

## Your VOTE - “God cannot sustain this free and blessed country.”



In exercising your right to vote, you are, according to Samuel Adams, “executing one of the most solemn trusts in human society for which he is [you are] accountable to God and his country.” As a citizen, no matter what your country of origin or religion, you are the posterity of the country’s Christian Founding Fathers and patriots who earned the freedoms you enjoy at the expense of much blood and treasure. They considered Liberty and Freedom to be a gift from God, not from man or government. You the voter bear a far bigger responsibility than you may realize for the gift of Liberty and Freedom you have inherited.

The establishment of the United States as a country was an anomaly in history, which by all human foresight and calculation should not have happened. The country came into existence only because it had divine assistance. George Washington wrote and spoke endlessly about the hand of Providence [God] in the Revolutionary War and formation of the Republic, as did many of the Founding Fathers. To the point

of an anomaly in history, he wrote, “To say nothing of the invisible workings of Providence, which has conducted us through difficulties where no human foresight could point the way; it will appear evident to a close examiner, that there has been a concatenation of causes to produce this event; which in all probability at no time, or under any circumstances, will combine again.”

The United States was the first government ever in recorded history to be established based on the laws of the Old and New Testament. The Declaration of Independence was a divinely inspired document that set the cornerstone of human government based on the laws of the Old and New Testament. Under a Declaration of Independence, they [the American people] were, as John Quincy Adams stated, “bound by the laws of God, and by the laws of The Gospel.” “The highest glory of the American Revolution was this; it connected in one indissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity.” And as Benjamin Franklin predicted, “He who shall introduce into public affairs the principles of Christianity will change the face of the world” and they did.

The three branches of government, thanks to James Madison are right out writings of the Hebrew prophet Isaiah. “For the LORD is our judge [Judicial]; the LORD is our lawgiver [Legislative]; the LORD is our king [Executive]; he will save us.” The Constitutional Convention would be known as the “Miracle at Philadelphia,” [the U.S. Constitution] because most who attended felt something supernatural had happened. They used words like Miracle, finger of God, finger of that Almighty hand and hand of God to describe the events that had transpired. Washington noted, “that superintending Power [God] alone is our retraction from the brink of ruin.” “I do not believe that the [U.S.] Constitution was the offspring of inspiration” stated Dr. Benjamin Rush, “but I am perfectly satisfied that the Union of the States in its form and adoption is as much the work of a Divine Providence as any of the miracles recorded in the Old and New Testaments.”

The United States’s [a Republic] legal system was designed so that the laws of Government [public law] would not be in violation of divine law. All political institutions were staked upon the capacity of it’s citizens for

self-government and to govern themselves and control themselves according to the Ten Commandments of God. Founding Father and Supreme Court justice James Wilson wrote that “human law must rest its authority, upon the authority of that law, which is divine.” “Far from being rivals or enemies, religion and law are twin sisters, friends, and mutual assistants. ...divine laws form an essential part of both.” “The Bible [was &] is the cornerstone of liberty” and freedom as Jefferson so noted.

Not since the time of Moses, the Founding Fathers put God over the government of the United States, not man. Citizens were beholden to God or “One Nation Under God” not to a King, Queen or President. John Jay observed that “The Americans are the first people whom Heaven has favored with an opportunity of deliberating upon and choosing the forms of government under which they should live.” Elected officials served their civic roles in respect and with understanding of the laws of the Old and New Testament and “in fear of God.”

“All men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights [God given]; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that, to secure these rights [God given], governments are instituted among men.” It was an accepted truth by the founders that piety and virtue were traits necessary in civil society to protect citizens God given rights. Those teachings and knowledge of their rights and moral lessons could only be obtained, the Founding Fathers stated from reading the Bible, which is why education [public] was stressed. Founding Father Dr Benjamin Rush, considered the “father of public schools” wrote, “the only foundation for a useful education in a republic is to be laid in religion. Without this there can be no virtue, and without virtue there can be no liberty.” “Freedom can exist only in the society of knowledge. Without learning, men are incapable of knowing their rights.” Citizens, clearly understanding their God given rights, thus could prevent untrustworthy, cunning and scheming men from limiting, removing or compromising them.

