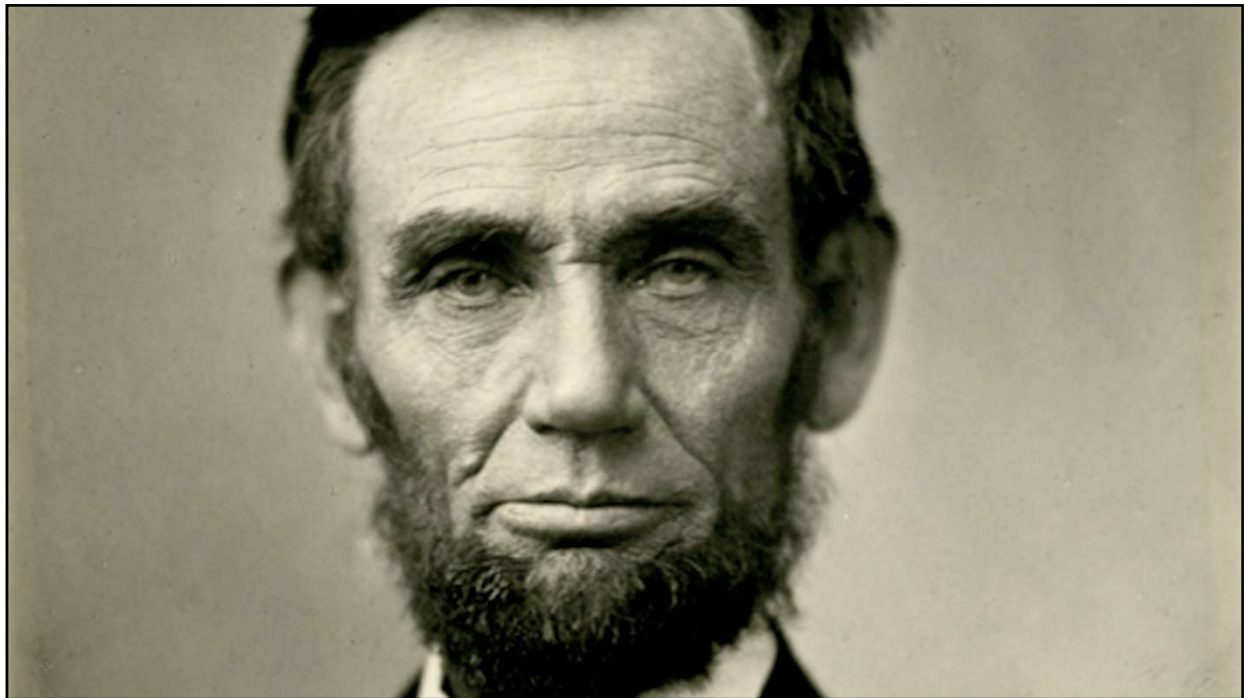


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6

Executive Mansion,
Washington, , 186 .
Now score and seven years ago our fathers brought
forth, upon this continent, a new nation, conceived
in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that
"all men are created equal"
Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing
whether that nation, or any nation so conceived,
and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met
on a great battle field of that war. We have

