

Decision Making in  
the Voting Booth

Lesson #02

October 21, 2008

Dean Bible Ministries  
[www.deanbibleministries.org](http://www.deanbibleministries.org)

Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.



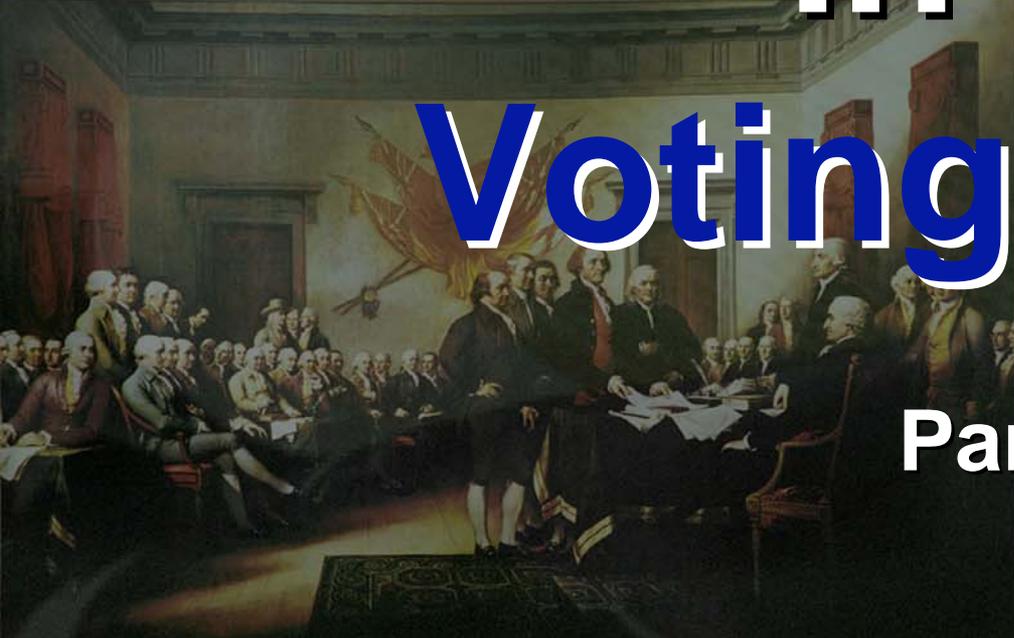
# Decision

# Making

# in the

# Voting Booth

## Part 2



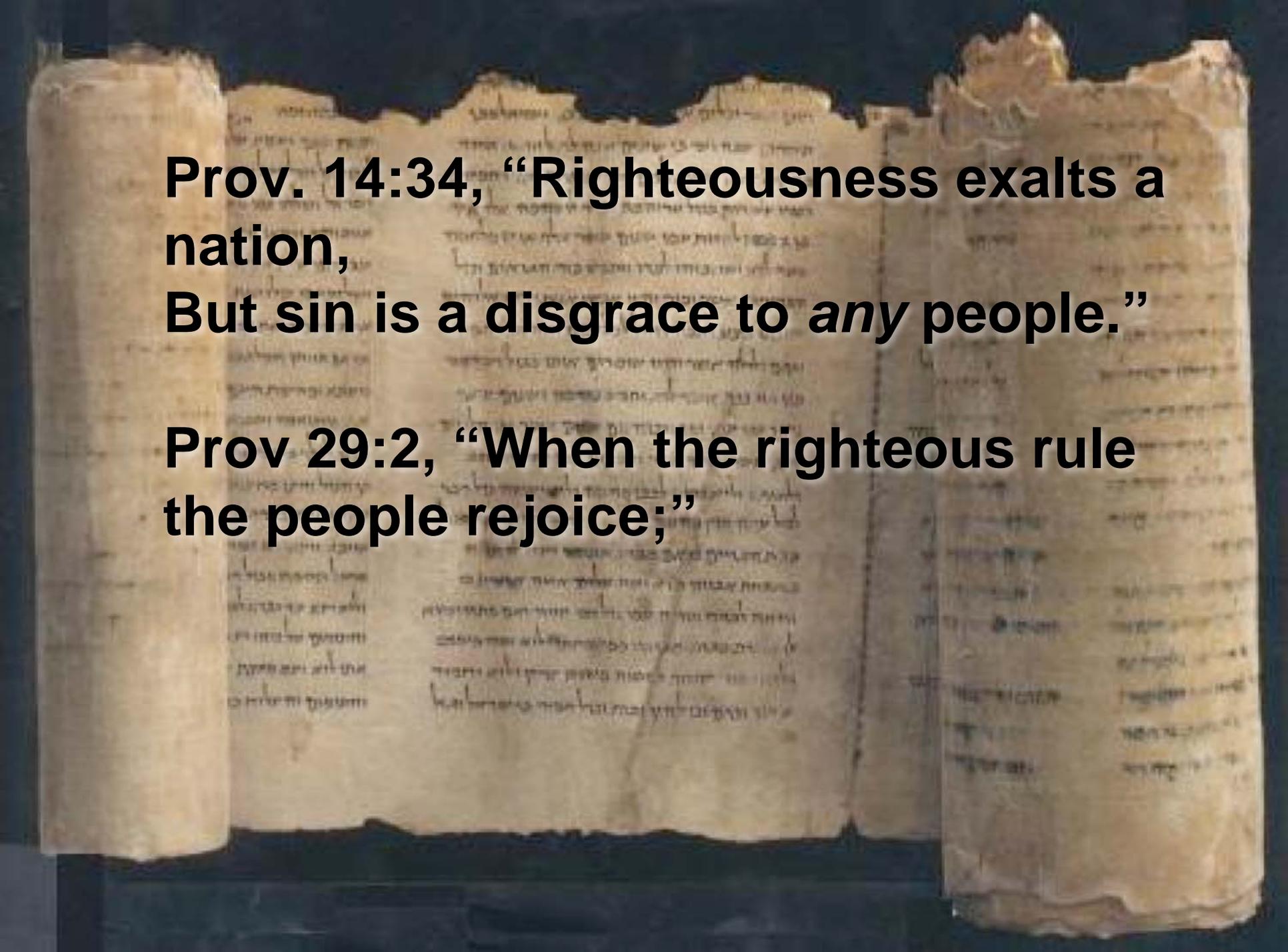
IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.  
A DECLARATION  
BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

