



# Covenant Life

Christian Center

September 15, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

Reaching back into the long history of the American principle of religious deference and respect, we find an unbroken chain of the rule and the sacred consideration of conscientious religious objection; even our great military affords such respect to American Citizens in times of battle. This letter is urgently written on behalf \_\_\_\_\_, a devout Christian and citizen of the United States of America, who believes that the Word of God forbids us to accept certain things and entities into our bodies, as our bodies are the living temple of the Holy Spirit. And as such, to ask us to violate these Commandments of our God would force us to choose between human science, so-called, versus our undying faith in the written commands of God. Our complete reverence and devotion is not to the frailty of human government, but instead to The Almighty God, the God by Whom we were created and to Whom we have given the whole of our lives. We have vowed by our sacred honor to live according to His instructions in the beauty of Holiness. Whereas, when the governments of men do not ask us to violate these deeply held truths, we gladly yield and obey.

Legal precedence proves, in the past, many companies have made the same mistake. While under the pressure of the moment, they gave no serious regard for religious objection, nor the future consequences thereof. They have later wished to undo these ill-advised decisions that violated religious conscience; it never fails, the religious objection is the right of all Americans.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby assert my right to a religious exemption from vaccination. I am a Christian who believes in the Bible, including the teachings in the New Testament. I sincerely believe that all human beings are image bearers of God, and this concept affirms the unique value of all human life. Mindful of the Sixth Commandment "You shall not murder" (Ex. 20:13), I believe that abortion is gravely wrong at every stage. Furthermore, I believe a physical body is given to each of us by our loving Heavenly Father. He created it as a tabernacle for our spirit to assist each of us in our quest to fulfill the full measure of our creation. Specifically, the New Testament teaches that: "Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?" (1 Corinthians 3:16) "If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple" (1 Corinthians 3:17).

The Pfizer and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines in early development of mRNA vaccine technology used fetal cells for "proof of concept" (to demonstrate how a cell could take up mRNA and produce the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein) or to characterize the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein. The non-replicating viral vector vaccine produced by Johnson & Johnson required the use of fetal cell cultures, specifically PER.CG, in order to produce and manufacture the vaccine. This mechanism for altering my God-given body is the equivalent of a prohibited "unclean food" that causes harm

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to my conscience. Covid-19 vaccines, to me, are unclean. I believe in and follow God and the principles laid out in His Word, and I have a deeply held belief that these vaccines violate it.

In Conclusion, while many may muse over ideals of self-sacrifice in service of the common good, it must be remembered that we live in a society governed by the rule of law as enshrined our Constitution, a constitution which guarantees certain fundamental liberties in the Bill of Rights. At the helm of this Bill of Rights, is the First Amendment and the Free Exercise Clause, which guarantees each citizen the security of knowing that “Congress shall make no law . . . prohibiting the free exercise” of his religion. Although, as we have seen, there are limits to this right, this basic liberty forms the bedrock of our national identity and should not be lightly cast aside.

This basic principal of our Constitution holds just as true when a person’s faith precludes him from accepting a vaccination as it does for others who might seek to participate in prayer, to attend church or to take Holy Communion. Although sweeping vaccination mandates were once thought to be beyond the reaches of the Constitution, in light of the development of Free Exercise Clause over the past century, it is time to reconsider this broad power that we unquestioningly believed the states to hold, at least when religious interests are at stake. For better or for worse, it is often a crisis that fuels change. Perhaps, then, the COVID-19 crisis will provide the fertile soil for the Court to firmly establish that which is necessitated by its Free Exercise Clause: a COVID-19 vaccination mandate that fails to accommodate religious objectors would unlawfully value the secular over the religious and would needlessly restrict the free exercise of one’s faith. Hence, it is unconstitutional.

Warmest Regards;