



LGIRS

**A Christian's Duty in Political Activism
and God's Boundaries for Our Government**
"God places boundaries on government."



Liberty Bell Quotation:

"Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof," from Leviticus 25:10

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Key Terms and Definitions

Note: Throughout this pamphlet you will likely encounter several unfamiliar terms. Here is a brief sampler of some key phrases within:

- **Constitution** - The basic principles and laws of a nation, state, or social group that determine the powers and duties of the government and guarantee certain rights to the people in it. It is often referred to as an agreement between the people and their government and is regarded in the area of political science as a “social contract.”
- **Covenant** - In the Hebrew Scriptures, an agreement or treaty among peoples or nations, but most memorably the promises that God extended to humankind (e.g., the promise to Noah never again to destroy the earth by flood or the promise to Abraham that his descendants would multiply and inherit the land of Israel). God’s revelation of the law to Moses on Mount Sinai created a pact between God and Israel known as the Sinai Covenant. In Christianity, Jesus’ death established a new covenant between God and humanity.
- **Discourse** - A mode of organizing knowledge, ideas, or experience that is rooted in language and its concrete contexts (as history or institutions).
- **Empiricism** - The practice of relying on observation and experiment, especially in the natural sciences.
- **Exegesis** - Critical explanation or interpretation of a text, especially of Scripture.
- **Inculcate** - To instill (an attitude, idea or habit) by persistent instruction.
- **Paradigm** - A typical example or pattern of something; a model.
- **Rationalism** - A view that reason and experience, rather than the non-rational, are the fundamental criteria in the solution of problems.
- **Reformed Protestant** - The Reformed Churches formed one branch of the Protestant churches that broke from the Roman Catholic Church of that day. They began in the sixteenth century in Switzerland under the leadership of Ulrich Zwingli and John Calvin. Calvin’s teachings became the dominant and leading force in these churches as they spread across Europe, particularly to France, the Netherlands, Scotland and by the eighteenth century, to North America, Africa, Hungary, Indonesia and many other parts of the globe.
- **Torah/Pentateuch** - The first part of the Hebrew Bible, comprising Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.
- **Universal Truth/Absolute Truth** - An absolute truth, sometimes called a universal truth, is an unalterable and permanent fact. It means that something is true no matter where you are and who says it, i.e., $2 + 2 = 4$, no matter where you go you get the same answer, so that is a universal truth
- **Virtue** - St. Paul added the theological virtues of faith, hope and love—virtues which, in Christian teaching, do not originate naturally in humanity but are instead imparted by God through Christ and then practiced by the believer.

PREFACE

“There is nothing more offensive to modernity and to the modern mind than the intrusion of God in the affairs of men.”
– Art Katz in his sermon on the 9-11 tragedy –

There is an absence of knowledge in our country about what the Bible says about government. This booklet is a primer study on this issue. This booklet also strongly suggests that people should quote specific verses in the Bible that directly deal with how government should work. It is the moral law in the Scripture that specifically limits the behavior of people. However, there are specific verses in the Scripture that deal with how government should be limited. These verses have not been taught in churches for over a generation. They have not been discussed in the public arena or in the media for over a generation. This booklet identifies many of the verses that identify human rights and the role of government. It is the law in the Scripture that places boundaries on government.

Was the United States founded or established as a Christian nation? The answer to that question is yes and no. It would have not been conceived by the signers of our founding documents that the people would have any ethic other than the Christian ethic. At this time I think it is important to note the religious affiliation of the signers of the three founding documents, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the United States Constitution.

There were 118 different people that signed all three documents. If you include the First Federal Congress, 88 were Episcopalian/Anglican. Thirty were Presbyterian. Twenty seven were Congregationalists. Seven were Quakers. Six were Dutch Reformed. Five were Lutheran. Three were Catholic. Three were Huguenot. Three were Unitarians. There were two Methodist. There was one Calvinist.

There were 143 positions for signature on the three founding documents and several people signed all three documents and some signed two documents. Roger Sherman, a Congregationalist, signed all three documents but he was only counted one time in this list.

These men, just like all men, had differing opinions. They certainly had differing opinions about religion. Some were more religious than others. It is noteworthy that there were no Atheist. However, one of the most revered was Thomas Jefferson. He accepted the Christian ethic but he hated Jesus Christ. He hated Jesus Christ so much that he rewrote his own New Testament for his own study.

Imagine a man being so arrogant as to take the New Testament and rewrite it to suit himself. He removed all references to the deity of Christ from his New Testament. He removed all references to a virgin birth. Therefore we must conclude that the church was no different then than it is now. Men were no different then than they are now.

We need to consider what our churches are like today. Do we have people like Jefferson in the church today? Of course we do. Were the men that were signers of these documents motivated purely by egalitarian, philanthropic and charitable purposes? Certainly not. They saw an opportunity to revolt against the King of England to create their own trough of taxes from which to feed. Were they all purely selfish? Probably not. We cannot deny that they were politicians. Did their religion influence the creation of the Bill of Rights which was the first Amendment to the Constitution? Any reasonable person would have to conclude that it did. Should these men be revered and worshiped? I hope not. Should they be recognized for the good that they did? I certainly hope so. Some thinkers who enjoy the enlightenment want to say that their Christian faith had nothing to do with the creation of the Bill of Rights and that our rights spontaneously combusted from the minds of those enlightened men. If you read this booklet you will find that is not true. You will find that our rights came straight from the scripture.

It is interesting that most of the limiting language in our Constitution comes from the Amendments. The Bill of Rights was nothing more than a restatement of the rights given by God to Moses. I don't mean to imply that none of the men who attended the various conventions and congresses establishing the Bill of Rights, the Constitution, the Articles of Confederation and the Declaration of Independence had no virtue. Certainly, if they were believers they had the Holy Spirit, Jesus and God inculcated into their souls. It would be reasonable to assume that would have had an influence.

This booklet addresses how God places boundaries on government, politics and human power. We must also remember Christ's answer to Pilate's question in John 18:36, "My kingdom is not of this world." Even though the United States of America is not "God's Kingdom," God has placed boundaries on it. This booklet is about how the Bible and the law in the Bible give us direction to keep government within certain boundaries.