When in the Course of these Transactions, it became necessary for our People to declare the Independence which has asserted the Rights of the Colonies, and to assume the Powers of the State, we have solemnly appealed to the Justice and Wisdom of the whole of Mankind, and to the Good Sense of our Brethren in all Parts of the World, for their Approbation of our Conduct, and for their Assistance in our Struggle for Liberty and Independence. We have also solemnly appealed to the Justice and Wisdom of our Brethren in all Parts of the World, for their Assistance in our Struggle for Liberty and Independence. We have also solemnly appealed to the Justice and Wisdom of our Brethren in all Parts of the World, for their Assistance in our Struggle for Liberty and Independence.



They hold elections in  
November because it's the  
best time for  
picking out  
a turkey.





**Prov. 14:34, “Righteousness exalts a nation,  
But sin is a disgrace to *any* people.”**

**Prov 29:2, “When the righteous rule  
the people rejoice;”**

## **First Rationale**

All citizens of the U.S. have a responsibility to vote intelligently and wisely to preserve and defend the Constitution, the basis for the blessing of freedom which we have.

All Christians are mandated to do whatever they do [including voting] to the glory of God.

**Conclusion: All Christians who are citizens of the U.S. should vote wisely and intelligently to preserve and defend the Constitution, for this glorifies God.**

## **Second Rationale**

The U.S. Citizen (like the President of the U.S.) is to preserve and protect the Constitution of the U.S.

In order to preserve and protect the Constitution of the U.S. we should understand the thinking which it embodies, the source of that thinking.

**Therefore, the U.S. citizen, in order to vote intelligently and wisely, must understand the thinking embodied in the U.S. Constitution so that he can vote in a way that preserves and protects our heritage.**

## Third Rationale

The thought system which is embodied in the founding documents of this nation derives from Christian theism broadly and the Bible specifically.

All Christians who are citizens of the U.S., should vote wisely and intelligently to preserve and defend the Constitution for this glorifies God.

**By understanding this biblical framework, a Christian can then vote more intelligently and wisely to preserve and protect the Constitution and the freedoms it recognizes.**

