimum. Now we have seminary professors, bishops, pastors, and lay people saying that Christ is not the only path to God and the inspired Word of God is not the only source of truth on matters of faith and doctrine. Who broke the covenant? We now have numerous pastors arguing for the ordination of practicing homosexuals though the scripture is clear the practice of homosexuality is a sin. To support homosexuality scripture must be undermined. Who broke the covenant? And why?

One thing the writers of *The Hinge* agreed upon was the Moravians no longer agree on what they believe. How sad! John Scepanski says there are no essentials in the Moravian Church. He repeals the CCL. But on whose authority? How did the church get into such a mess?

My years in the church tell me it started at the seminary where professors were allowed to teach doctrine contrary to *The Ground of the Unity* without consequence. Their liberal modernist theology now infects the Northern Province. Hampton Morgan's piece in *The Hinge* is exactly right. The only way with integrity to change Moravian doctrine is do it through proper church protocol and to revise *The Ground of the Unity* at a Unity Synod. For pastors, professors and lay people to assume they have the right to preach contrary doctrine without such a change takes a colossal ego and the violation of the CCL.

I see little hope that the Moravian Church has the moral courage to turn things around and resist the pull of a secular society. Homosexuality, abortion, divorce, adultery, etc. are all now accepted in the names of those politically correct concepts of tolerance, compassion, diversity, inclusion, and non-judgmentalism. Zinzendorf must be turning over in his grave.

My wife and I are leaving the Moravian Church and will join an evangelical church that is clear in its doctrine regarding Christ and scripture. While technically we are leaving the Moravian Church, in reality the Moravian Church violated its covenant with us and left us some time ago. Maranatha!

L. James Harvey, Ph.D.

Editor's Note: It is with regret that we publish this letter of separation and we wish Brother and Sister Harvey blessings for the future.