In defiance of all odds, through extraordinary and unexpected events the United States of America was established as a sovereign country. It truly was a miracle. Jefferson wrote, “My God! How little do my countrymen know what precious blessings they are in possession of, and which no other people on earth enjoy!” “The God who gave us life, gave us liberty. And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are a gift from God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath?” “Hold on, my friends, to the Constitution, said Daniel Webster after the government was on Her feet, “and to the Republic for which it stands, for miracles do not cluster. And what has happened once in 6,000 years may never happen again. So hold on to the Constitution, for if it should fall, there will be anarchy throughout the world”

The country’s Christian Founding Fathers, patriots, statesman and leaders shared many words of wisdom on your responsibility in voting. George Washington in his Farewell Address to the country in 1796 said, “Let me ...warn you in the most solemn manner against the baneful effects of the spirit of party ...[it’s] common and continual mischiefs of the spirit of party are sufficient to make it the interest and duty of a wise people to discourage and restrain it. ...It agitates the community with ill-founded jealousies and false alarms, kindles the animosity of one part against another, ...It opens the door to foreign influence and corruption, which finds a facilitated access to the government itself through the channels of party passions. ...in governments purely elective, it is a spirit not to be encouraged.”

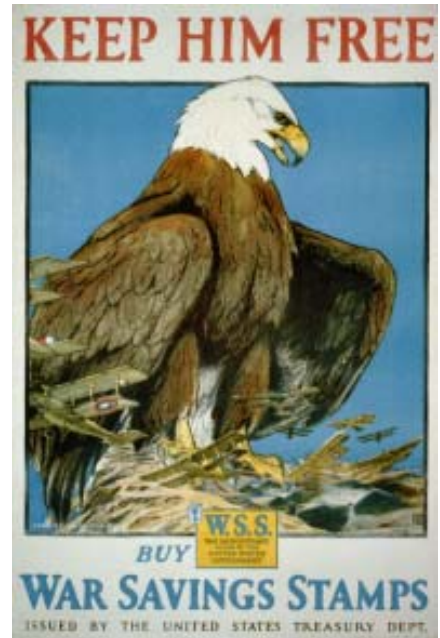


Noah Webster instructed, “when you become entitled to exercise the right of voting for public officers, let it be impressed on your mind that God commands you to choose for rulers, just men who will rule in the fear of God. The preservation of [our] republican government depends on the faithful discharge of this Duty; if the citizens

neglect their Duty and place unprincipled men in office, the government will soon be corrupted; laws will be made, not for the public good so much as for selfish or local purposes; corrupt or incompetent men will be appointed to execute the Laws; the public revenues will be squandered on unworthy men; and the rights of the citizen will be violated or disregarded.” He also warned, “When a citizen gives his suffrage [vote] to a man of known immorality he abuses his trust; he sacrifices not only his own interest, but that of his neighbor, he betrays the interest of his country.”

Perhaps more to the point of a voters responsibility was uttered by Reverend Charles G. Finney in 1835, when he said, “God cannot sustain this free and blessed country, which we love and pray for ... Politics are a part of a religion in such a country as this, and Christians [& citizens] must do their duty to the country as a part of their duty to God. It seems sometimes as if the foundations of the nation are becoming rotten, and Christians [& citizens] seem to act as if they think God does not see what they do in politics. But I tell you He does see it, and He will bless or curse this nation, according to the course they take.”

What you have inherited and now bear responsibility for as a citizen and voter can best be described as God’s experiment in time. An experiment to see if a united people, under God, can self govern themselves as a country and abide by the Word and the Law of the Old and New Testament. You have been entrusted with a sacred trust for the stewardship of this country, you therefore bear some moral responsibility for the actions and decisions of those elected on your behalf. Use your vote wisely and **“let not your children ‘have reason to curse you for giving up those rights and prostrating those institutions which your fathers delivered to you.”** [Rev. Matthias Burnet, 1803] Because as Thomas Jefferson warned, “if a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be.”



**Editors Note:** “God cannot sustain this free and blessed country” is a quote from Reverend Charles G. Finney, 1835. It should be noted that God does not have limitations on what He can do. God can sustain this free and blessed country if He chooses, even if the country has transgressed against the Law, and the Word, or elects corrupt, unprincipled, or incompetent men to office.

