

## Christian Nation

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Non-Christians are very aware that AD before or after a date refers to Christianity and have come up with the notation of CE to replace AD and BCE to replace BC.

In our every day usage we write the year without any designation because it is obvious that references are not to some date 4,000 years ago.

The term CE means Common Era so the AD date is used but the definition is changed to clearly remove any reference to Christianity.

The fact remains that when the number 2004 is used it is a standard established by a Christian as a Christian standard.

The use of the numbers 2004 implicitly refers to Christianity even if the user puts the non-Christian designation of BE on the number.

When there is no designation with the number, then the implicit reference to Christianity is stronger as it is unchallenged.

Of course when the designation AD is used, we move from an implicit reference to Christianity to a stronger explicit reference to Christianity.

AD stands for the Latin phrase which means "year of our Lord". Thus the designation AD actually is stating an explicit reference to the Lord Jesus Christ.

No the highest explicit reference to Christianity is where the actual phrase, "the year of our Lord", is written out.

Besides the explicit reference of "Lord" to Christianity it also explicitly acknowledges the Lordship of Jesus Christ. This is a positive statement that Jesus Christ is Lord. It is also an implicit acknowledgment of the deity of Jesus where Jesus is God the Son, one of the three persons of the Holy Trinity, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

But then the use of the word "our" in that phrase "our Lord" indicates an explicit relationship of the writer with Jesus Christ. Had a writer said "your Lord", the reference to Christianity would still be there but saying "our" adds the personal touch.

There is more in the use of "our" as one could still have a personal relationship had the phrase used been "my Lord". We have here an explicit reference to the community being Christian with the phrase "our Lord".

Now just what the community is can be explicitly specified by the context. As an example, if the phrase was used in a private letter between two individuals the both are being referred to as Christian. In fact if more individuals were included as senders and recipients than the phrase explicitly indicates that they are all Christians as part of a truly Christian community.

The Constitution of the United States starts with the phrase "We the People of the United States....". [Page 1 of 4 of the original document] It also ends with the Ratification done in 1787 as evidenced with the actual signatures on the original document. [Page 4 of 4 of the original document]

The use of the number 1787 without any non-Christian CE designation give a very clear implicit reference to Christianity.

But the exact word written on the actual original document states "...the Year of our Lord...." [Page 4 of 4 of original document] This is clearly the strongest possible reference to Christianity.

All of the signers of The United States Constitution all signed under that phrase and in doing so acknowledged:

- The Lord Jesus Christ
- The Lordship and thus the divinity of Jesus Christ
- A relationship with Jesus Christ namely that they were in fact Christians

And when you put that phrase with the opening phrase of "We the People of the United States" you get the very same implied relationship for the community made up of the People of the United States that this community also acknowledges:

- The Lord Jesus Christ
- The Lordship and thus the divinity of Jesus Christ
- A relationship with Jesus Christ namely that they were in fact Christians

Thus the United States is and always was a Christian nation and is explicitly so stated in the United States Constitution.