

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my understanding that I must receive one of the approved COVID-19 vaccines in order to maintain my employment. I am requesting a religious exemption from the vaccine, because as a Christian, it is my sincerely held belief, as based on the clear and explicit teaching of God's Inspired Word, the Holy Bible, that taking the COVID-19 vaccine would be a sin, and therefore a violation of my Christian faith and devotion to God. I will explain why.

Jesus Christ, the Author and Finisher of our Faith, has proclaimed His Lordship over all realms, as He has been given all authority in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:18). He is, therefore, above all rulers and authorities, whether kings, queens, presidents, congresses, governors, magistrates, mayors, councils, or even employers. As Jesus is God Almighty (John 1:1, etc), and as the Bible is God's literally breathed out word (2 Timothy 3:16-17), the Bible holds the same authority as Jesus. It is the ultimate written authority on earth, and overrides all other authorities on earth. As a Christian, I am bound by responsibility, obligation, and command to obey all that God commands me in it.

While God, in His infinite wisdom has commanded His people to obey earthly rulers, whom He has put into place (Romans 13); He has also included in His word the qualifier that we must obey earthly rulers only when their rules, laws, mandates, orders, etc., do not conflict with the commands of God. When they do, we are commanded to obey God rather than men (Acts 4:19; 5:29).

Therefore, in light of the ultimate authority of Jesus and the God inspired holy words of Scripture, I assert that as His servant and follower, I have the right and obligation to refuse any mandatory medical procedure, action, medication, or injection, whether these actions are ordered by the highest earthly government authority or any lesser earthly authority, when I am convinced that these medical procedures, actions, medications, or injections could threaten my life, my future health, my future fertility, and my well-being.

After thoroughly researching the various COVID-19 vaccines, I have become convinced that they lack sufficient testing any long-term safety information. It has always taken anywhere from five to ten years of testing before a new vaccination is approved, and the COVID-19 vaccines were authorized in only about eleven months. Two of the vaccines (Moderna and Pfizer) are mRNA vaccines. They are the first vaccines of their kind. There are no previous mRNA vaccine trials and testing to look back on to gauge the long term effectiveness or side effects of such vaccines. We now know they lose effectiveness after only six to eight months and therefore now require numerous booster vaccines to maintain effectiveness. Additionally, we also now know that these vaccines neither prevent nor inhibit the transmission of a COVID-19 infection.

In addition to all of this, these vaccines have, since their roll-out, been linked to deleterious and dangerous side-effects, including long-term life threatening health problems (such as blood clots, myocarditis, pericarditis, and more) and even death. They have also been shown to potentially have serious negative impacts upon pre-existing medical conditions (such as causing ketoacidosis in diabetics).

I am also fully convinced that the mandated COVID-19 vaccination arises not from a genuine public health concern, but from political machinations and activities that are opposed to God's truth and ways, and are therefore to be resisted. I also believe that any attempts to coerce my conscience as demonstrated by certain political and media influencers is an attempt to coerce me into opposing divine truth, and is, therefore, sin.

I fully believe that a Christian can, with a good and clear conscience, submit to valid medical procedures, including receiving tested and proven medications and vaccines, and at the same time give thanks and glory to God who, through the ordering of His creation, has provided the methods and the means for such wondrous medical advancements. However, when these medical procedures, medications, and vaccines are not thoroughly tested and proven, it serves to violate the Christian's conscience to take them.

God's Holy and Inspired Word tells us that all Christians are indwelt with the Lord, the Holy Spirit, and our bodies are His Temple (John 14:17; 1 Corinthians 6:19–20; (Romans 8:15–17). In fact, Scripture also tells us that all Christians are also spiritually indwelt by God the Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:27; 1 John 4:15).

As Christians, indwelt by God, our bodies are His temple. We are no longer under our own authority, for we have been purchased for a great price – the death of Christ on the cross as an atonement for our sin (1 Thessalonians 5:23). Therefore, we are commanded to glorify God in our body (1 Corinthians 6:19-20), and daily present our bodies to Him as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is our spiritual service of worship. (Romans 12:1).

Taking into our bodies any substance that has either been proven will, or has been shown could potentially take our life or irrevocably harm us, would not only not glorify God, but would be disobedient, disrespectful, and otherwise irreverent to God, and therefore would be sin. For a Christian to do what he is convinced in his conscience is wrong, then it is sin (James 4:17).

I fully believe and am convinced by God's Holy and Inspired Word that submitting to a COVID-19 vaccine mandate and receiving said vaccine would be potentially damaging and/or lethal to me, and therefore sinful. Scripture further tells us that the indwelling Holy Spirit is grieved when a believer sins (Ephesians 4:30); and, such willful and deliberate sinning and grieving of the Holy Spirit can call into question the validity of one's own salvation. If the Holy Spirit indicates I should not take the vaccine, and being led by the Holy Spirit is an indication of salvation; then the reverse is also true, and willfully and deliberately disobeying the Holy Spirit is an indication of a lack of salvation (Romans 8:14).

Furthermore, intentionally taking a substance into my body which has been proven to be harmful and even fatal to some, would be a violation of the sixth commandment, "Do not commit murder" (Exodus 2:13; cf. the sanctity of the human body in Matthew 6:22; John 2:21; Romans 1:4, 6:12; 1 Corinthians. 7:34; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Ephesians 5:29; Philippians 1:20; James 3:6; Jude 1:9). Again, taking the vaccine would be, for me, sin. I cannot violate my conscience in this manner, and willfully and deliberately sin against God. God's Holy and Inspired Word tells us that "whatever is not from faith is sin" (Romans 14:23; cf. Romans 14:1-23; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; James 4:17). This means that if a Christian such as myself cannot perform an action with faithful confidence that God would allow it, to so act is to sin and defile one's conscience (1 Corinthians 8:6).

This is not an understanding of Scripture that is unique to me, nor unique to the current situation, but is an understanding held by the Christian Church since the day it was established in the first century. The Westminster Confession of Faith, written in 1646, states this very same understanding of faith and conscience and sin (WCF 20.2), thus showing the Christian Church has long held this position. It is an established religious belief and practice. Therefore, forcing a Christian to violate that established religious belief and practice by forcing an insufficiently tested vaccine, is by definition a violation of my first amendment right to my free exercise of religion; and punishing me in any way for exercising my established religious beliefs is by definition a violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

I urge you in the strongest possible manner to respect my Constitutional rights and my God ordained responsibility to refuse the COVID-19 vaccines, and any other experimental mandatory medical procedures, upon the sound and established religious grounds I have provided in this letter, and in accordance to the principle established in Nebraska Revised Statute 79-221.2, and grant me an exemption from the mandatory COVID-19 vaccine.

Yours Sincerely in Christ,