### **Quotes of interest on voting and good government.**

“Always vote for principle, though you may vote alone, and you may cherish the sweetest reflection that your vote is never lost.”

— John Quincy Adams, (1767-1848) 6th President of the United States

“And this leads me to say, now more than ever before, the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless, and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness, and corruption. If it be intelligent, brave, and pure, it is because the people demand these high qualities to represent them in national legislature. ... If the next centennial does not find us a great nation. ... it will be because those who represent the enterprise, the culture, and the morality of the nation do not aid in controlling the political forces.”

— James Garfield (1831-1881) Twentieth president of the United States

“When the people find they can vote themselves money, that will herald the end of the republic.”  
— Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) Statesman, Scientist, Inventor, Printer and Philosopher

“I apprehend no danger to our country from a foreign foe. The prospect of a war with any powerful nation is too remote to be a matter of calculation. Besides, there is no nation on earth powerful enough to accomplish our overthrow. Our destruction, should it come at all, will be from another quarter. From the inattention of the people to the concerns of their government, from their carelessness and negligence, I do apprehend some danger. I fear that they may place too implicit a confidence in their public servants, and fail to properly scrutinize their conduct; that in this way they may be the dupes of designing men, and become the instruments of their own undoing [and ours]. Make them [students] intelligent, [taught the Bible and understand their God given rights in school] and they will be vigilant; give them the means of detecting the wrong, and they will apply the remedy. ...I regard it [countries founding & Constitution] as the work of the purest patriots and wisest statesman that ever existed, aided by the smiles of a benignant Providence; for when we regard it as a system of government growing out of the discordant opinions and conflicting interests of thirteen independent States, it almost appears Divine interposition in our behalf. . . . I believe, if the bond of union were broken, we should never again be a united people. . . . I do not expect miracles to follow each other. No plan could be proposed that would be adopted; the hand that destroys the Constitution renders our Union asunder for ever.”

— Daniel Webster (1782-1852) Author, Lawyer and Patriot

“Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch. Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote!”

— Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) Statesman, Scientist, Inventor, Printer and Philosopher

“Those who are vested with civil authority ought also with much care to promote religion and good morals among all under their government. If we give credit to the Holy Scriptures, he that ruleth must be just, ruling in the fear of God. Those who wish well to the State ought to choose to places of trust men of inward principle, justified by exemplary conversation. Those who pay no regard to religion and sobriety, in the persons whom they send to the legislature of any state, will soon pay dearly for their folly. . . . the people in general ought to have regard to the moral character of those whom they invest with authority, either in the legislative, executive, or judicial branches.”

— John Witherspoon (1722-1794) Educator, Economist, Minister, Writer & Founding Father