**Loose  
Constructionist  
Revisionist  
Liberal**

**vs**

**Originalist  
Strict Constructionist  
Textualist  
Conservative**



**Obama**

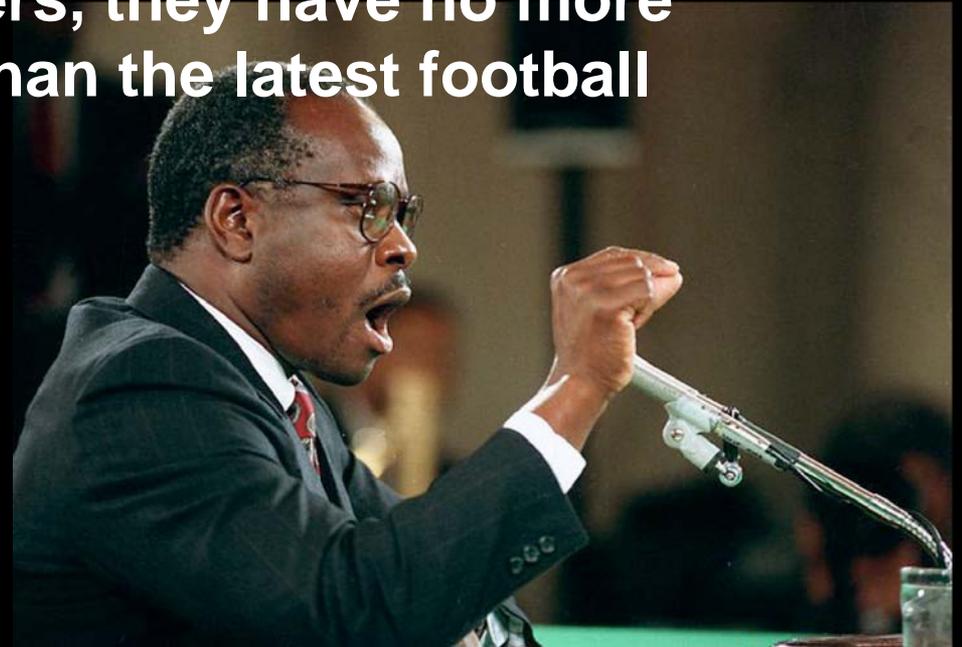
**Consistent Revisionist  
Affirms judicial activism**

**McCain**

**Inconsistent originalist  
Rejects judicial activism**

**The following is an excerpt from Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas's Wriston Lecture to the Manhattan Institute last Thursday (10/16/08):**

**“Let me put it this way; there are really only two ways to interpret the Constitution – try to discern as best we can what the framers intended or make it up. No matter how ingenious, imaginative or artfully put, unless interpretive methodologies are tied to the original intent of the framers, they have no more basis in the Constitution than the latest football scores.”**



**“To be sure, even the most conscientious effort to adhere to the original intent of the framers of our Constitution is flawed, as all methodologies and human institutions are; but at least originalism has the advantage of being legitimate and, I might add, impartial.”**



**“My only hope of salvation is in the infinite, transcendent love of God manifested to the world by the death of His Son upon the cross. Nothing but His blood will wash away my sins. I rely exclusively upon it. Come, Lord Jesus! Come quickly!”**

**–Benjamin Rush**  
***The Autobiography***  
***of Benjamin Rush***



**Everyone elected and appointed to office shall make and subscribe the following declaration, to wit:**

**“I do profess faith in God the Father, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, and in the Holy Ghost, one God, blessed forever more, and I do acknowledge the holy scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by divine inspiration.”**

**–Delaware State Constitution**

**“Each member [of the legislature], before he takes his seat, shall make and subscribe the following declaration, viz: I do believe in one God, the Creator and Governor of the universe, the rewarder of the good and the punisher of the wicked, and I do acknowledge the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by Divine Inspiration.”**

