

Sion Constitution (1984)

- #4 - *Jesus Christ, Son of God,
was made man in this people
to whom God first revealed his name.
In him,
who sums up in himself the law and the prophets,
the Church is linked to the Jewish people
in her origin,
in her continuing history and
in the final destiny —
the Kingdom of God to which all creation aspires.
We believe
that in the risen Christ
the reign of God is already present and
the pledge of its final accomplishment is given us.*
- #5 - *The divisions,
the agony of so many people, and
the tragedies of our time
reveal that the messianic promises
are far from being realized in the world.
This challenges our faith
and calls forth our response.
With the whole Church and
with the Jewish people
we hope, pray, and work for the Day
when all will know the Lord and
“justice and peace will embrace.” (Ps. 85:10; Is 11:9)*
- #8 - *He gives us the strength
to love one another as he has loved us and
to follow him in giving our lives
for the reconciliation of the world to the Father
until “that Passover which will be accomplished
in the Kingdom of God.” (Lk 22:16)*
- #12 - *We live in a world
where hope and fear are mingled,
where faith and doubt are intertwined,
where violence and oppression grow
along with the thirst for peace and liberation.
We live in a world,
near to and yet far from the Kingdom of God.
It is in this world,
so loved by God,
that we have been called.
It is to this world
that we are sent by the Church*

*to proclaim our faith
in God's Kingdom already growing among us and
to oppose those forces within and without
which prevent its full manifestation.*

*#13 - We are called
to witness by our life
to God's faithful love for the Jewish people and
to his fidelity to the promises
he revealed to the patriarchs and prophets of Israel
for all humanity.
In Christ,
the pledge of their fulfilment is given us.
This call implies
that our apostolic life is characterized
by a threefold commitment:
to the Church,
to the Jewish people, and
to a world of justice, peace and love.
Whatever task we are engaged in,
we are called to integrate in some way,
these three dimensions of our apostolic commitment.*

*#15 - The events of our world and of our lives urge us
to hear the cry of the poor and
to respond anew
to the call of God to do justice.
This commandment resounds urgently in our day
through the calls of the Church.
The history of the Jewish people
makes us particularly sensitive
to the rights of minorities, of the poor, and
of all who are marginalized in our society.
These situations provoke our reflection
and our prayer;
they demand concrete commitments.*

*#15.5 - Because the various forms of oppression and discrimination
are interrelated in our world, we are convinced that justice
for any group of people will not be fully attained until there
is justice for all. The more informed we are about situations
of injustice and division in the world, the more able we will
be to discern their causes, decide what action to take and
stimulate the awareness of others. We cooperate with
others who have the same concern.*

*#19 - Our apostolic life springs
from our experience of the risen Christ.
In him, life reached its fullness.
This is the firm ground of our hope*

*for a new world of justice, peace and love.
This gives us the courage
to bear our own burdens and
to help carry the cross of those who suffer
from oppression, violence and discrimination.
Through Christ,
we participate in reconciling
the world to the Father.*

- #35 - *The Bible recounts
the experience of a liberated people
to whom God, through the prophets,
entrusted the cause of the poor.
Faced with immense numbers of starving peoples,
with so much injustice and exploitation,
the call of the Church
and of those working for social justice
is ever more urgent.
This call invites us to conversion,
to simplify our lives,
to share and to react against injustice and
to love as God himself loves
by giving ourselves.*
- #39 - *The more the risen Christ acts within us,
the more ardently will we carry out God's will
so that his Kingdom may come.*
- #50 - *The community needs others and exists for others.
We want to be present and concerned with our world.
We welcome all who come, and
we are enriched and challenged by these encounters.
We try to create and to support other communities.
In situations of division and injustice
we encourage each other so that
we may be signs that love is possible.*
- #56 - *In the Eucharist,
God gathers us together as his people
to renew his covenant of salvation.
We bless him and thank him for his mercy
which lasts from age to age.
We celebrate the mystery of faith,
the remembrance of the Passover of the Lord.
We offer to the Father
our life and our world
to be transformed by the Spirit
through the death and resurrection of Jesus.
In receiving the body of Christ
we are given the pledge*

*of the full realization of that Kingdom
for which we long with all our being.*