Many people think electing a particular candidate will limit government. It will not. Some think supporting an interest group like the Heritage Foundation or perhaps supporting this organization will limit government. It will not. Others think by being a member of or a supporter of a political party will limit government. It will not. The most controversial view in this booklet is as follows: **Government limitation is measured in direct proportion to the inculcation of specific principles in Bible verses being resident in the souls of a significant number of the citizenry. (Perhaps as little as 2% to 5%.) Our country has many problems but its biggest problem is a spiritual problem.**

The Bible is clear that people and nations are blessed and/or disciplined. This discipline and blessing is not based upon some theory of democracy or majority opinion. If the people of the land have no knowledge of the scripture the Lord has a quarrel with them. For example, Hosea 4:1 reads as follows: “Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel; for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.”

Another example is when Abraham was talking to God outside of Sodom. Abraham was pleading for God not to destroy Sodom. Abraham said “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.” Of course, he couldn’t find ten and Sodom was destroyed. Genesis 18:32.

No one should ever expect that they can fix these problems. They forget that God is in charge. There is one thing people can do that will be a positive influence. It has limited government for over 4,000 years. It is having principles of specific verses in the Scripture that address government known by some of the population. This booklet is meant to assist citizens in presenting Scripture that defines government and its authority. The purpose of the Limited Government and Inalienable Rights Society is to “encourage citizens, public officials, policy makers and others to quote Scripture in their public addresses, appearances and private conversations. The reason for this is that there are verses in the Scripture which specifically address problems that are facing our nation, our states, our county governments and our city governments. These universal truths will aid our policy makers in directing our ships of state.”

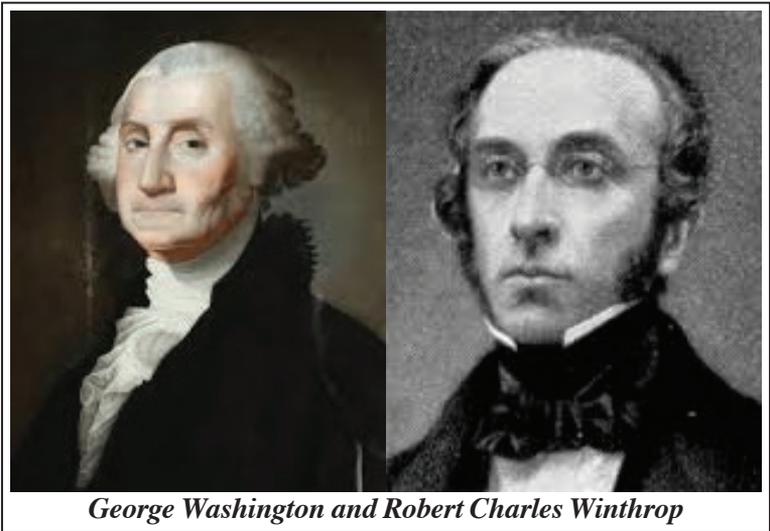
A LITTLE HISTORY

At this point, a little history will be helpful. Imagine if you would the Israelites emerging from 40 years of wandering in the desert and coming into the ancient world as a nation, as a group of tribes that have with them laws that are written by Moses but given to them by God. To the ancient world this was a paradigm shift. The ancient world consisted of monarchies or kingdoms with an aristocracy and the remainder of the population being either slaves or peasants. By many historical estimates, 50% or more of the population of the ancient world were slaves. The Israelites, in having the law, had limited government and had freedoms for every citizen of Israel. Individual freedom and liberty were new concepts to the ancient world.

In the book by Christopher J.H. Wright entitled “Old Testament Ethics for the People of God” he states the following: ‘The law was not explicitly and consciously applied to the nations (as Psalms 147:19-20 says, God had not given it to other nations as he had done to Israel). But that does not mean that Israel’s law was irrelevant to them. Rather, the law was given to Israel to enable Israel to live as a model, as a light to the nations. The anticipated result of this plan was that, in the prophetic vision, the law would “go forth” to the nations, or they would “come up” to learn it. The nations were “waiting” for that law and justice of the Lord, which was presently bound up with Israel (Isaiah 42:4). Israel was to be “light for the nations”. The law of God was given unto Moses, and Moses gave that law to the Israelites prior to their entering into the land of Canaan. We still have that law today. It is the Torah, consisting of the first five books of the Old Testament. Much of our Constitution and Bill of Rights is taken directly from the Torah. Contemporary education refuses to admit that these human rights principles existed and were well known long before the enlightenment and the American Revolution. The law in the Bible and the verses that make up that law have limiting language on the government and the people. Just as the law of the Bible limits us as individuals in our daily lives, it also limits the government.

Robert Charles Winthrop, 22nd Speaker of the House of the United

States House of Representatives, has often been quoted, and one of his most memorable quotes is as follows: “Men, in a word, must necessarily be controlled, either by a power within them, or by a power without them; either by the word of God or by the strong arm of man; either by the Bible, or by the bayonet.” Also, George Washington, first President of the United States, is quoted as follows: “Human rights can only be assured among a virtuous people. The general government can never be in danger of degenerating into a monarchy, an oligarchy, an aristocracy, or any despotic or oppressive form, so long as there is any virtue in the body of the people.”



THE THREE VIRTUES

When the founding fathers and others who lived during the time of the American Revolution are quoted, they are often quoted using the term religion or true religion and virtue. When they use the term “true religion” they are referring to a reformed Protestant. If they don’t use the term religion or true religion they use the term virtue. In this respect they are generally referring to I Corinthians 13:13. The three theological virtues are faith, hope and love. Whether you are talking in terms of Cardinal virtues or theological virtues, they are in fact virtues that are derived from Holy Scripture. As Washington pointed out a nation without virtue will lose its human rights.



RATIONALISM AND EMPIRICISM

This booklet is not meant to be a position statement for left or the right or for Libertarian, Republican, Democrat or Tea Party but is meant to be an aid for anyone who has an interest in government that has God’s limits placed upon it. Without the wisdom of the Scripture being present in our society and in our government, our government will have no limit or limitations placed upon it; it will be its own God. Furthermore, in using the specific Bible verses no one should be so presumptuous as to take the verses out of context or use them to beat people over the head about their own particular taboo. The purpose of quoting Scripture, both privately and publicly, with regard to the government’s role is to educate people about the universal truths in the Scripture and how government should be according to those verses.