**–Pennsylvania State Constitution**

**[All persons elected must]**

**“make and subscribe the following declaration,  
viz:**

**“I do declare that I believe the Christian religion  
and have firm persuasion of its truth.”**

**–Mass. State Constitution**

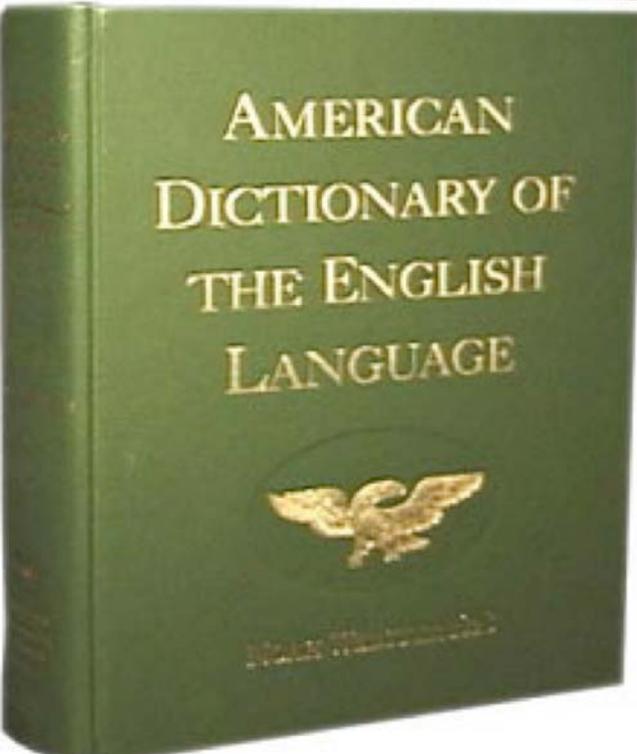
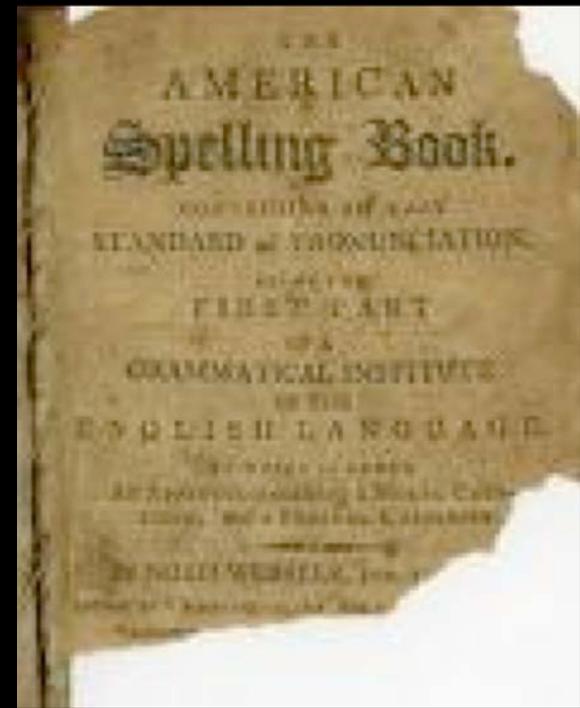
**“No person who shall deny the being of God, or the truth of the Christian religion, or the divine authority either of the Old or New Testaments or who shall hold religious principles incompatible with the freedom and safety of the state, shall be capable of holding any office or place of trust or profit in the civil department, within the state.”**

**–N. Carolina State Constitution**

**“There is no dissonance in these declarations. There is a universal language pervading them all, having one meaning; they affirm and reaffirm that this is a religious nation, this is a Christian nation.”**

**–U.S. Supreme Court, 1892**





“In my view, the Christian religion is the most important and one of the first things in which all children, under a free government ought to be instructed... No truth is more evident to my mind than that the Christian religion must be the basis of any government intended to secure the rights and privileges of a free people.”

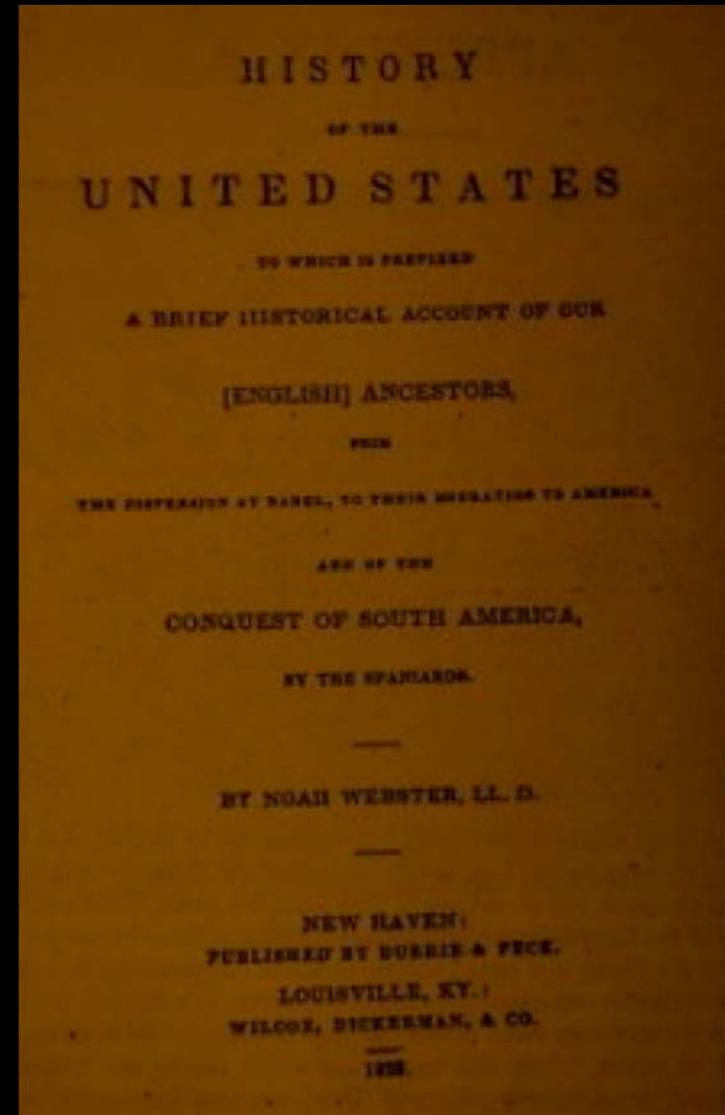
– Preface



“Our citizens should early understand that the genuine source of correct republican principles is the Bible particularly the New Testament or the Christian religion.”

