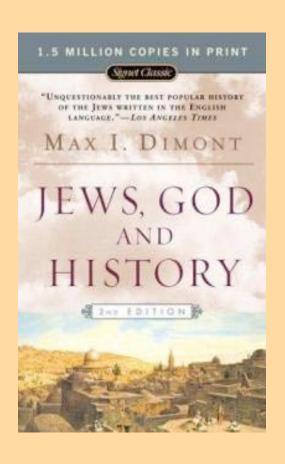
September II, the Constitution and the Battle for Freedom

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www.deanbible.org
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Eph. 6:12, "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places.*"



"The Mosaic Code... was the first truly judicial, written code, and eclipsed previously known laws with its all-encompassing humanism, its passion for justice, its love of democracy..."

~Max I. Dimont, *Jews, God, and History*, 1962

King Alfred the Great "Book of Dooms" 9th century AD

Rabbi Moses ben Maimon "Maimonides" Jewish commercial law 12th century AD

Church Canon Law
Lanfranc, Thomas a Becket
John of Salisbury

Magna Carta
1215
English King is under the law
empowered by the barons

Sir William Blackstone
Judge
Oxford Law professor
Commentaries on the Laws of
England, 1765–1769

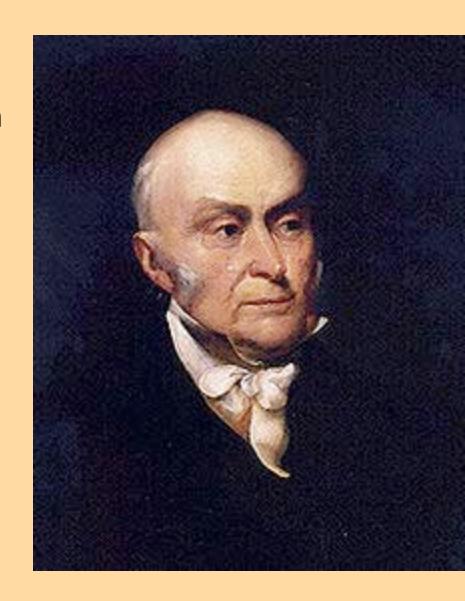
U.S. Constitution

1. Religious affiliation of the delegates (55 total)

- 28 Episcopalians
- 8 Presbyterians
- 7 Congregationalists
- 2 Dutch Reformed
- 2 Lutherans
- 2 Methodists
- 2 Roman Catholics
- 1 unknown
- 3 Deists or rationalistic Unitarians

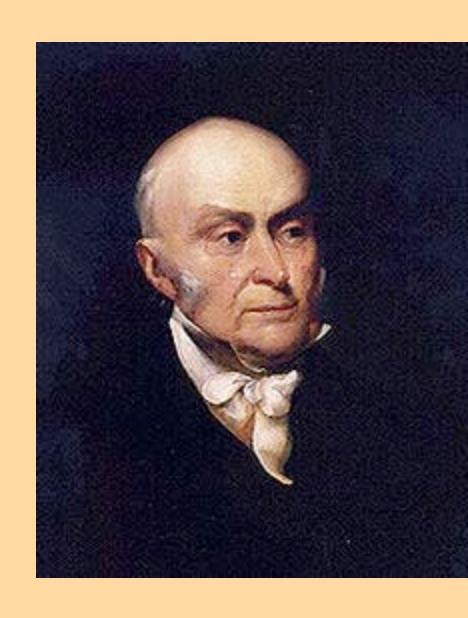
"Is it not that the Declaration of Independence first organized the social compact on the foundation of the Redeemer's mission upon earth? That it laid the corner stone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity..."

