

WESLEY'S COVENANT SERVICE

Commit yourselves to Christ as His servants. Give yourselves to Him, that you may belong to Him. Christ has many services to be done. Some are easier and more honorable; others are more difficult and disgraceful. Some are suitable for our inclinations and interests; others are contrary to both. In some, we may please Christ and please ourselves. But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. It is necessary, therefore, that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ.

Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

I am not my own self-made, self-reliant human being. In truth, O God, I am Yours. Make me into what You will. Make me a neighbor with those whom You will. Guide me on the easy path for You. Guide me on the rocky road for You. Whether I am to step up for You or step aside for You; Whether I am to be lifted high for You or brought low for You; Whether I become full or empty, with all things or with nothing; I give all that I have and all that I am for You. So be it. And may I always remember that You, O God, and I belong to each other. Amen. (Rev. Jeremy Smith)

COVENANT PRAYER

P: O righteous God, for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, see me as I bow my head before You. Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done Your will, for You have promised mercy to me if I turn to You with my whole heart.

L: God requires that you put away all your idols.

P: I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all, covenanting with You that no known sin shall be allowed in my life. Against Your will, I have turned my love toward the world. In Your power, I will watch for all temptations that will lead me away from You. For my own righteousness is riddled with sin, unable to stand before You.

L: Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again if you would let Him.

P: Before all heaven and earth, I here acknowledge You as my Lord and God. I take You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion, and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as Your servant, to serve You in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.

L: God has given the Lord Jesus Christ as the only way and means of coming to God.

P: Jesus, I do here with humbled countenance accept Christ as the only new and living Way and sincerely join myself in a covenant with Him. O blessed Jesus, I come to You, hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked, unworthy even to wash the feet of Your servants. I do here, with all my power, accept You as my Lord and Head. I renounce my own worthiness and vow that You are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom and take You for my only guide. I renounce my own will and take Your will as my law.

L: Christ has told you that you must suffer with Him.

P: I do here covenant with You, O Christ, to take my lot with You as it may fall. Through Your grace, I promise that neither life nor death shall part me from You.

L: God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

P: I do here willingly put my neck under Your yoke, to carry Your burden.

All Your laws are holy, just, and good. I therefore take them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions, promising that I will strive to order my whole life according to Your direction, and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.

L: The almighty God searches and knows your heart.

P: O God, You know that I make this covenant with You today without guile or reservation. If any falsehood should be in it, guide me and help me to set it aright. And now, glory be to You, O God the Father, whom I from this day forward shall look upon as my God and Father. Glory be to You, O God the Son, who have loved me and washed me from my sins in Your own blood, and now is my Savior and Redeemer. Glory be to You, O God the Holy Spirit, who by Your almighty power have turned my heart from sin to God. O mighty God, the Lord Omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, You have now become my Covenant Friend. And I, through Your infinite grace, have become Your covenant servant. So be it. And let the covenant I have made on earth be ratified in heaven. Amen.

You are advised to make this covenant not only in your heart, but in word; not only in word, but in writing. Therefore, with all reverence, lay the service before the Lord as your act and deed. And when you have done this, sign it. Then keep it as a reminder of the holy agreement between God and you that you may remember it during doubts and temptations.