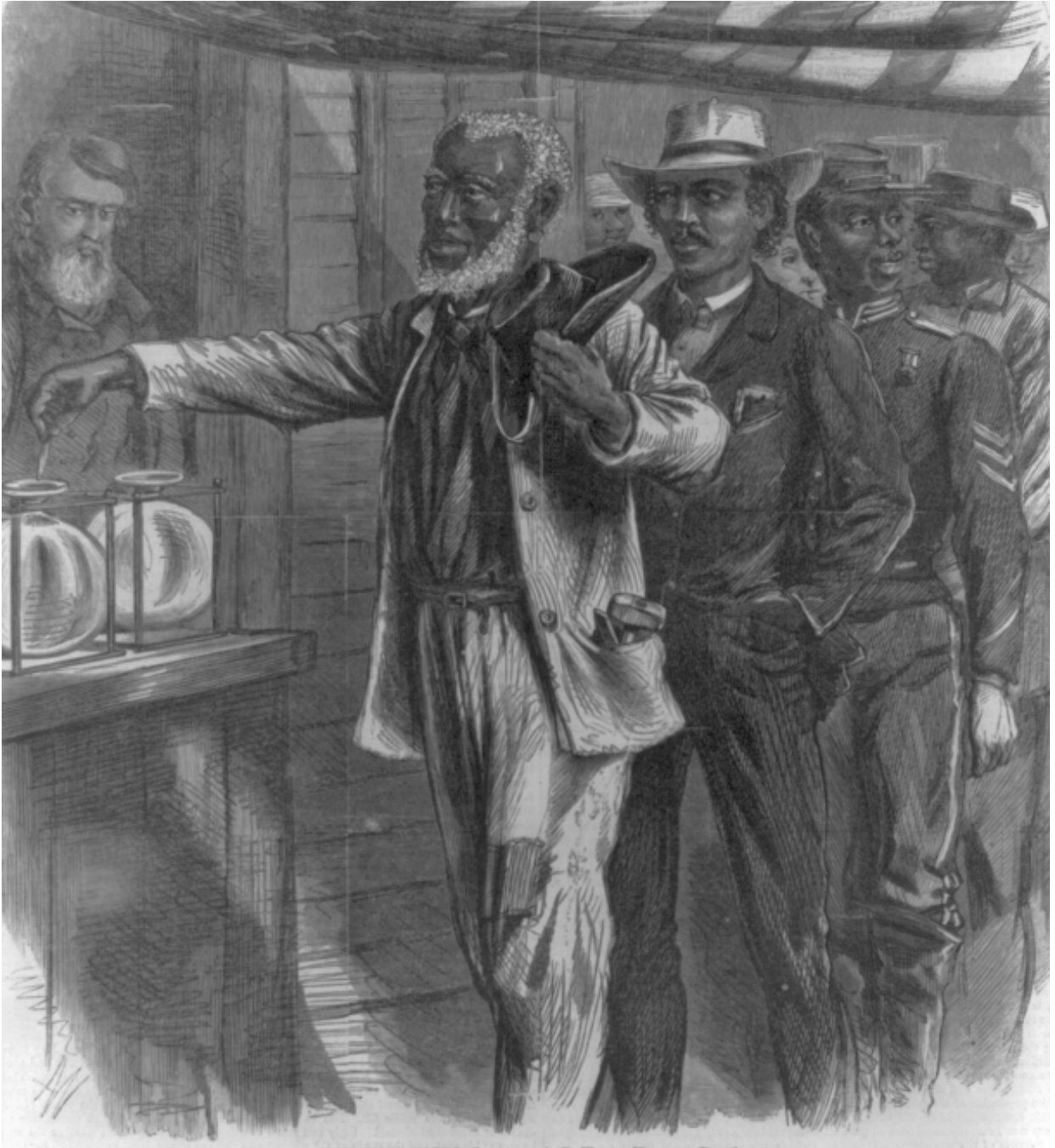
“But the truth is that it is only by believing in God that we can ever criticize the government. Once abolish the God, and the government becomes the God. That fact is written all across human history; but it is written most plainly across the recent history of Russia; which was created by Lenin. There the government is the God, and all the more the God, because it proclaims aloud in accents of thunder. . . . one essential commandment, “Thou shalt have no other gods but Me.””

— G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936) British Journalist, Poet, Author and Playwright

“They will [mothers] impress upon children the truth that the exercise of the elective franchise is a social duty of as solemn a nature as man can be called to perform; that a man may not innocently trifle with his vote; that every elector is a trustee as well for others as himself and that every measure he supports has an important bearing on the interests of others as well as on his own. It is in the inculcation of high and pure morals such as these that a free republic woman performs her sacred

duty and fulfills her destiny. ...I noticed lately on the title page of one of books of popular instruction in France, this motto: “Pour instruction on the heads of people; you owe them that baptism.” And certainly, if there be any duty which many described by a reference to that great institute of religion, a duty approaching it in importance, perhaps next to it in obligation, it is this.”

— Daniel Webster (1782-1852) Author, Lawyer and Patriot



“A nation of well-informed men who have been taught to know and prize the rights which God has given them cannot be enslaved. It is in the religion of ignorance that tyranny begins.”

— Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) Statesman, Scientist, Inventor, Printer and Philosopher

“Governments, like clocks, go from the motion men give them ; and as Governments are made and moved by men, so by them they are ruined too. Wherefore governments rather depend upon men than men upon governments. Let men be good [virtue & fear of God] and the government cannot be bad; if it be ill, they will cure it. But, if men be bad, let the government be ever so good, they will endeavor to warp and spoil it to their turn.”