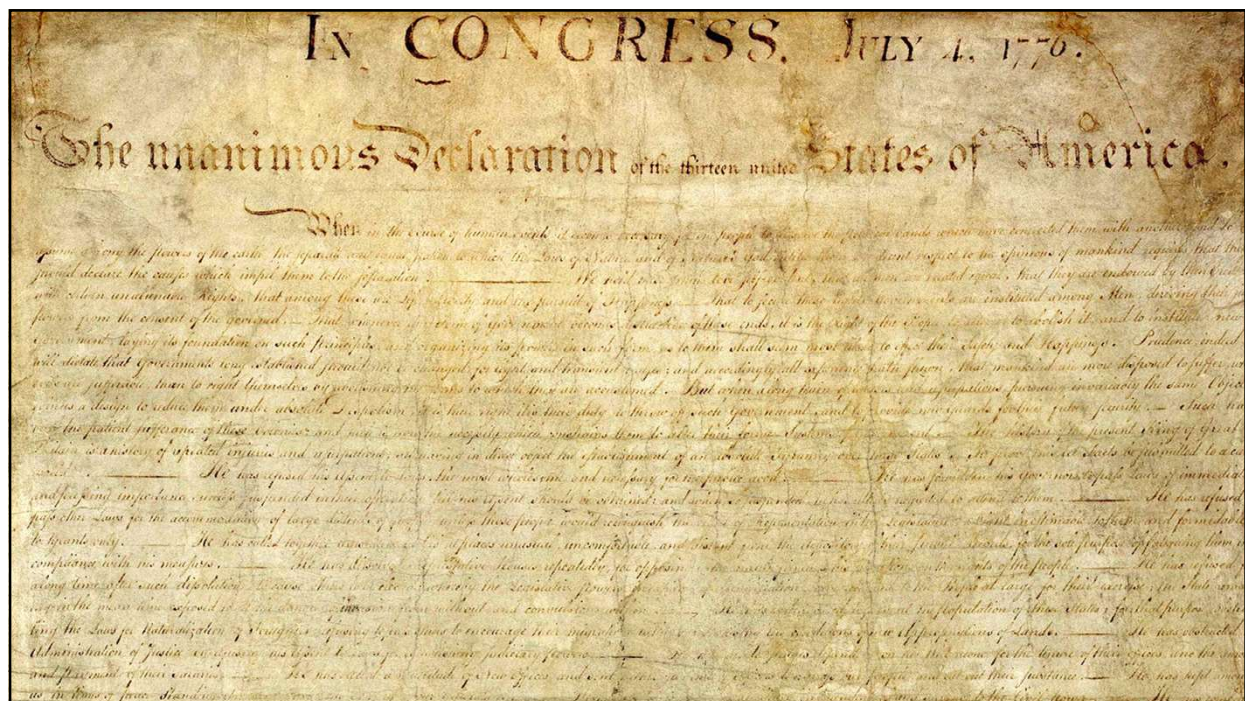
7

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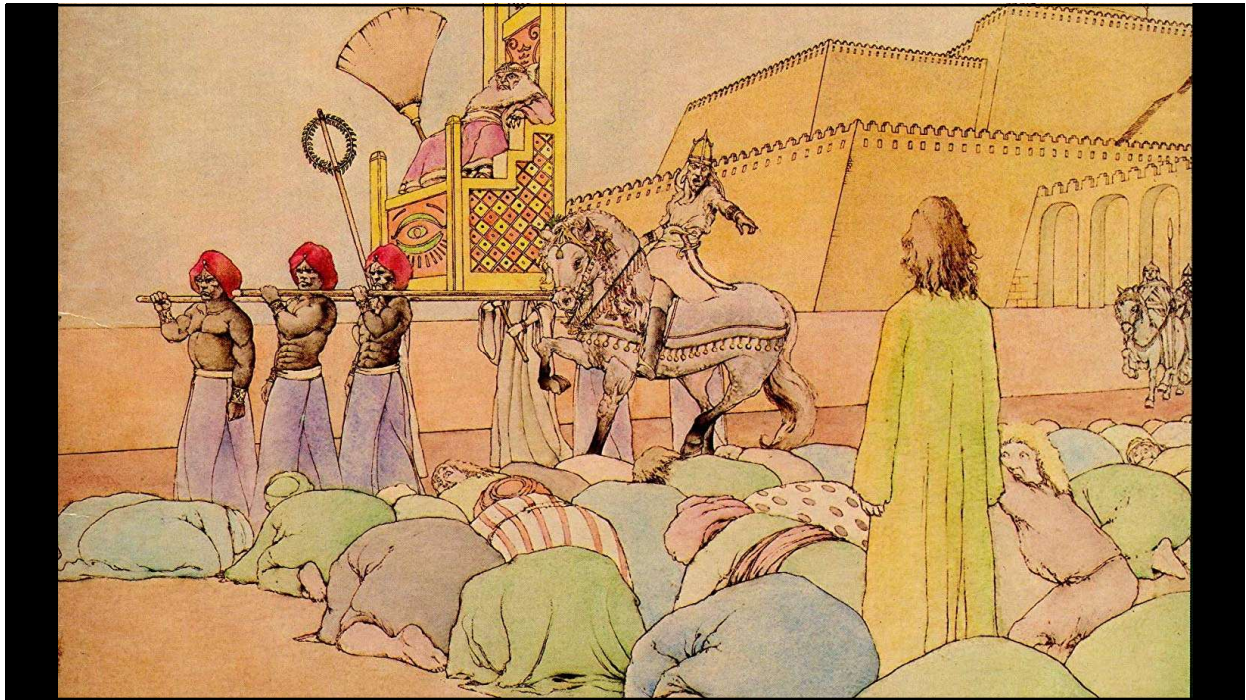
8

