

THE
WATERMEN'S STEWARDSHIP
❁ COVENANT ❁

The Watermen's Stewardship Covenant is a covenant among all watermen, regardless of their profession of religious faith. As watermen, we agree to:

- 1.) be good stewards of God's creation by setting a high standard of obedience to civil laws (fishery, boat and pollution laws (e.g., laws against dumping things overboard)), and
- 2.) commit to brotherly accountability.

If any person who has committed to this Covenant is overtaken in any trespass against this Covenant, we agree to spiritually restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness.

For the professing Christian waterman, this Covenant additionally means that we agree to set a high standard of obedience to God's laws and, therefore, to civil laws. We agree to walk a crucified and resurrected life — a selfless life — that is yielded to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

We agree to fly red ribbons, which additionally symbolize the blood covenant for which a great sacrifice of God — His only begotten Son — was made.

As Christians, we understand that through this Covenant that each of us shall give an account of himself to God. Therefore, we do not judge one another; rather, we resolve not to put a stumbling block or cause to fall in our brother's way (*Romans 14:12, 13*).

We agree to "let love be without hypocrisy. We abhor what is evil and cling to what is good" (*Romans 12:9*) and commit to "not destroy the work of God for food [crab, oyster, fish, clam]" (*Romans 14:20*).

Proverbs 23:4 states that we are not to overwork to be rich, and this because of our own understanding: "Cease!"

We shall love the Lord our God and keep His requirements, His decrees, His laws and His commands always, and receive the grace of God (*Deuteronomy 11:1*), for "blessed are they who are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord. Blessed are they who keep His statutes and seek Him with all their heart" (*Psalms 119:102*).

For if my people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land" (*II Chronicles 7:14*).

The psalmist exclaims, "Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long" (*Psalms 119:97*).