— William Penn (1644-1718) Quaker and founder of Pennsylvania

“There must be religion. When that ligament is torn, society is disjointed and its members perish. The nation is exposed to foreign violence and domestic convulsion. Vicious rulers, chosen by vicious people, turn back the current of corruption to its source. Placed in a situation where they can exercise authority for their own emolument, they betray their trust. They take bribes. They sell statutes and decrees. They sell honor and office. They sell their conscience. They sell their country. . . . But the most important of all lessons is the denunciation of ruin to every state that rejects the precepts of religion.”

— Gouverneur Morris (1752-1816) Statesman, Diplomat, writer of the final draft of the Constitution

“Statesmen my dear Sir, may plan and speculate for Liberty, but it is Religion and Morality alone, which can establish the Principles upon which Freedom can securely stand. The only foundation of a free Constitution, is pure Virtue, and if this cannot be inspired into our People, in a great Measure, than they have it now, They may change their Rulers, and the forms of Government, but they will not obtain a lasting Liberty. They will only exchange tyrants and tyrannies.”

— John Adams (1797-1801) Second President of the United States and Patriot

### **Judge John Jay’s Charge [words of wisdom to future generations]**

“A revolution which, in the whole course of its rise and progress, is distinguished by so many marks of Divine favor and interposition, that no doubt can remain of its being finally accomplished. It was begun, and has been supported, in a manner so singular, and I say miraculous, that when future ages shall read its history, they will be tempted to consider great part of it fabulous. . . . But, however incredible these things may in the future appear, we know them to be true, and we should always remember, that the many remarkable and unexpected means and events, by which our wants have been supplied, and our enemies repelled or restrained, are such strong and striking proofs of the interposition of heaven, that our having hitherto delivered from the threatened bondage of Britain, ought, like the emancipation of the Jews from Egyptian servitude, and to be forever ascribed to its true cause, and instead of swelling our breasts with arrogant ideas of our prowess and importances, kindle in them a flame of gratitude and piety, which may consume all remains of vice and irreligion [want of religion, or contempt of it; impiety]. Blessed be to God! ...

The Americans are the first people whom heaven has favored with an opportunity of deliberating upon, and choosing the forms of government under which they should live; —all other constitutions have derived their existence from violence or accidental circumstances, ... Your life, your liberties, your property, will be at the disposal of your Creator and yourselves. You will know no power but such as you will create; no authority unless derived from your grant; no laws, but such as acquired all their obligations from your consent. ... Adequate security is also given to the rights of conscience and private judgment. They are, by nature, subject to no control but that of the Deity and in that free situation they are now left. Every man is permitted to consider, to adore and to worship his creator

in the manner most agreeable to his conscience. No opinions are dictated; no rules of faith prescribed; no preference given to one sect [of Christianity over] to the prejudice of others.

The constitution, however, has wisely declared, that the “liberty of conscience thereby granted shall not be so construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or justify practices inconsistent with the peace or safety of the State.” In a word, the convention by whom that constitution was formed were of opinion that the gospel of Christ, like the ark of God, would not fall, though unsupported by the arm of flesh; and happy would it be for mankind if that opinion prevailed more generally. ...from the people it must receive its spirit, and by them be quickened, Let virtue, honor, the love of liberty and of science be, and remain, the soul of this constitution, and it will become the source of great and extensive happiness to this and future generations. Vice, ignorance, and want of vigilance, will be the only enemies able to destroy it. Against these provide, and, of these, be forever jealous. **Every member of the state, ought diligently to read and study the constitution of his country, and teach the rising generation to be free. By knowing their rights [God given], they [you the voter] will sooner perceive when they are violated, and be the better prepared to defend and assert them.**”

— John Jay (1745-1829), Founding Father, Patriot, Statesman and First Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

“When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the wicked rule, the people groan.”

— Proverbs 29:2 RSV

---

When a people lose their history, they lose a part of who they are.  
Reclaim your heritage, pass this on to a friend or family member.

---

[www.GodTheOriginalIntent.com](http://www.GodTheOriginalIntent.com)

**Copyright © 2008 Michael A. Shea - All Rights Reserved**