If left to the experts, politicians, talking heads, editorial opinion and

the public at large, government will have no limits. The demands of mankind's sinful nature assures us of a constantly expanding approbation of human wants and desires. This conflicts with what God commands. God commands limits on approbation of flesh for the individual and the same applies to government. Quoting applicable Scripture can limit the behavior of man, and the same applies to government.

There was a time not too long ago when certain Universal Truths were accepted as such by most centers of influence. To a great degree, this is no longer so. A reasonable question is, what can be done? To have a government that accepts God's limits on it, the present method of communication must change. That means a change in the discourse being used by human beings to define what government is and how it should be. If the discourse changes, the result will be different. As a principal conduit of modern discourse, let's examine what is going on in the media and strategies used by those who wish to influence public policy.

In radio, television and newspapers there are many people who have been employed for the express purpose of presenting a particular political or social view-conservative, liberal or other. These all have one thing in common: they are competing to have the leading edge of the current view, rational or empirical. For the most part these are "the politically correct" from the left, right or some other sharply defined direction. These folks are normally selected because they are perceived as having great intellects. They base their views on one of two forms of perception. The first is rationalism; what a man thinks may be a solution or a reason by using his logic. The other view is empiricism, which approaches a given topic based on an experiment and the results of that experiment. Rationalism and empiricism are almost exclusively the approaches that are taken by the experts also known in the industry as the "talking heads." On rare occasions, someone with faith may be in a discussion with others and quote a Biblical principle. It is interesting that they always seem to present a liberal or conservative or left or right position. That begs the question: Is there something that is neither left nor right? It is even more interesting that these pundits never seem to get to a solution. They only seem to express an opinion. We are always left devoid of a satisfactory solution. Where then is the wisdom? What is the solution?

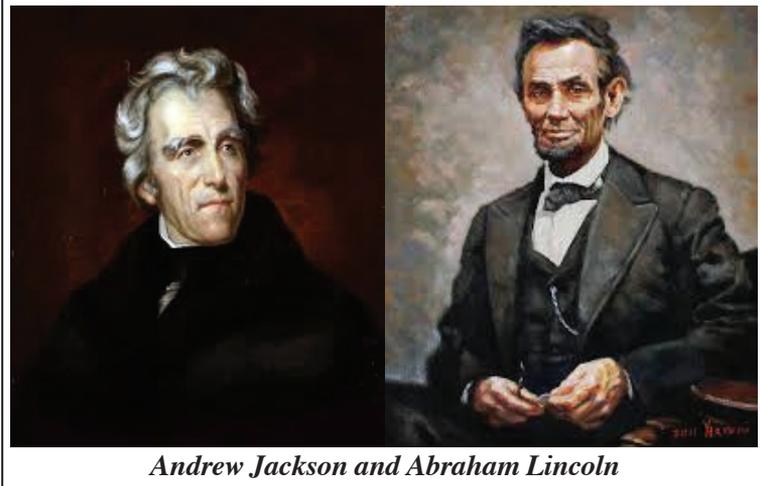
CHANGE THE DISCOURSE FROM RATIONALISM AND EMPIRICISM TO INCLUDE WISDOM

Discourse about government must change or all limits on government will disappear. So how do we do this? What is discourse? For our purposes we take a portion of Webster's definition as follows: a mode of organizing knowledge, ideas, or experience that is rooted in language and its concrete contexts (as history or institutions). The object is to change the method of discourse being communicated about government's role in society, and its role in each person's life. At present there is a discussion limited to rationalism and empiricism. These are human viewpoints and are personal to those who come up with the rational thought or the result of an experiment; hence rationalism or empiricism are the methods used. Both the Left and the Right use these methods to arrive at their positions. They are traveling on parallel tracks. They will never meet. They are in the business of winning their argument or position and will never convince the other of the correctness of their position. They all occasionally quote men of the Enlightenment or ancient philosophers. None, it seems, quote God.

There is another view. It is the view of Universal Truth. Universal Truth has been around for a long time. For example, as far back as the first recorded human history, government has made murder a crime. Therefore this is an example of a Universal Truth. If you are a person who does not believe there is any Universal Truth in the world, then you will not like anything in this booklet. If you are a person like Thomas Jefferson, you may not believe in the deity of Christ but you do believe in a Universal Truth or ethic, then you should read on. If you are a Christian or person who believes in God, you should continue to educate yourself about what Universal Truths God has given to mankind about this very limited subject. Remember this booklet is limited to one goal only, to quote Scripture in public. It is not the Bible or a systematic paper on life. It is about quoting the Scripture which places boundaries on government in public.

There was a time in this country when Scripture was used to find solutions to government problems. Andrew Jackson said, "The Bible

is the rock upon which our Republic rests,” and Abraham Lincoln in his first inaugural address stated, “Intelligence, patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance on Him, who has never yet forsaken this favored land, are still competent to adjust, in the best way, all our present difficulty.”



If you are not knowledgeable about the Bible, your first concern, therefore, may be that Scripture is open to interpretation. No, it isn't. Most verses in the Scripture are very plain and simple. Most verses in the Bible can be interpreted as Martin Luther recommended in the 16th Century and that is “plain sense”. One of the five Lutheran lenses in reading the Scripture is that it is understood in the sense that would seem obvious to the original reader. The plain text lens is quoted as follows: “Scripture is understood in the sense that would seem obvious to their original readers. It respects their context and how they would have heard and experienced the passage.” Let's take one of the commandments that says “Thou shalt not kill”. The actual word used in the original Hebrew is murder and not kill. There are many verses in the Scripture that will allow killing and state that killing is justified. Some examples are in self-defense or the killing of animals for food, or the killing of another as part of a battle in war. Commentaries can be a big help in the event of some confusion about what a particular verse means.

There are many examples of scholarly interpretation of the Scripture. One recent one is known as TIS (Theological Interpretation of

Scripture). There is also Theological Exegesis. There is also Non-Theological Exegesis and there is historical, literary, sociological criticism, liberationist, socio-rhetorical, evolutionary and psychological. There is also the imposition of general hermeneutics. So how much of these different forms of interpretation should you know in order to know that you should not murder another human being? Obviously you don't have to know any of these various and sundry methods of interpretation. A little common sense goes a long way. Professorial scholarship can be a great detriment. Even the simple-minded believer aided by the Holy Spirit can read and understand the Holy Scripture. In I Corinthians 2:14 it is plainly stated that even a genius who is not a believer cannot understand the Scripture. It reads as follows: "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

There are mysteries in the Bible as well, but again these mysteries have nothing to do with verses that define government's role. You will not find a verse in the Bible that says you cannot murder and later a verse that says it's permissible. Remember what Christ did when He was in the desert. When Satan tried to tempt Him, Christ just quoted the law in the Scripture, and Satan had to leave. Jesus demonstrated how Scripture "is alive and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword."

