

STATEMENT OF SINCERE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS OF JOSH JACOB

Introduction

1. I, Josh Jacob, am a first-year undergraduate student at Western University. I have not received any of the COVID vaccines.
2. This statement of my sincere religious beliefs I make for the purposes of requesting human rights accommodation on the basis of religious belief, or “Creed” as it is referred to in the Ontario *Human Rights Code*.
3. I am a Christian; a follower and disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ, and I believe the entirety of the Holy Bible is true.
4. I understand, as part of my request for accommodation, I am obligated to demonstrate I hold sincere religious beliefs that have a nexus with religion (Christianity) and would be interfered with in a manner that is more than trivial or insubstantial. Reproduced herein is the full articulation of my relevant sincere Christian religious beliefs, including references to the Bible, regarding the COVID vaccines.
5. I sincerely hold to Christian religious beliefs that compel me to not receive into my body the COVID vaccines due to the known and unknown contents of the vaccines, the manner in which they were produced, the deception that surrounds them, and the coercion involved in the mandatory imposition of them upon myself and those around me.
6. If I received any of the COVID vaccines, it would be an act of disobedience against the Lord Jesus Christ. It would be sin. A sin which, if I committed, would grieve me deeply and cause me spiritual and moral distress.

Foundational Beliefs of General Application to All of My Life, Including the Issue of the COVID Vaccines and Mandates to Receive Them

7. I steadfastly believe that “all scripture is God-breathed” (II Timothy 3:16-17), and it is through the Scriptures that God communicates His instructions and expectations, which are perfect and true for my life (Psalms 18:30). God desires and values obedience to His

word, stemming from our love for Him, more than any religious ritual or sacrifice (1 Samuel 15:22; Hosea 6:6; Mark 12:32-33). I am duty-bound out of love for my God and King to abide by all the commands in Scripture to the best of my ability. As a Bible-believing follower of Christ, my first loyalty is to Christ and His Word (the Bible), not to any particular Christian leader or their teachings. For this reason, my beliefs are exclusively grounded in scripture, which is the Word of God, and wholly independent of any philosophies, beliefs or doctrines of *any* congregational associations I may have. Thus, for example, it is religiously irrelevant to me that some Christian teachers or leaders, even very important ones such as the Pope, have endorsed the COVID vaccines.

8. Out of love and obedience to God, I strive to live by the scriptures and “live a life worthy of the calling to which [I] have been called” (Ephesians 4:1), that is, a godly life reflective of the salvation gifted to me at Calvary.
9. Jesus Christ is the supreme King of all, and I am subject to His final authority alone in all matters of conscience, what I do with my body, and how I respond to societal injustice and coercive efforts to control my behaviour, which is a form of temptation (Ephesians 4:4-6; Colossians 1:16-18). Christians recognize that they will one day stand before God to give an account for their lives and therefore seek to exercise wisdom and discernment in all their decisions, and to live to please the Lord (Romans 12:2; II Corinthians 5:10).
10. God commands me to “take pains to have a clear conscience towards both God and man” (Acts 24:16), “desiring to act honourably in all things” (Hebrews 13:18) and warns me not to reject my conscience or otherwise shipwreck my faith (1 Timothy 1:18-19). James, the brother of Christ, states it clearly: “any person who knows what is right to do but does not do it, to him it is sin” (James 4:17). Thus, I will not blindly conform to the rules, regulations or mandates of any country, state, principality, or institution but will first test everything to ensure it is within the will of God, and only when those rules align with God’s Law will I comply (Romans 12:2; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13).

Specific Beliefs Which Preclude Me from Receiving any COVID Vaccines

The known and unknown contents of the vaccines, and the manner in which they were produced