“The assertion of that principle [liberty for all], at that time, was the word, ‘fitly spoken’ [from Prov 25:11] which has proved an ‘apple of gold’ to us. The Union, and the Constitution, are the picture of silver, subsequently framed around it [Declaration of Independence]. The picture was made, not to conceal, or destroy the apple; but to adorn, and preserve it. The picture was made for the apple – not the apple for the picture.”

9



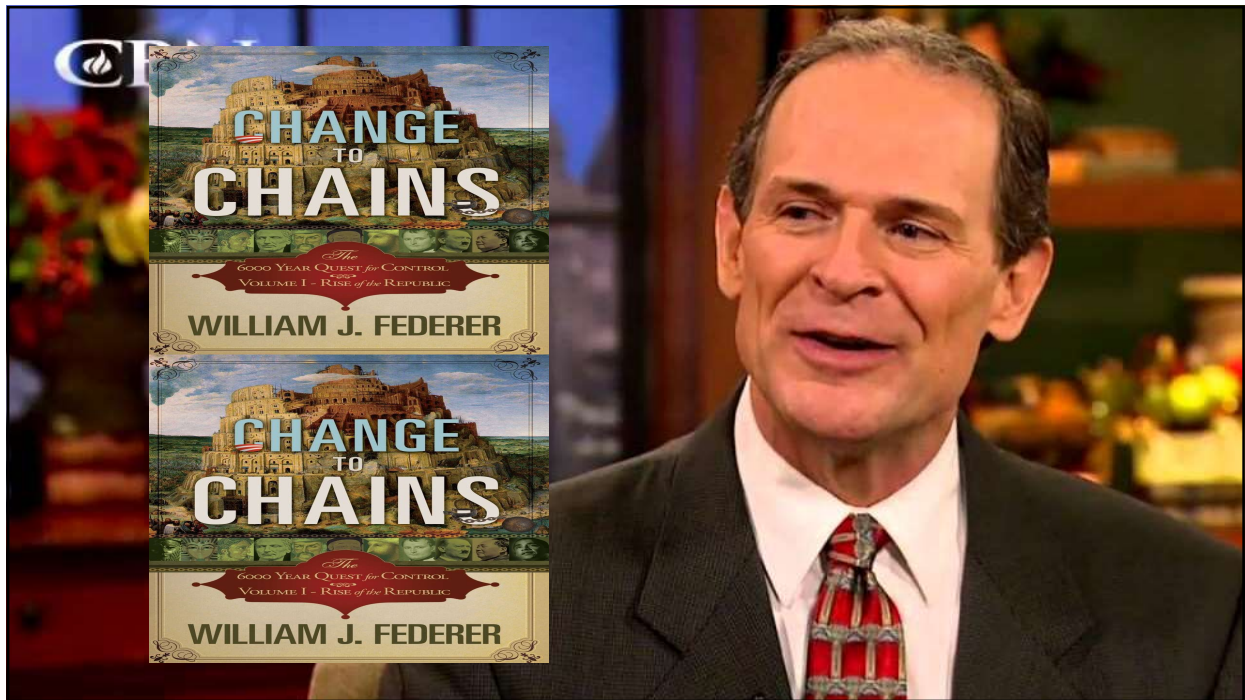
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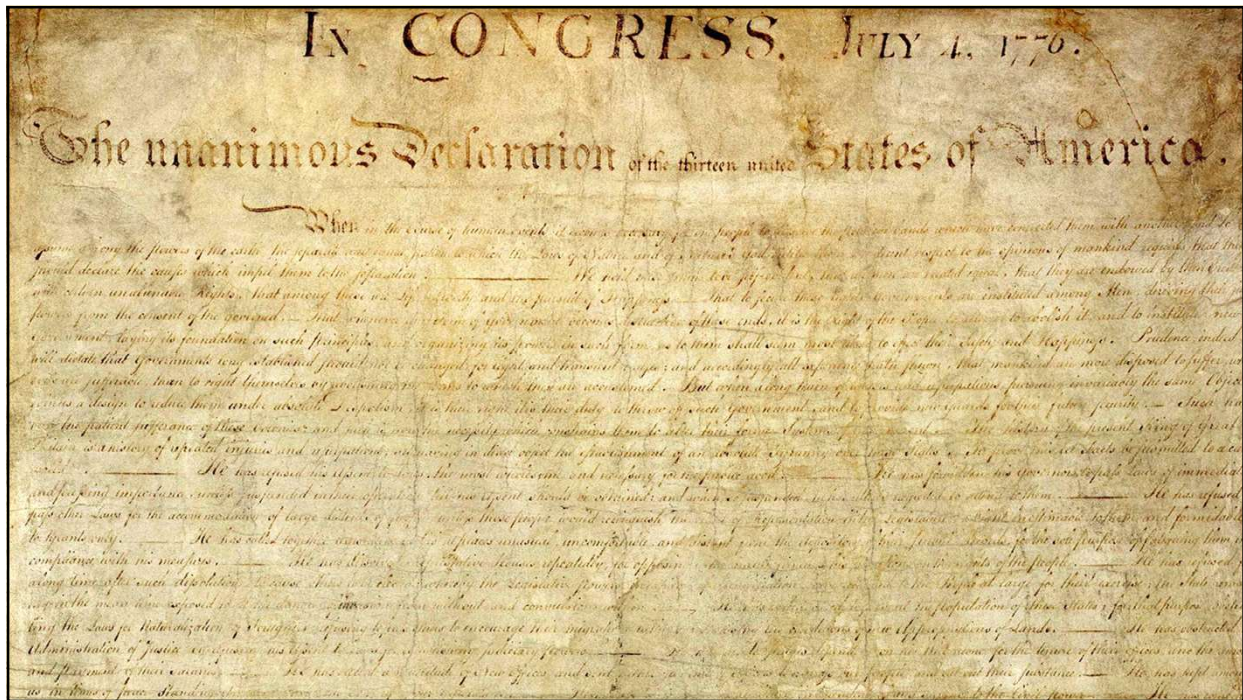