An example of how God defines government's role is written in ancient Israel's constitution, the Torah. There are many applicable verses, but Deuteronomy 17:18-20 says it very plainly;

"The official copy of God's laws will be kept by the priests of the Levi tribe. So, as soon as anyone becomes king, he must go to the priests and write out a copy of these laws while they watch. Each day the king must read and obey these laws, so that he will learn to worship the Lord with fear and trembling and not think that he's better than everyone else. If the king completely obeys the Lord's commands, he and his descendants will rule Israel for many years."

This verse is very plain and clearly limits the King. The King was the government. If you finish this booklet you will learn a few verses, which gives God's position. His is neither left nor right.

"God places boundaries on government."

BILL OF RIGHTS

Did you know that our Constitution and Bill of Rights is nothing more than an expression of a government run according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ? That is, if you define the Gospel as the entire Bible and not just the salvation message. For example, every right expressed in the Constitution has a matching Bible verse or verses as its origin. In order to add some efficacy to this proposition, some of the Bill of Rights have been selected as examples. As a start, a selection has been made from an article from David S. Rudstein, "A Brief History of the Fifth Amendment Guarantee Against Double Jeopardy," 14 Wm. & Mary Bill Rts. J. 193 (2005). <http://scholarship.law.wm.edu/wmboj/vol14/iss1/>

- 1.) The Fifth Amendment states that 'Nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb.' Nahum 1:9 says, 'What do you contrive against the Lord? He will make an utter end. Affliction shall not rise up the second time.'

The following commentary was published in the William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal:

"The canon law's prohibition against double jeopardy emanated from an interpretation given by Saint Jerome in A.D. 391, a verse in the Old Testament. The Douay Version of the Bible translates this verse as: "there shall not rise a double affliction;" the King James Bible declares: 'affliction shall not rise up the second time.' Saint Jerome read the verse to mean 'that God does not punish twice for the same act.' It was reasoned that if this were so before God, it should be the same on Earth."

Some legal scholars have persuasively argued that Saint Jerome erred in his interpretation of this verse. The entire verse in Nahum in the Douay Version of the Bible provides: "What do ye devise against the Lord? He will make an utter end: there shall not rise a double affliction;" the King James Bible states: "What do ye imagine against the LORD? He will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time." When read in context, this verse appears to mean that

God does not punish the same act twice because there is no need to do so - the first punishment will make “an utter end” of God’s enemies. “The better interpretation of this passage, then, is that God does not judge twice because it is unnecessary.” Nevertheless, Saint Jerome’s interpretation of the verse entered church canons as early as 847, subsequently to be stated as, “Not even God judges twice for the same act.” Despite the seemingly absolute nature of the canon law’s prohibition against double jeopardy, “criminal defendants were not in the end given the blanket sort of protection the words suggests.” On the other hand, “the reality of the basic principle within the canon law always remained real enough.”

- 2.) Freedom of Religion - The First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States says “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion... or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” Christianity is one of the few religious faiths that do not force people to believe its faith. The Scripture states in Matthew 10:14, “And whosoever shall not receive you nor hear your words when you depart of that house or city shake off the dust of your feet.” No person is required to believe the Christian faith. Our founding fathers used this verse and others to establish freedom of religion in this country. They of course had the experience of multiple Christian denominations in Pre-Revolutionary America and the Puritan Revolution a century earlier in England. There were also statutes in some states that prohibited anyone who was not a Christian from holding public office. Reason will tell us that this verse in Matthew 10:14 was a guide that resulted in the freedom of religion clause.
- 3.) Freedom of Speech- During colonial times there were very restrictive laws in England regarding liable and there were many prosecutions of seditious actions. Seditious meaning speaking out against the government. While the colonies had a different view and fewer prosecutions for seditious activity

and liable than in England nonetheless dissident speech was prohibited under English law during the colonial period.

There was another more important restriction on speech in the colonies during colonial period. The most stringent controls on speech in the colonial period were controls that outlawed or otherwise censored speech that was considered blasphemous in a religious sense. A 1646 Massachusetts law, for example, punished persons who denied the immortality of the soul. In 1612 a Virginia governor declared the death penalty for a person that denied the trinity under Virginia's law "Divine, Moral and Marshal" which also outlawed blasphemy, speaking badly of ministers and royalty, and "disgraceful words". In this author's opinion the right to freedom of speech had more to do with spreading the gospel, a commanded type of speech for the Christians, than with criticizing the government although that certainly was an important part of the reason for our first amendment freedom of speech.

The right to print pornography is not something that a Christian is allowed to do. An example of the Christian's commanded speech is noted in Ephesians 4:29, "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."

- 4.) Right to petition the government – "Congress shall make no law respecting the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a re-dress of grievances." From ancient times and even at the time of the American Revolution it was not permitted for a citizen or a group of citizens to approach the king or the government.

The story of Esther is a perfect example. In Esther 4:7 it states "All the king's servants and the people of the king's province do know that whosoever whether man or woman shall come into the king into the inner court who is not called

there is one law of his to put him to death. Except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden scepter that he may live.” Esther took her life in her hands when she approached the king to petition for her people. We have an absolute right under our Constitution to petition our government and to peaceably assemble. Here again reason would lead to the conclusions that the founding fathers looked to Scripture to arrive at our rights. A majority of the delegates to the Constitution were either seminary graduates, ministers of the gospel or Sunday School teachers. Of course, they all came from different professions, including lawyers and merchants, but their educational background and their religious beliefs were a major part of their life. They would have been very familiar with the story of Esther.

- 5.) The second amendment, which states “A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.” In Luke 11:21 it says “When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace.” It is well established throughout the Scripture that freedoms are given to protect yourself is justified in the Scripture. It states in Luke 22:36 “Then said He unto them, ‘But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it and likewise his pack; and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one.’”
- 6.) The fourth amendment states, “The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated.” It states in Deuteronomy 24:10 and 11: “When thou does lend thy brother anything thou shalt not go into his house to fetch his pledge. Thou shalt stand abroad and the man to whom thou does lend shall bring out the pledge abroad unto thee.” The Scripture is clear that a person’s home is not to be trespassed by anyone including the government. The Scripture also says in I Kings 4:25, “As every man dwelling safely under his own vine and under his own fig tree.”