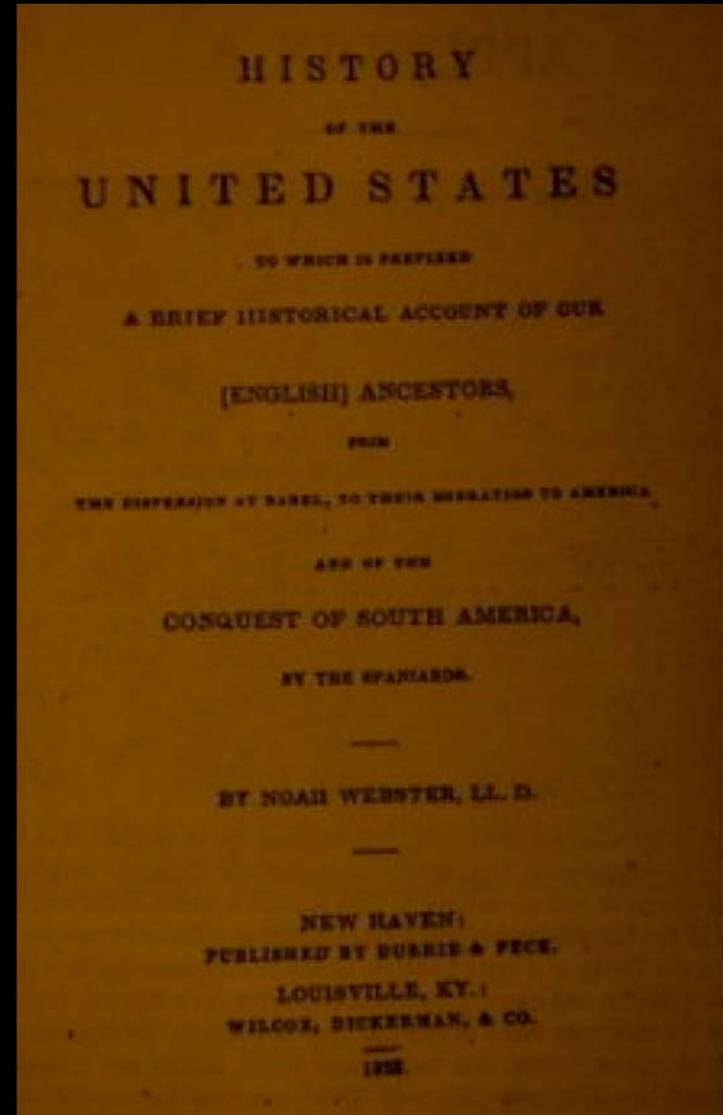
–Noah Webster  
(1758–1843)

“49. 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 a 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;



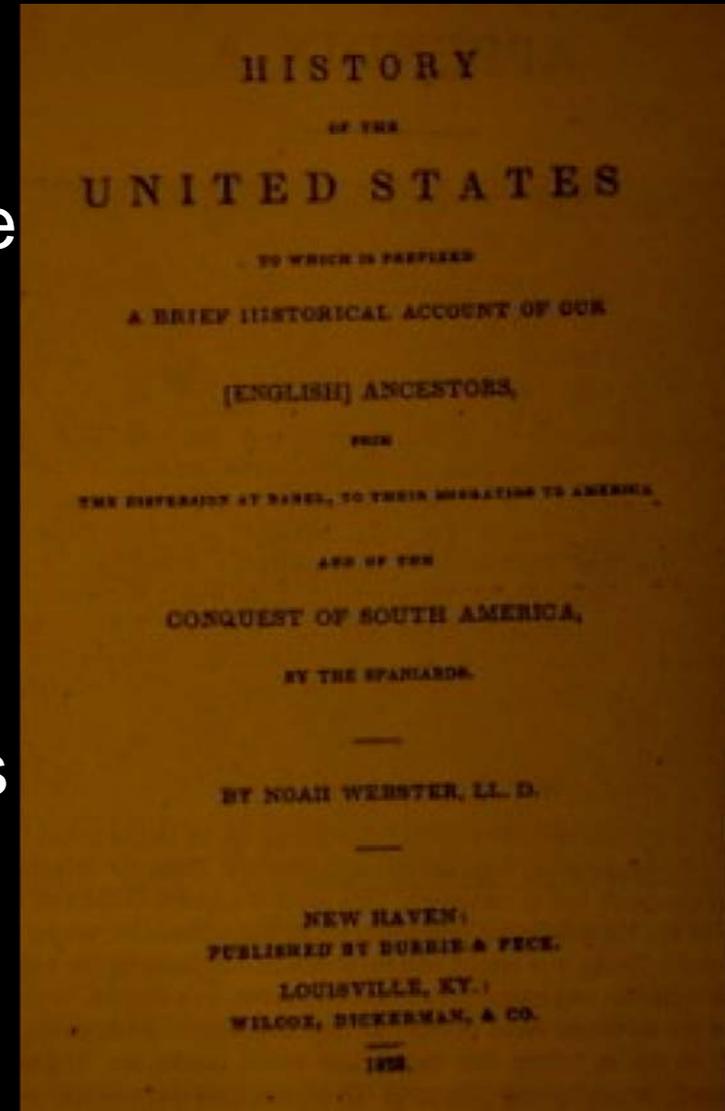
“corrupt or incompetent men will be appointed to execute the Laws; the public revenues will be squandered on unworthy men; and the rights of the citizen will be violated or disregarded. If a republican government fails to secure public prosperity and happiness, it must be because the citizens neglect the Divine Commands, and elect bad men to make and administer the Laws. Intriguing men can never safely be trusted.”

