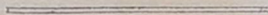


4742

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

ORIGINAL HAWAIIAN CHURCH.



JEHOVAH, who made the earth and created man upon it, was pleased, immediately upon the fall, to give intimation of his redeeming mercy. When the nations departed from Him, and devoted themselves to other gods, he established his Covenant with Abraham, to be a God to him, and to his seed forever; and to bless in them all the families of the earth. In the fulness of the time, he sent his Son into the world, to perform the mercy promised unto the Fathers; to give light to them that sit in darkness; to purify unto himself a peculiar people, redeemed by his blood out of all nations; and to fill the world with the glory of his Salvation.

Adoring this infinite grace, hoping for a part in the blessings of this wonderful redemption, and desiring to do what we can to promote this great design; we, whose names are here sacredly given in, feel it to be our duty, and esteem it the highest privilege, to subscribe ourselves unto the Lord, and to take upon us the vows of his everlasting Covenant: And thus to constitute a church, which, though originally formed in America and composed partly of home-born members of American churches and partly of natives of the Sandwich Islands, fellow-heirs and of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ by the gospel,—is designed for establishment, by the will of God, in the Islands here named, for a light and a blessing to the dwellers in them, of the present and all succeeding generations.

To this important end, we make in the presence of God, and before the world, a solemn declaration of our faith.

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We believe in JEHOVAH: that he exists without beginning, without end, and without change; that though he is not to be seen with mortal eyes, yet he is every where present and sees all things: that in power and wisdom and goodness,—in all perfections and excellencies, he is infinite: that he made the earth, and the heavens, men and angels, all worlds and all that is in them: that he upholds and governs all, according to his own pleasure: that he alone is God, and that all beside him that are called gods, are vanity and the work of errors.

We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments; that they are the Word of God, and the sure, and perfect, and only rule of holy faith and practice.

We believe that man was originally created in the image of God, pure and happy; that he fell by transgression; and that consequently all mankind of every generation are naturally in a state of corruption, guilt, and death.

We believe that God, in his sovereign mercy gave early promise of a Saviour, and according to his promise, has sent his Son into the world, made of a woman, and in the likeness of man.

We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ: that he is the Son of God; that he died upon the cross as a propitiation for our sins, and for the sins of the whole world; that there is full redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins, and justification unto life eternal, to all who believe in his Name; that there is none other Name given under heaven among men whereby we must or can be saved; that he is King of Zion, has all power in heaven and earth; and will judge the quick and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God; that it is by him that men are convinced of sin, renewed after the image of God unto righteousness and true holiness, and fitted to dwell forever in heaven.

We believe that, in all ages, Jehovah has had a Church in the world, in which he has graciously dwelt, and which he designs to establish in all nations, and to make an eternal excellency; and that it is his will, that all who are made partakers of the grace of the Gospel should publicly and solemnly join themselves to his church, and walk before him in all his statutes and ordinances with a perfect heart.

We believe in the resurrection of the body; in the judgement of the great day; and in the everlasting happiness of the righteous and the everlasting punishment of the wicked.

And now in conformity with these sacred and momentous truths, and in the presence of angels and of men, we make a solemn dedication of ourselves, and of our all:—avouching this day the Lord Jehovah, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, to be our God, our Father, our Saviour, and our Sanctifier; and humbly giving up ourselves to Him, our chosen Portion to be his, and only his, forever. We acknowledge our everlasting and indispensable obligations to glorify our God, in all the duties of a holy life, according to his word.—Depending, therefore, on his all sufficient grace, we engage, to walk together in a church state, in the faith and order of the gospel; conscientiously attending the worship of God in all its parts, in secret, in family, and in public,—upon the sacraments of the New Testament, Baptism and the Lord's Supper,—upon the discipline of his kingdom, and upon all his holy institutions.—Affectionately giving up ourselves to one another in the Lord, we solemnly covenant faithfully to watch over each other, to seek each others good, and to aid each other in designs and endeavours, for the good of others and for the glory of Christ.

All this we do, under a deep conviction of our unworthiness, and with humble reliance on the blood of the everlasting covenant for the pardon of our many errors; and fervently commending ourselves to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to keep us from falling, to build us up and to give us an inheritance among all them that are sanctified.—Amen.

Oct. 15, 1819.

HIRAM BINGHAM,
 SYBIL BINGHAM,
 ASA THURSTON,
 LUCY G. THURSTON,
 DANIEL CHAMBERLAIN,
 JERUSA CHAMBERLAIN,
 THOMAS HOLMAN,
 LUCIA HOLMAN,
 SAMUEL WHITNEY,
 MERCY WHITNEY,
 SAMUEL RUGGLES,
 NANCY RUGGLES,
 ELISHA LOOMIS,
 MARIA T. LOOMIS,
 THAOMAS HOPU,
 WILLIAM TENOOE,

JOHN HONORE, [Honolii.]
 GEORGE SANDWICH,
 WILLIAM RICHARDS,
 CLARISSA L. RICHARDS,
 CHAS. SAM'L. STEWART,
 ARTEMAS BISHOP,
 ELISABETH BISHOP,
 ABRAHAM BLATCHELY,
 JEMIMA M. BLATCHELY,
 JOSEPH GOODRICH,
 MARTHA B. GOODRICH,
 JAMES ELY,
 LOUISA E. ELY,
 LEVI CHAMBERLAIN,
 WILLIAM KUMMOHOOLAH,
 [Kamahoula.]
 STEPHEN POOPOOHE, [Pupuhi.]
 BETSEY STOCKTON,
 JOHN C. IREPOAH, [Ailipoa.]
 ROBERT WHYHEE, [Haia.]
 LORRIN ANDREWS,
 MARY W. ANDREWS,
 JONATHAN S. GREEN,
 THEODOSIA A. GREEN,
 PETER J. GULICK,
 FANNY T. GULICK,
 EPHRAIM W. CLARK,
 MARY K. CLARK,
 STEPHEN SHEPARD,
 MARGARET C. SHEPARD,
 GERRIT P. JUDD,
 LAURA F. JUDD,
 MARIA OGDEN,
 DELIA STONE,
 MARY WARD,
 MARIA PATTEN,
 GEORGE TYLER, [Kailaa.]
 JOHN E. PHELPS, [Kalaauiana.]
 HENRY TAHEETE, [Kahiki.]
 SAMUEL J. MILLS. [Palu.]