In 1763 Sir William Pitt, later Earl of Chatham, wrote what might be considered a summation of both Deuteronomy 24:10 and 11 and the third and fourth amendments: “The poorest man may in his cottage bid defiance to all the forces of the crown or any government. It may be frail, its roof may shake, the wind may blow through it, the storm may enter, the rain may enter, but the King of England cannot enter and his force dare not cross the threshold of the ruin tenement.”



*Sir William Pitt
Earl of Chatham*

- 6.) The fifth amendment - It says “no person shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself nor deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law.” (Mark 15:3-5 “The chief priest accused him of many things so again Pilate asked him, Are you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of? But Jesus still made no reply and Pilate was amazed.”) Jesus did not respond to his accusers. He knew he was innocent. This is where our right to remain silent comes from. It is the burden of the state to prove our guilt, not that we must prove our innocence. Many countries in the world still require you to prove your innocence once you are accused.
- 7.) The right of a trial by jury and a right to bail noted in our sixth amendment is established in Numbers 35:12. It states “They will be places of refuge from the avenger so that anyone accused of murder may not die before they shall stand trial before the assembly.”
- 8.) In the eighth amendment it states “no excessive fines shall be imposed nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.” Let the punishment fit the crime, is the principle that the Bible

lays out. Specifically Deuteronomy 19: 20-21 “And those who remain shall hear and fear, and hereafter they shall not again commit such evil among you. Your eye shall not pity: life shall be for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot.”

- 9.) Article 1 section 8 of the Constitution states that “Congress shall have the power to establish uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies.” Deuteronomy 15:1-2 it says “At the end of every seven years you shall grant a release of debts. And this is the form of the release: Every creditor who has lent anything to his neighbor shall release it; he shall not require it of his neighbor or his brother, because it is called the Lord’s release.” The founding fathers from Georgia would have been supporters of the right to go bankrupt since Georgia began as a debtor’s colony and English debtors were imprisoned until their debts were paid. The founding fathers would have none of that here. Charles Pickney, a delegate from South Carolina, proposed the addition of bankruptcy in the Constitution for the right to go bankrupt in the Constitution. There was little or no debate regarding it and the measure passed easily.

IDOLATRY AND GOVERNMENT

Is the Government for some people an Idol?

In the book of Daniel (4:17) God lays out an explanation of whom he chooses as leaders.

“This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones, with the intent that the living may know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.”

George Bernard Shaw wrote, “Government is the organization of idolatry.”

The dictionary defines “idol” as:

1. A representation or symbol of worship;
2. A false god;
3. A pretender or imposter;
4. A false conception or fallacy.

An idolater is a worshipper of idols.

In his book *Parliament of Whores*, P.J. O'Rourke writes:

“We treat the president of the United States with awe. We impute to him remarkable powers. We divine things by his smallest gestures. We believe he has the capacity to destroy the very earth, and – by vigorous perusal of sound economic policy – to make the land fruitful and all our endeavors prosperous. We beseech him for aid and comfort in our every distress and believe him capable of granting any boon or favor?”



P.J. O'Rourke

According to the prophet Daniel, God apparently places men of low character—the “basest” of men—in leadership positions. However, it doesn't say he always does this. So we must infer that through grace God may occasionally grant us a “less base” leader. The point is that no human leader is sinless or perfect. They will all have a degree of “baseness.” This obviously means that we will all be likely disappointed by our leader at some point. We cannot give our leader glory and worship. God does not intend for us to worship leaders. Being human, they all have feet of clay. They are all fallen creatures. The only being to receive worship and glory is God, not man.

“God places boundaries on government.”

A LITTLE MORE HISTORY: ANCIENT ISRAEL TO U.S. CONSTITUTION

The common denominator for ancient Israel, the British Isles and the United States is a constitution.



The Torah

Many scholars have compared the Torah (the first five books of the Old Testament) to a constitution. The book of Deuteronomy is at least 4,000 years old and is still in effect and considered to be the constitution of the Jews “by those who consider the Torah a constitution”. No one denies that it is a Covenant. Deuteronomy is divided into a preamble, God and fundamental principles, the land, government and domains of authority, criminal procedure, Bill of Rights, judicial procedures, covenant obligations beyond the letter of the law, local government, and covenant curses and blessings. It comprises more than just the legal issues for civil and criminal authority but it also lays out a way of life for the Israelites to adhere to once they enter the Promised Land. In this respect it differs from modern constitutions. The reason the Israelites needed a constitution is that Moses could not enter the Promised Land and therefore the people needed direction as to how to be governed. Moses restated the Covenant in writing. The book of Deuteronomy restates but does not change the first four books of the Torah. This was a reiteration of the Covenant between God and Israel. “Covenant” is the key word here. A constitution in modern terms is a social contract between the people and their government, “contract” being the controlling term.

In legal terms a contract is a covenant. The Torah is a constitution that cannot be amended because it is a covenant with God. We will always have it as a reference.

During the Puritan Revolution in Great Britain (1628-1660) a series of Acts of Parliament, compromises by King Charles I with Parliament, and specific grants by the King resulted in a compilation of documents referred to as the British Constitution. The Magna Carta and the Glorious Revolution documents of 1688-89 cannot be excluded from the British Constitution. It is no accident that many of the rights noted in the book of Deuteronomy and other books of the Bible are included in the documents of the British Constitution. As part of a Puritan Revolution it could not be otherwise.



Oliver Cromwell

Deuteronomy had a similar impact on the Christian world beyond Britian. As stated by Daniel J. Elazar in his paper titled

“Deuteronomy as Israel’s Ancient Constitution; Some Preliminary Reflections” stated “Whenever Christian theologians, political philosophers or reformers sought biblical sources for political ideas, they turned to Deuteronomy as a major Scriptural source. The use of Deuteronomy reached its apogee during the Protestant Reformation in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries when the founders of the new Swiss, Huguenot, Rhineland, Dutch, Puritan, and Scottish commonwealths rested their polities on Deuteronomic foundations. The culmination of this trend came at the time of the American revolutionary polemical literature between 1765 and 1805. As Donald Lutz has pointed out, Deuteronomy was cited more frequently than all citations of European political philosophers combined, a major source for the myriad political sermons of the period.” Limited government did not spontaneously combust from the minds of our founding fathers.