—Noah Webster



## Summary:

1. They will corrupt government;
2. They will make laws, not for the general welfare, but for “selfish or local purposes”;
3. They will appoint other corrupt men to execute their laws;
4. They will squander the citizen’s taxes upon those who are unworthy;
5. They will violate the citizen’s rights.



“The only means of establishing and perpetuating our republican forms of government ... is the universal education of our youth in the principles of Christianity by means of the Bible.”

–Benjamin Rush  
*The Autobiography  
of Benjamin Rush*





“The Bible is the chief moral cause of all that is good and the best corrector of all that is evil in human society—the best book for regulating the temporal [secular] concerns of men.”

—Noah Webster  
(1758–1843)

# ANDREW JACKSON

“That book [the Bible], Sir, is the Rock upon which our Republic rests.”



*Andrew Jackson*

T H E  
H O L Y B I B L E.

*as it is honorable to the Gentleman, who has exerted himself to furnish it, at the evident risque of private fortune. We are, Gentlemen,  
Your very respectful and humble servants,  
WILLIAM WHITE,  
GEORGE DUFFIELD.  
Philadelphia, September 10th, 1782.*

“Resolved,  
THAT the United States in Congress assembled highly approve the pious and laudable undertaking of Mr. Aitken, as subservient to the interest of religion, as well as an influence of the progress of arts in this country, and being satisfied from the above report of his care and accuracy in the execution of the work, they recommend this edition of the Bible to the inhabitants of the United States, and hereby authorise him to publish this Recommendation in the manner he shall think proper.”  
—Ch. Thomson, Sec’y

A  
S E R M O N

PREACHED BEFORE

HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN HANCOCK, Esq.  
GOVERNOUR;

HIS HONOR SAMUEL ADAMS, Esq.  
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOUR;

THE HONOURABLE THE  
COUNCIL, SENATE, AND HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES,

O F T H E  
COMMONWEALTH  
O F  
MASSACHUSETTS,

MAY 26, 1790.

BEING THE DAY OF  
GENERAL ELECTION,

---

BY DANIEL FOSTER, A. M.  
PASTOR OF THE CHURCH IN NEW-BRAINTREE.

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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS:  
PRINTED BY THOMAS ADAMS,  
PRINTER TO THE HONOURABLE, THE GENERAL COURT.

M,DCC,XC.