11. Fundamental to the Christian faith is the belief that all human persons bear the image of God (Genesis 1:27, 9:6). This has two applications relevant to the COVID vaccines.
12. Christians are instructed by Scripture to view their bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit and to steward their bodies as creatures ultimately accountable to God (Romans 12:1-2; I Corinthians 3:16-17, 6:19-20). For me, this extends to not injecting my body with substances such as those contained in the COVID mRNA vaccines. Some of these substances are not fully known, potentially dangerous, and have the effect of interfering with or manipulating my natural cell composition and cell mechanisms. The mRNA and the toxic “spike protein” this mRNA codes for are examples. I am compelled to maintain both the physical and spiritual integrity of my body, including my divinely-designed cell mechanisms, and to not take unnecessary risks with my body. To do would be an expression of a lack of faith and a manifestation of putting my trust in man before God, when I am called to do the opposite. It is for this reason that I do not take hard drugs, drink alcohol to excess, engage in high-risk thrill-seeking behaviour, permit my body to be used for medical experimentation, or engage in high-risk sexual behaviour.
13. I believe I am fearfully and wonderfully made by God and must trust my health first to God, to His design of my immune system over a man-made intervention may which alter the function of my immune system and is necessarily inferior to God’s design. I further trust the sources of natural health and healing that God has provided (Genesis 1; Exodus 23:25; Psalms 91:5-7 and 139:14; I Corinthians 3:19; Jeremiah 17:5).
14. Indeed, when I recently contracted COVID, I trusted in both God’s design of my immune system and His healing power and I came through just fine, acquiring natural immunity in the process.
15. How products for human consumption are obtained and what they are derived from is important for me, just like it was for King David and the prophet Daniel (2 Samuel 23:15

-17 and Daniel 1:8-14). Christians are required to fully, diligently, and resolutely honour the sanctity of human life, which I believe manifests at conception and includes pre-natal life (Genesis 1:27, 4:1 and 17, 9:6; Jeremiah 1:5; Psalms 22:10-11, 106:35-38, 113:7-9, 127:3, 139:13-16; Matthew 18:1-4, 19:13-15). “Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made mankind” (Genesis 9:6). For me, this necessarily extends to protecting, through my choices, unborn children from medical experimentation in the *testing, development, or production* of vaccines, and not participating *directly or indirectly* in any vaccine that was derived *directly or indirectly* from aborted human fetal cell lines (Exodus 20:13, Leviticus 18:21, 20:2-5, Deuteronomy 12:30-32, 18:10, 2 Kings 16:3, Psalm 16:38).

16. Receiving any of the COVID vaccines available in Canada would be to violate this belief and commit a sin before God (James 4:17; Romans 14:23; Leviticus 20:1-5), as they were all developed from and/or researched or produced in a way that was dependent on human fetal cell lines. It would implicate me in endorsing an act that intrinsically asserts that human life is neither sacred nor valuable.
17. I understand and am aware that a new COVID vaccine has recently become available which Western purports is not implicated by the sin of Abortion (Novavax). The fact is, Novavax *is* implicated by abortion. The cell line HEK293, notoriously derived from an aborted fetus, was used in the *testing* of the Novavax COVID vaccine. Enclosed with my statement is a peer-reviewed scientific paper published in October 2020 and an article from Liberty Counsel which discusses this.

The deception surrounding the COVID vaccines

18. I sincerely believe the COVID vaccines are covered in deception. This is not merely or primarily a “political” or “personal” belief. It arises out of my Biblically-informed views and Holy Spirit-guided discernment. It is first and foremost a religious belief and my religious belief.
19. The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity (consisting of God the Father, the Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit). As Jesus said, he gave Christians the Holy Spirit, the

“Spirit of Truth”, to guide and teach us (John 14:17, 26; 16:13). Part of being a Bible-following Christian is having, to the degree possible, the mind of Christ and being able to discern between what *appears* to be right and what *is actually* right (I Corinthians 2:14; I John 4:1; Colossians 2:8; Romans 12:2; Proverbs 9:10). The Bible says, and I believe, I must not be conformed to the ways of the world, but be transformed by the renewing of my mind based on God’s ways, which are above the ways of the world and the ways of men, so that I “will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will (Romans 12:2; Isaiah 55: 8-9). As I believer, I am to test everything (1 Thessalonians 5:21).

20. Based on the discernment described above, I believe it is a deception that the COVID vaccines are as safe as Western and other institutions and authorities propagate them to be. I further believe it is a deception that the COVID vaccines are effective at preventing the spread and infection of the virus that causes COVID. These deceptions form the purported rationale for COVID vaccine mandates.
21. As a Christian, I am called to live according to truth and not be complicit in deceit (John 4:23; I John 3:18 and 4:1; John 8:32; I Peter 3:10; Psalms 5:6 and 101:7; Proverbs 9:10, 12:17, 14:8, 19:9, and 20:17; II Timothy 3:13; and Colossians 2:8 and 3:9). Walking in the light and truth of Jesus and shunning all lies and deceit is fundamental to my walk with the Lord. I cannot receive the COVID vaccines and thereby knowingly participate in deceit, which would be to walk in darkness.
22. Further, in all circumstances Christians seek to live in freedom, without fear, and openly before God and other people because “it is for freedom that Christ set us free” (Galatians 5:1). If I received the COVID vaccines, it would be for no other reason than because someone in a position of power over me told me to. To do that would be to act out of fear. I am commanded by the Bible to fear God, not other people (Matthew 32-33; Galatians 1:10; Proverbs 1:7, 29:25). If I received the COVID vaccinations, I would be violating my conscience and committing a sin (James 4:17). “Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ... Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also

acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven” (Mathew 10:28).