The Signing of the Constitution

The majority of signers of the Constitution in 1787 were either ministers of the gospel or Sunday school teachers. They were also well-educated men. There were 118 men who signed the Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation and the U.S. Constitution. All had Protestant church affiliation except one and he was Catholic. Two, Jefferson and Franklin, were deists but still members of the Episcopal Church. All were familiar with the English/Puritan Civil War that occurred in the previous century. Many of their fathers and grandfathers came to this country because the king had denied them their fundamental rights, as set forth in the Magna Carta, as well in the Petition of Right of 1628 and other English liberty documents. They were familiar with the government of ancient Israel. They wanted to write down in modern terms the rights they wanted to protect and to limit the government under which they must live. As Solomon said, "There is nothing new under the sun." America is new in human history to the extent that many of the rights are written down in a common document that is secular and not religious. But ultimately, what has limited the government of the United States of America is the fundamental belief by its citizenry in the Universal Truths of Scripture which give us our individual rights and the other verses that limits the government. In the United States we can amend our constitution by a two-thirds vote of the Congress along with a two-thirds vote of the States. The Bible cannot be amended.

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

The United States Constitution in the first amendment refers to establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise of religion. That amendment states as follows:

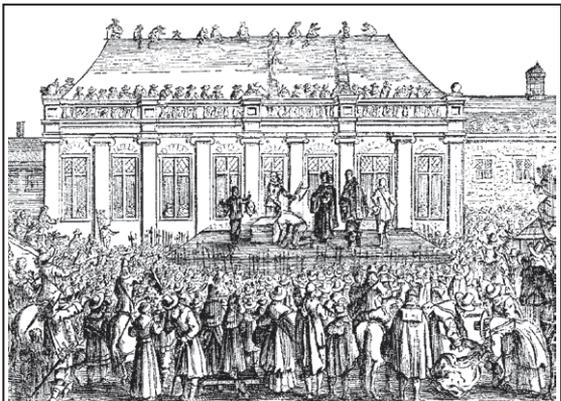
Amendment I

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”

The first ten amendments to the Constitution of the United States became known as the Bill of Rights because they enumerate freedoms that Americans held to be their inalienable rights. So important were these rights that several states insisted on a promise of amendments guaranteeing individual rights before they would ratify the body of the Constitution.

The Bill of Rights, ratified in 1791, was the result of more than a century of experience with rights in America and many centuries before that in England. The major British precursors to our Bill of Rights are the Magna Carta (1215), Petition of Right (1628), and England’s Bill of Rights (1689). These documents have their roots and justification from Scripture.

An example of the need for the First Amendment was made clear by the Established Church of England. It was the Anglican Church. It was the only sanctioned Church in England until the Declaration of Breda, which allowed religious tolerance, in 1660.



Execution of Charles I

Below is a portion of the King's Declaration prefixed to the Articles of Religion, published in November 1628. It is clear from the language of the Declaration that a citizen must be an Anglican and must accept its government sanctioned interpretation of the faith. From it you can draw your own conclusion as to what was intended when the First Amendment was passed.

The King's Declaration prefixed to the Articles of Religion

“That therefore in these both curious and unhappy differences, which have for so many hundred years, in different times and places, exercised the Church of Christ, we will, that all further curious search be laid aside, and these disputes shut up in God's promises, as they be generally set forth to us in the Holy Scriptures, and the general meaning of the Articles of the Church of England according to them. And that no man hereafter shall either print, or preach, to draw the Article aside any way, but shall submit to it in the plain and full meaning thereof: and shall not put his own sense or comment to be the meaning of the Article, but shall take it in the literal and grammatical sense.

“That if any public reader in either our universities, or any head or master of a college, or any other person respectively in either of them, shall affix any new sense to any Article, or shall publicly read, determine, or hold any public disputation, or suffer any such to be held either way, in either the universities or colleges respectively; or if any divine in the universities shall preach or print anything either way, other than is already established in convocation with our royal assent; he, or they the offenders, shall be liable to our displeasure, and the Church's censure in our commission ecclesiastical, as well as any other: and we will see there shall be due execution upon them.”

Quoting Scripture is not a violation of the separation of Church and State. It is the free flow of discourse about Christianity that the first amendment was created to protect. The government will always want to establish its church even if it is not a Christian church but a church of its own idol worship. Today the government wants to be a secular church worshiped by its citizenry. The government gravitates toward power and the Church has power. If it cannot establish its own church then it will attempt to shut it down. The Church limits the government's power. There will be no limited government without the Church and the Bible upon which it is based.

MEDIA AND EDITORIAL OPINIONS

Another point that cannot be overlooked is that there is an entertainment value that drives the discussion of government. The entertainment value is necessary for radio, television and even newspapers. If the media's "experts" always seem to fall on the left or the right then it seems that their motivation is not driven by truth or wisdom but in fact by the money they are paid for asserting their opinion.

Audience ratings drive media. Advertising dollars follow the audience. Therefore opinions have an audience appeal and are not driven by Universal Truth.

There is nothing new under the sun. There being nothing new under the sun, these matters have already been resolved and are there for our view in the Holy Scripture. Of course, the talking heads and pundits do not look to the Scriptures for a solution. This was pointed out by our Savior Jesus Christ in Mark 7:9, "He is also saying to them, "You are experts at setting aside the commandment of God in order to keep your tradition." (NASB)

The experts and centers of influence have spent a lifetime getting to the level of influence where they are important people. They place great value on their opinion. They are arrogant about how much they know. They have invested much in their opinions. A Universal Truth that disagrees with their opinions has no value to them. Universal Truth, which agrees with their opinion, is not welcomed with zeal because it is not to their glory.

Wisdom is something that is derived from a Universal Truth found in the Holy Scripture, yet the experts never seem to quote the Scripture. The reason it is not quoted is because it does not glorify them.

We have printed this booklet in an effort to educate those who wish to change the discourse and give some suggestions on how to do it. The Word created Western Civilization. We believe it can be used to change the discourse in our country.