**Prov. 20:28, “Loyalty and truth preserve the king,  
And he upholds his throne by righteousness.”**

**Prov. 29:4, “The king gives stability to the land by justice,  
But a man who takes bribes overthrows it.”**

**Prov. 14:34, “Righteousness exalts a nation,  
But sin is a disgrace to *any* people.”**

**Prov 29:2, “When the righteous rule  
the people rejoice;”**

**Prov. 29:12, “If a ruler pays attention to falsehood,  
All his ministers *become* wicked.”**

**Prov. 29:2, “When the righteous increase, the people rejoice,  
But when a wicked man rules, people groan.”**

**Matt 6:33, “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you.”**

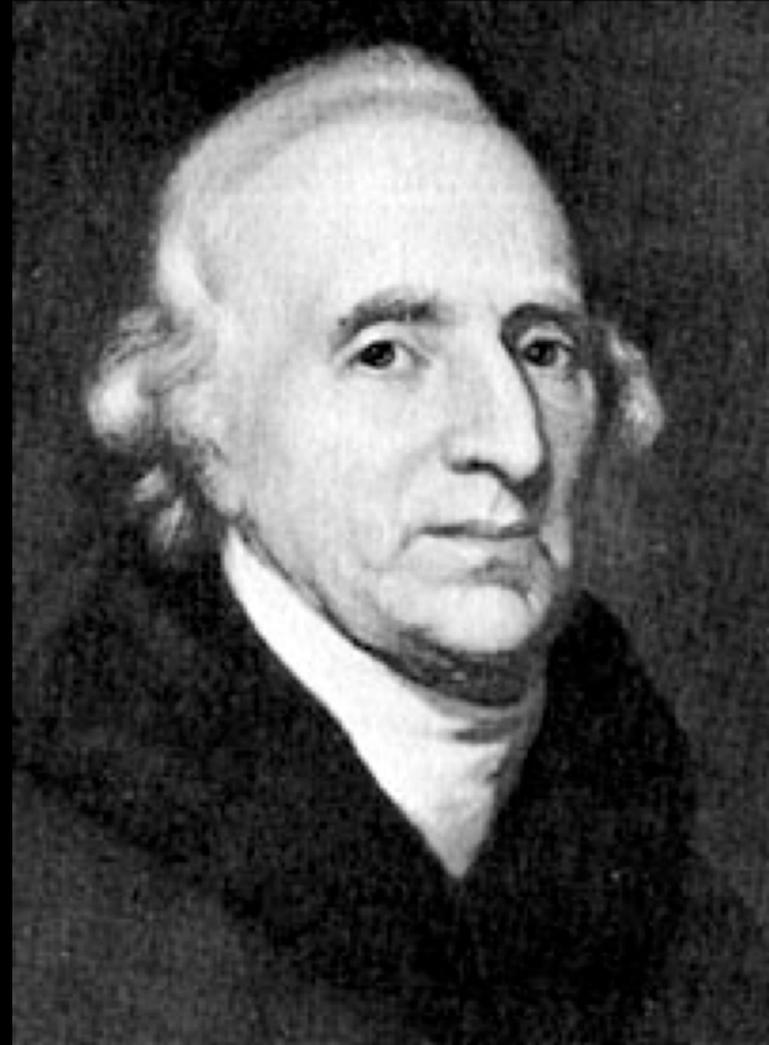
“We electors have an important constitutional power placed in our hands: we have a check upon two branches of the legislature... It becomes necessary to every [citizen] then, to be in some degree a statesman: and to examine and judge for himself...the political principle and measures. Let us examine them with a sober... Christian spirit.”

—John Adams



“Without morals a republic cannot subsist any length of time; they therefore who are decrying the Christian religion, whose morality is so sublime and pure... are undermining the solid foundation of morals, the best security for the duration of free governments.”

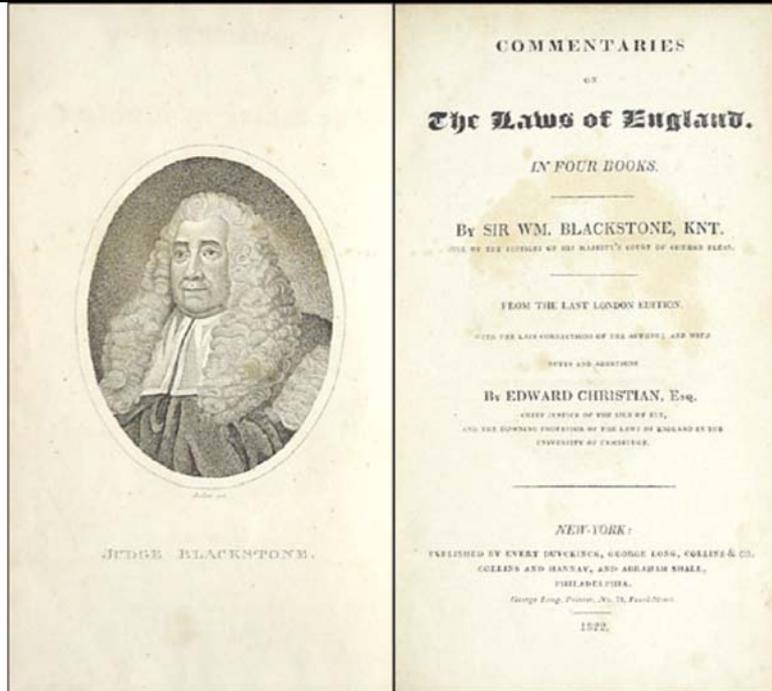
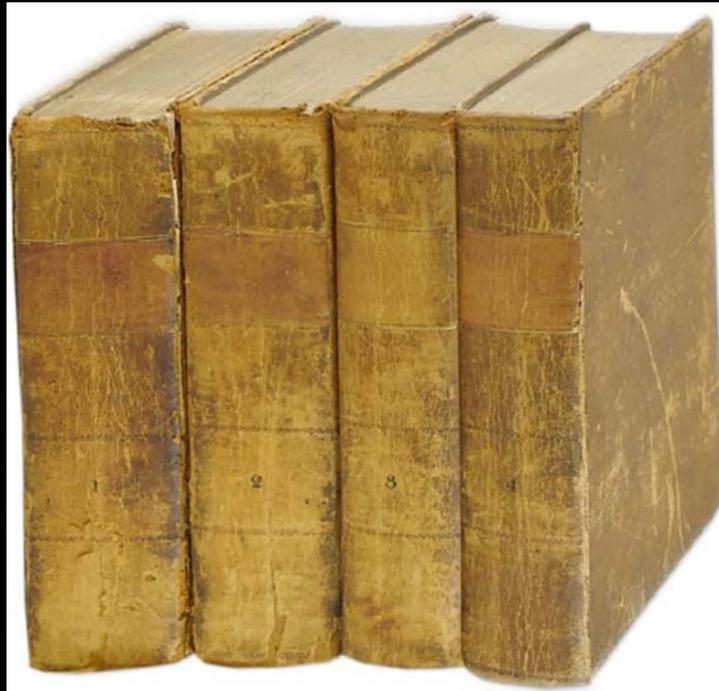
–Charles Carroll, Signer of the Declaration of Independence;  
[Letter To James McHenry on November 4, 1800.]