The injustice and immorality of coercion

23. My Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ is a God of justice who hates injustice, oppression, and tyranny (Deuteronomy 10:17–20; Isaiah 1:15–17; Ecclesiastes 3:16–17; 4:1; 5:8; Psalms 7:11; 9:7–9). He has appointed government to do good and to avenge evil (Romans 13:3–4; 1 Peter 2:13–14). Jesus’ concern for justice is my concern, as a follower of Jesus Christ. Out of love for neighbor and obedience to Christ, I am called to resist oppression and violation of consent, which necessarily includes coercive vaccination programs, whether at the hands of government or private entities (Ephesians 5:11).
24. If I were to submit to a COVID vaccine mandate such as Western’s, I would be an endorser of oppression and injustice, acting in hate and spite of God, my neighbours, and even myself. Once discriminatory and oppressive policies are normalised in peoples’ hearts and minds, freedom ends, mass atrocities begin, and evil reigns. I must abstain from all evil (I Thessalonians 5:22-23).
25. I believe, as a Christian, it is morally wrong and sinful to take away the *free* choice of something as important as what people put into their bodies. I care deeply about matters of free will and consent. I believe all human beings have the divine right to exercise free will, as established by God long before the creation of the State (Deuteronomy 30:19; Joshua 24:15; Revelation 3:20). Jesus gives people free will and lets them choose whether they will follow Him in love, or live for themselves. Conversely, Satan uses coercive, extortionary, forceful, manipulative, and deceitful tactics to make people comply with his directives (Genesis 2; Matthew 4:1-11; Job 1:6-22).
26. By their very nature, COVID vaccine mandates are irrefutably coercive and extortionary in nature. The entire impetus for such mandates is to withhold something important from someone until that person does something they will not voluntarily do and would not otherwise do. These tactics reflect the darkness and bondage of Satan, not the light and freedom of Jesus. They are the tactics of those who are controlled by fear and therefore

seek to control the actions of others so as to selfishly create for themselves the illusion of the elimination of all risk to themselves from those around them.

27. Obtaining an advanced education is no mere luxury or leisure activity. It is often required for full participation in society and the economy, and is certainly required to fulfil dreams to enter a particular vocation. Some may call it a “choice” to “choose” between a post-secondary education and injecting unwanted substances into one’s body, but my definition of choice is not so ethically and morally bankrupt. I concur with the 1992 comments of former Justice La Forest of the Supreme Court of Canada:

“A man cannot be said to be ‘willing’ unless he is in a position to choose freely; and *freedom of choice predicates the absence from his mind of any feeling of constraint interfering with the freedom of his will.*” A “feeling of constraint” so as to “interfere with the freedom of a person’s will” can arise in a number of situations *not* involving force, threats of force, fraud or incapacity.

...

Professor Klippert in his book *Unjust Enrichment* (1983) refers to the doctrines of duress, undue influence, and unconscionability as “justice factors.” He lumps these together under the general term “*coercion*” and states..., “In essence the common thread is *an illegitimate use of power or unlawful pressure which vitiates a person’s freedom of choice.*”¹

The mark of the beast

28. I am deeply concerned that the COVID vaccine and associated vaccine passports and mandates are a precursor to or may become the “mark of the beast” referred to in the Bible (Revelation 13:16-17). I am compelled to exercise wisdom regarding this matter (Revelation 13:18), as to receive the mark is to commit a sin and to betray Christ, while the rewards of remaining loyal to Christ are eternal life (Revelation 14:11, 16:2, 19:20, 20:4). I must avoid anything that could be associated with the mark of the beast.

Conclusion

29. I have prayed about the above beliefs as they apply to the COVID vaccine and associated mandates and I have received confirmation from the Holy Spirit that it is the Lord’s Will

¹ *Norberg v Wynrib*, [1992] 2 S.C.R. 226, at paragraphs 27-28 [emphasis added].

for me to act in accordance with these beliefs in rejecting the COVID vaccines. I sincerely believe that if I received the COVID vaccines, I would commit a sin before God and that God's will for me is to not receive the COVID vaccines.

30. I affirm the above statements are true.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Josh Jacob", is written over a horizontal line.

Josh Jacob

Date: October 10, 2022