SUMMARY

- Quoting Scripture in a public forum is what the LGIRS is about. It doesn't matter who quotes it or why.
- The purpose of the LGIRS is to encourage people, and especially public figures, to quote Scripture in person and in print.
- In addition to spreading the gospel, quoting the Scripture can have a profound effect upon limiting our government.
- Our founding fathers wanted limited government and the Bible commands a limited government. Some verses in the Scripture directly limit government. (See the verses noted in this booklet).
- Our Bill of Rights is a perfect example of words that limit government. Each phrase and paragraph of our Bill of Rights has as its foundation a verse or verses in the Holy Scripture.
- These are Universal Truths that God laid down for government in the Holy Scripture.
- Acknowledgment of these truths in the Scripture limit government. When you quote Scripture you are acknowledging a Universal Truth.
- It has been our Nation's faith in those Universal Truths that has limited, formed and prospered our government for more than 200 years. Just being a Democrat, Republican or a Libertarian will not limit government.
- It is faith in the Universal Truths by our citizenry that inculcates virtue and that limits our government. Our schools and our government are abandoning these Universal Truths.
- It is through you that people will be reminded that these Universal Truths are real.
- If the Scripture is quoted in public, your community and our nation will be blessed.
- The only way government is limited is through its obedience to Universal Truth.

SAMPLE VERSES THAT LIMIT GOVERNMENT

Below is a sample of a few verses by topic that Limit Government. If you wish to find other Scriptures for other topics you can find many more by going to one of several topical Bible search engines on the Internet. One such search engine is www.openbible.org. Some of these Bible verses should be self-explanatory as to how they limit government and place boundaries around government. Many commentaries explaining Scripture are also available on the Internet. One recommended commentary is by Matthew Henry, a 17th Century Reformed Bible Scholar.

Our nation should not borrow money.

- **Deuteronomy 15:6**

For the LORD thy God blesseth thee as He promised thee; and thou shalt lend unto many nations, but thou shalt not borrow; and thou shalt reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over thee.

Welcoming immigrants to our nation.

- **Leviticus 19:33-34**

And if a stranger sojourn with thee in your land, ye shall not vex him. But the stranger who dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself, for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.

Spying on our own citizens:

- **1 Peter 4:15**

But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters.

I Peter 4:15 tells us not to be a busy body and what is a “busy body” other than a federal government reviewing our emails, monitoring our telephone calls, etc. Our government should not be a busy body. Only bad comes from being a busy body.

Today corporations are being busy bodies and spying on us. They do this through digital research on the things that we buy with our credit cards, the things that we sell, where we live, where we bank, and where we travel, etc. In addition, the cell phone companies

know through geo-positioning applications that are on our cell phone where we are geographically all the times. That is one method that can be used to track criminals. It is okay to track criminals. You obtain a warrant to track a criminal. However, we now have the ability to follow people from place to place throughout their day as long as they have their cell phone with them. We can also find out what they purchased and, if the people they meet have cell phones, we can identify with whom they met. The phone companies keep our text messages and searches on the Internet. The government has been recording and storing our telephone calls in digital form for what it calls national security. It is not difficult to store that data and record your behavior over several days, weeks, months or even years. Could that data then be retrieved? The answer is yes. We are free to move about and purchase what we wish and meet with whomever we wish. Should that be information that the government possesses?

We are sinful creatures and we will do things we should not do. Sometimes we do innocent things that seem bad to others. Freedom carries with it the freedom to sin. Can these sins be used against us in the future? Of course they can. These sinful acts are between the individual and God, not between the individual and the government. The Internal Revenue Service, the FBI, the CIA, local law enforcement and others, if given this information, could use that information to restrict our freedom and more importantly even destroy our personal lives. With an unlimited government there will be no restriction on government intervention in our personal lives. We must add to this, the fact that all of our personal medical histories are now digitized and through a government run healthcare plan are accessible by the government.

Christ calls us to be free. Christ does not call the government to be a busy body.

Spying on other countries and enemies.

- **Numbers 13:1-2 & 17-18**

And the Lord spoke unto Moses, saying, “Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel. Of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a

man, every one a ruler among them.”.... And Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said unto them, “Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain. And see the land, what it is, and the people who dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak, few or many.....

A right to petition the government.

- **Esther 4:11**

“All the king’s servants and the people of the king’s provinces do know that whosoever, whether man or woman, shall come unto the king into the inner court who is not called, there is one law of his: to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden scepter, that he may live. But I have not been called to come in unto the king these thirty days.”

The Esther story took place during the Babylonian captivity. It happened at approximately 700 BC. The Babylonians were pagans. Pagan kings placed no limits on their pursuit of approbation. The only limits on the pagan king were the limits he placed on himself. Therefore he could have a rule that said if you enter into his presence without his permission you could be executed at his discretion. He could also change those limits at his discretion. Ancient Israel had non-amendable limits placed upon their king by God. Our founding fathers in creating our Bill of Rights looked at these non-amendable, inalienable, Biblical, Universal Truths to frame our rights.

We are Equal Under the Law

- **Acts 10:34-35**

Then Peter opened his mouth and said, “In truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons.”

- For people who are unfamiliar with the Biblical term, respecter of person, it means that God does not favor one person over another. For example, he does not favor the wealthy over the poor or man over woman.

- **Ephesians 6:9**

And ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening, knowing that your Master also is in Heaven; neither is there respect of persons with Him.

- **Colossians 3:25**

But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done, and there is no respect of persons.

- **1 Peter 1:17**

And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear.

These verses are used to create the oath of Federal Judges. Each justice or judge of the United States shall take the following oath or affirmation before performing the duties of his office: "I, XXX XXX, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will administer justice without respect to persons, and do equal right to the poor and to the rich, and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as XXX under the Constitution and laws of the United States. So help me God."

We are Equal but Not the Same

- **Genesis 1:27**

So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them.

We are equal explanation: In Genesis 1:27 God says he will treat us equally. We are to try to treat others as God treats us. If we are treated equally that limits the government because the government cannot make special exceptions and special laws and special powers to deal with people in an unequal fashion. An example is the Jim Crow laws in the South. Those laws treated black people in a different manner and unequally. That granted to government additional powers it should not have had.

How should we view Government?

- **1 Timothy 2:1-2**

I exhort therefore, first of all, that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and for all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

Everyone pays taxes, not just the wealthy.