“We’ve staked our future on our ability to follow the Ten Commandments with all of our heart. We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We’ve staked the future of all our political institutions upon our capacity... to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God.”

—James Madison, Fourth President of the USA [1778 to the General Assembly of the State of Virginia]

# Blackstone's *Commentaries on the Laws of England*



“Governments, like clocks, go from the motion men give them... Wherefore governments rather depend upon men, than men upon governments. Let men be good, and the government cannot be bad... But if men be bad, the government [will] never [be] good.”

–W. Penn

“I know some say, ‘Let us have good laws, and no matter for the men that execute them.’ But let them consider that though good laws do well, good men do better: for good laws may [lack] good men... but good men will never [lack] good laws, nor allow bad ones.”

–W. Penn

“Feeble would be the best form of government without a sense of religion and the terrors of the world to come. Banish a sense of religion and the terrors of the world to come from society, and you leave every man to do that which is right in his own eyes. The man who is not actuated by the fear and awe of God, has in many cases no bond or restraint upon his conduct, and therefore is not fit to be trusted with the nation’s welfare. Think not that men who acknowledge not God or his laws will be corrupt in office.”

–Rev. Matthias Burnett, 1803,  
to the CT legislature

**Ex. 18:21, “Furthermore, you shall select out of all the people able men who fear God, men of truth, those who hate dishonest gain; and you shall place *these* over them *as* leaders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties and of tens.”**

“Look well to the characters and qualifications of those you elect and raise to office and places of trust... Let the wise counsel of Jethro be your guide. Choose ye out from among you ‘able men, such as fear God, men of truth and hating covetousness and set them to rule over you.’”

–Rev. Matthias Burnett, 1803,  
to the CT legislature

“How constantly do we find it inculcated in the sacred writings, that rulers be ‘just men, fearers of God, haters of covetousness,’ that they ‘shake their hands from holding bribes,’ because, a gift blindeth the eyes of the wise, and perverteth the words of the righteous.”

–Rev. Chandler Robbins, 1791,  
to the Mass legislature, incl.  
Gov John Hancock and  
Lt. Gov Samuel Adams

“It is to the neglect of this rule of conduct in our citizens [that is, not selecting Godly men for office] that we must ascribe the multiplied frauds, the breaches of trust, peculations and embezzlements of public property, which astonish even ourselves; which tarnish the character of our country; which disgrace a republican government.”

—Noah Webster

“Finally, ye whose high prerogative it is, to invest with office and authority or to withhold them, and in whose power it is to save or destroy your country, consider well the important trust... which God has put into your hands. To God and posterity you are accountable for them... 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

“Never were a people placed in more difficult circumstances than the virtuous part of our countrymen are in at the present crisis. I have turned, and turned, and overturned in my mind at various times the merits and demerits of the two candidates. Long acquaintance, private friendship and the full belief that the private character of Jefferson is much purer than Burr, inclines me to Jefferson.

“But have we any claim to the favor or protection of Providence when we have against warning, admonition and advice chosen as our chief Magistrate a man who makes no pretensions to the belief of an all wise supreme Governor of the World ordering or directing or overruling the events which take place in it? If we ever saw a day of darkness in America, I fear this is one.”

—Abigail Adams

