

I Declare

Have you ever had trouble getting a message through to someone? Maybe telephone tag? Maybe fighting through answering machines?

Welcome to the Mental Health Hotline.

- *If you are obsessive-compulsive, please press 1 repeatedly.*
- *If you are co-dependent, please ask someone else to press 2.*
- *If you have multiple personalities, please press 3, 4, and 5.*
- *If you have an eating disorder, press 6. If the line is busy, have a little snack while we place you on hold.*
- *If you are schizophrenic, listen carefully and a little voice will tell you which number to press.*
- *If you are paranoid, we know who you are and what you want. Just stay on the line so we can trace the call.*
- *If you are depressed, it doesn't matter which number you press. No one will answer anyway.*
- *If you are delusional and occasionally hallucinate, please be aware that the thing you are holding on the side of your head is alive and about to bite off your ear.*
- *To register for our anger management class just rip the phone off the wall right now.*

Thank you for calling the mental health phone line.

Worse yet, have you ever just had trouble getting someone to understand exactly what you are saying? (i.e. magazine reporter)

TELL: to communicate, express, notify, inform

Sometimes it takes more than just “telling” – we have to “declare!”

DECLARE: to make known publicly or officially, to state emphatically or authoritatively, to reveal or proclaim one's choice or opinion

DECLARE is from an old Latin word “clarus” meaning “CLEAR”

The ancient Hebrew word “caphar” means “to keep score or keep a record, to recount (i.e. to celebrate).”

Psalm 66:16 Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.

In Scripture, there are some things that CREATION declares, some things that GOD declares, and some things that WE are to declare!

WHAT CREATION DECLARES

God's Glory

Psalm 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

God's Righteousness

Psalm 97:6 The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.

WHAT GOD DECLARES

His Covenant

Deuteronomy 4:13 And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone.

Things That Are Right

Isaiah 45:19 I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain: I the Lord speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.

The End From The Beginning

Isaiah 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

WHAT WE DECLARE

His Glory

1 Chronicles 16:24 Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations.

His Doings

Isaiah 12:4 And in that day shall ye say, Praise the Lord, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted.

His Judgments

Psalm 119:13 With my lips have I declared all the judgments of thy mouth.

His Greatness

Psalm 145:6 And men shall speak of the might of thy terrible acts: and I will declare thy greatness.

His Faithfulness

Psalm 40:10 I have not hid thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared thy faithfulness and thy salvation: I have not concealed thy lovingkindness and thy truth from the great congregation.

His Works

Psalm 107:22 And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing.

Psalm 118:17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

Psalm 145:4 One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.

His Name

Romans 9:15-17 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.

The True God

Acts 17:23 For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.

The Gospel

1 Corinthians 15:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Heaven

Hebrews 11:14-16 For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

The Message

1 John 1:5-7 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Here's the bottom line: I can spare you all the gory details of trials, setbacks, problems, etc. When it's all said and done, here's the summary – I DECLARE THAT GOD IS GOOD, SALVATION WORKS, THE DEVIL IS DEFEATED, AND THE CHURCH IS TRIUMPHANT!

Psalm 66:16 Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.