- **Matthew 17:24-27**

And when they had come to Capernaum, those who collected the tribute money came to Peter and said, “Doth not your master pay tribute?” He said, “Yes.” And when he had come into the house, Jesus preceded him, saying, “What thinkest thou, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? From their ownchildren, or from strangers?” Peter said unto Him, “From strangers.” Jesus said unto him, “Then are the children free. Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea and cast a hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up. And when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money. That take, and give unto them for Me and thee.”

Freedom of Religion.

- **Matthew 10:14**

And whosoever shall not receive you, nor hear your words, when ye depart out of that house or city, shake off the dust of your feet.

Personal Liberty.

- **Galatians 5:1**

Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Right to Bear Arms.

- **Luke 11:21**

When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace.

- **Luke 22:36**

Then said He unto them, “But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it and likewise his pack; and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one.”

Double Jeopardy.

- **Nahum 1:9**

What do ye contrive against the LORD? He will make an utter end; affliction shall not rise up the second time.

Freedom of Speech.

- **Acts 5:26-29**

The Apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the High Priest. “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name,” he said. “Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man’s blood.”

Peter and other apostles replied; “We must obey God rather than human beings!”

Right to be free on bond prior to trial.

- **Numbers 35:12**

And they shall be unto you cities for refuge from the avenger, that the manslayer die not until he stand before the congregation in judgment.

Socialism and Income Inequality.

- **Exodus 20:15**

Thou shalt not steal

- **Proverbs 10:4**

He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand, but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.

- **Proverbs 14:30**

A sound heart is the life of the flesh, but envy is the rottenness of the bones.

- **James 3:14-15**

But if ye have bitter envy and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. Such wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, and devilish.

In any study on the roots of socialism you will find that the ultimate driving force is jealousy. When somebody has more than someone else it is viewed by some as unfair and ignores the fact that God administers his grace as he sees fit. The Lord also tells us to be thankful for the material wealth we have and to be content with it. We are also given spiritual blessings and must recognize that they are more valuable than gold, silver and precious stones. In addition

to the forgoing, the commandment that says “Thou shalt not steal” carries with it the absolute law that you have a right to your property.

Right to Remain Silent

- **Mark 15:3-5**

The chief priests accused him of many things. So again Pilate asked him, “Aren’t you going to answer? See how many things they are accusing you of.” But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed.

Environment

- **Genesis 8:22**

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

- **2nd Peter 3:10**

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

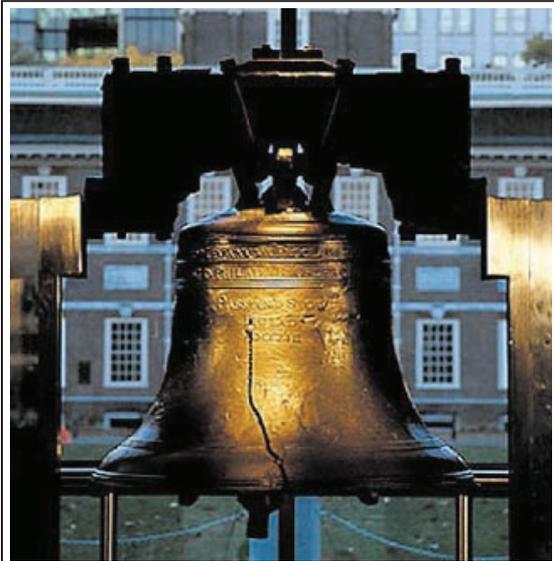
- **Genesis 1:26**

Then God said, let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.

Environment: We think these verses are self-explanatory. Sometimes the obvious is missed by the reader. Many environmentalists think that man is going to destroy the world by abusing the environment. There are many reasons why this makes no sense. One is the arrogance of the person who believes that man is powerful enough to destroy the world. The second is that God has already said that He is the one that is going to destroy the world. The earth is given by God to man for his use. We certainly should clean up our messes but that does not mean that we should not use what we have. God will at his return destroy this world.

POST SCRIPT

This booklet is not a proposal for a theocracy. It is quite the opposite. It is a proposal to stop a secular theocracy. Christ calls us to be free. Christ calls for freedom from any enslavement including Government. That is what God commands. This freedom can only be obtained through a free discourse of the Holy Scripture in society. Anything else results in bondage. When we lack knowledge about God and His word, we are in bondage and this is man's natural state without the Christian faith. It is not that Christianity needs the public square; God does not need anything. It is the public square that needs the freedom of Christianity.



The Liberty Bell

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

In our first printed edition of this booklet I did not add my name as the Author. The reason I chose not to is because this booklet is about God's word and I don't take credit for any of it. All the credit and glory belongs to Him. However, since the first version of this booklet, I have become more familiar with a verse from my childhood through reading Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book *The Costs of Discipleship* and Matthew Henry's commentary on the same verse. That verse is Matthew 5:16, and it reads as follows: "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven". I am also a sinner, saved by grace. As it says in the Scripture, what a man thinks is what a man is. I continually confess my sin as provided in 1 John 1:9, and know, that I am forgiven of those sins and cleansed of all unrighteousness.

Education

Marshall Bandy, Jr. was born in Ringgold, Georgia, as were his parents. He was educated in the public schools of Catoosa County. He graduated from Mercer University in Macon, Georgia, in 1971 with a degree in Political Science. He graduated from John Marshall Law School in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1975, and began his practice in Ringgold, Georgia, in December of 1975 as a sole practitioner.

Profession

Marshall has practiced before the Georgia Superior Court, Georgia Court of Appeals, Georgia Supreme Court and the Georgia Workers Compensation Board of Appeals. He has also appeared before numerous administrative agencies including the Department of Labor, Public Health and Public Safety. He has had extensive experience in practicing before the Georgia Public Service Commission. He has argued cases in the US 5th and 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, tried numerous cases before the US District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, and has extensive litigation experience in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

Political Experience

Over the last forty-five years he worked to help local Republican candidates get elected. 1969-2000: Catoosa County Chairman Republican Party - six terms, 7th District Committee Member – two terms, State Committee Member - five terms, 1988: National Delegate to Republican National Committee in New Orleans for George H. W. Bush, 1988: Elected Parliamentarian of the Georgia Republican Party.

Media Experience

For ten years, he also was the owner of WSGC, a radio station in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He also built and operated the first cable TV system in Catoosa County from 1977-1979. Since 2005 he has been on the Board of Directors and President of Boynton Educational Radio which holds the license for WAAK FM LP.