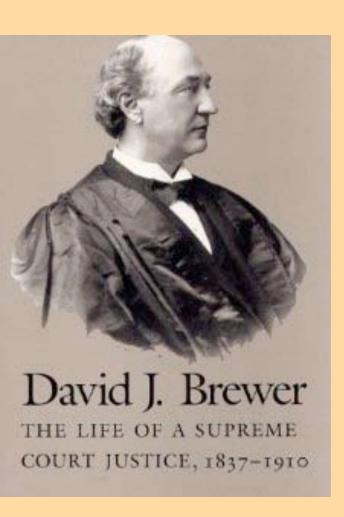
~John Quincy Adams



"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."

~John Quincy Adams





"This republic is classified among the Christian nations of the world. It was so formally declared by the Supreme Court of the United States."

The most frequently cited source in the writings of the founding era was the Bible, by 34%.

The most frequently quoted in the NT, was Paul in Romans 13, Peter in 1 Peter 2 and followed by John's gospel.

The Old Testament citations came from first Deuteronomy, then Isaiah, Genesis, Exodus, and Leviticus.

"when reading comprehensively in the political literature of the war years, one cannot but be struck by the extent to which biblical sources used by ministers and traditional Whigs undergirded the justification for the break with Britain, the rationale for continuing the war, and the basic principles of American's writing their own constitutions."

~Donald S. Lutz, *The Origins of American Constitutionalism*, 1988.

"As a Jew I am filled with profound gratitude to America... Life in America has been good for American Jews. It would be churlish to deny it... I believe Jews live comfortably in America only due to that Christian heritage... As an American, I am grateful for the religious outlook that guided the founders of this country; as a Jew I tremble at the thought of what a post-Christian America might mean for my people."

~Daniel Lapin, America's Real War: An Orthodox Rabbi Insists that Judeo-Christian Values are Vital for Our Nation's Survival (Sisters, OR: Nultnomah, 1999), 113–7.

"Contemporary liberals seem to believe that the Judeo-Christian heritage upon which America was founded is no longer needed. That is why they work passionately to keep mention of God out of public schools... But the result—and for some, the agenda —is the removal of religion and God from as much of American life as possible. Unlike secular liberal Jews (and their organizations), this Jew fears a post-Christian America. We have seen post-Christianity in Nazism and Communism; and I saw what a religion-free America might be like a few blocks from my home during the riots in Los Angeles."

[~]Dennis Prager, *Think a Second Time* (NY: Regan, 1995), 95–96.

"Clearly this nation was established by Christians. It was settled by men and women of devout faith. The Puritans and the Pilgrims had the greatest impact upon the development of our political institutions. The Declaration of Independence contains no fewer than five separate references to God, as Creator, Supreme Lawgiver, Source of rights, and Protector and Patron. As a Jew, I'm entirely comfortable with the concept of a Christian America."

~Don Feder, Boston Herald, Jewish columnist



"As much as I love, esteem and admire the Greeks, I believe the Hebrews have done more to enlighten and civilize the world. Moses did more than all of their legislators and philosophers."

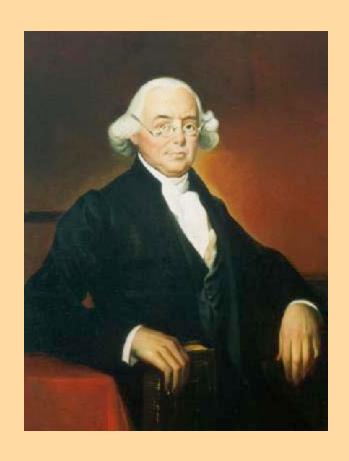
~John Adams

1. Human law was based on, and reflected, the higher law of God.

Human law did not derive from finite human minds, but was sourced in the thinking and revelation of God.

"[Moral or natural law was] ... given by the Sovereign of the universe to all mankind... Being founded by infinite wisdom and goodness on essential right, which never varies, it can require no amendment or alteration."

~John Jay, letter to John Murray, 15 April 1818.



"But it should always be remembered that this law, natural or revealed, made for men or for nations, flows from the same divine source; it is the law of God..."

James Wilson,
Signer of the Declaration
and Constitution,
Supreme Court Justice

2. Thus, the unalienable rights of man are not given by government, but are given by God.

"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 the gift of God. That they are not to be violated but with His wrath?"

~Thomas Jefferson

3. A low view of the nature of man.

Eccl. 7:20, "Indeed, there is not a righteous man upon the earth who doeth good and sinneth not."

Jer. 17:9, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?"

Rom. 3:10, "As it is written: 'There is none righteous, no, not one; Rom. 3:11, " 'There is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God.' "

Rom. 3:23, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

"The depravity which mankind inherited from their first parents, introduced wickedness into the world. That wickedness rendered human government necessary to restrain the violence and injustice resulting from it. To facilitate the establishment and administration of government, the human race became, in the course of Providence, divided into separate and distinct nations. Every nation instituted a government, with authority and power to protect it against domestic and foreign aggressions."

~John Jay

"If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary. In framing a government which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the government to control the governed and in the next place oblige it to control itself."

~James Madison, Federalist No. 51

4. A government of limited, delegated powers.

Deut. 17:15, "you shall surely set a king over you whom the LORD your God chooses; one from among your brethren you shall set as king over you; you may not set a foreigner over you, who is not your brother.

Deut. 17:16, "But he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for the LORD has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again.'"

Deut. 17:17, "Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself.

Deut. 17:18, "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites."

Deut. 17:19, "And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes,

Deut. 17:20, "that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel."

Article 2, Section 4

The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

5. Separate judiciary, as well as a vertical delegation of powers, based on Jethro's advice to Moses in Exodus 18:13–27.

Ex. 18:21, "Moreover you shall select from all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.

Ex. 18:22, "And let them judge the people at all times. Then it will be that every great matter they shall bring to you, but every small matter they themselves shall judge. So it will be easier for you, for they will bear the burden with you."

6. The belief that all men are created equal is based on Gen. 1:26–27; and embodied in the Mosaic Law principle that judges were to treat everyone equally and fairly under the law. Ex. 23:6, Acts 10:34.

Gen. 1:27, "So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

Lev. 19:15, "You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor."

Ex. 23:6, "You shall not pervert the judgment of your poor in his dispute. Ex. 23:7, "Keep yourself far from a false matter; do not kill the innocent and righteous. For I will not justify the wicked. Ex. 23:8, "And you shall take no bribe, for a bribe blinds the discerning and perverts the words of the righteous."

Deut. 1:17, "'You shall not show partiality in judgment; you shall hear the small as well as the great; you shall not be afraid in any man's presence, for the judgment is God's. The case that is too hard for you, bring to me, and I will hear it.'

Deut. 10:17, "For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe."

Deut. 19:15, "One witness shall not rise against a man concerning any iniquity or any sin that he commits; by the mouth of two or three witnesses the matter shall be established."

Sixth Amendment:

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right ...to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

Gen. 9:6, "Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed; for in the image of God He made man."

7. The right of private property and for the owner to use it as he sees fit.

Ex. 20:15, "You shall not steal."

Ex. 20:17, "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."

"The moment the idea is admitted into society that property is not as sacred as the laws of God and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence. If 'Thou Shalt Not Covent,' and 'Thou Shalt Not Steal' were not commandments from Heaven, they must be made inviolable precepts in every society before it can be civilized or made free."

~John Adams

8. The selection by the people of those who would rule over them.

Deut. 1:13, "Choose wise, understanding, and knowledgeable men from among your tribes, and I will make them heads over you."

9. Contract rights were foundational in Israel's law and were a primary influence in English common law and in the Constitutional safeguards of property rights.

"While the storm clouds gather far across the sea, Let us swear allegiance to a land that's free. Let us all be grateful for a land so fair, As we raise our voices in a solemn prayer:

"God bless America, land that I love, Stand beside her and guide her Through the night with a light from above. From the mountains, to the prairies, To the oceans white with foam, God bless America, My home sweet home."