13



In 1215 A.D. when British King John was forced to sign the Magna Carta and surrender many rights to the aristocracy, it was the first declaration that the people's ruler was under the law, it was the first check on royal power, and it introduced early concepts of due process, jury by one's peers, freedom of religion, and no taxation without representation.

14



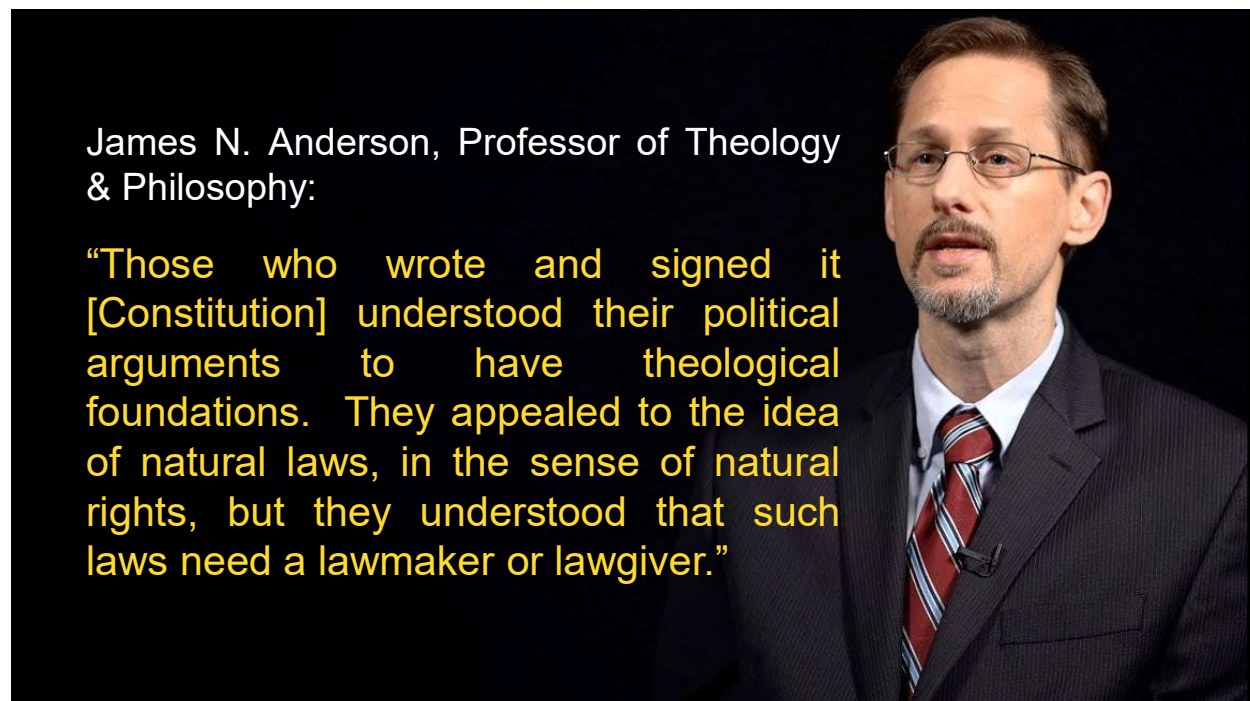
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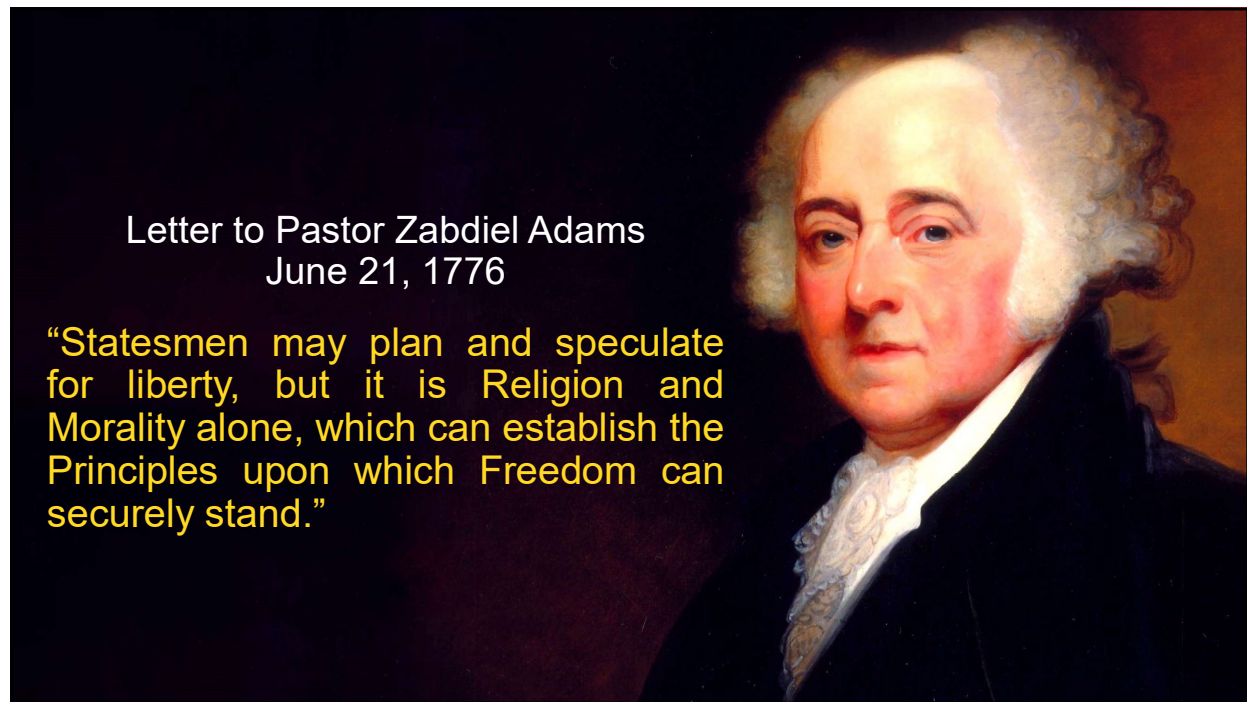
17



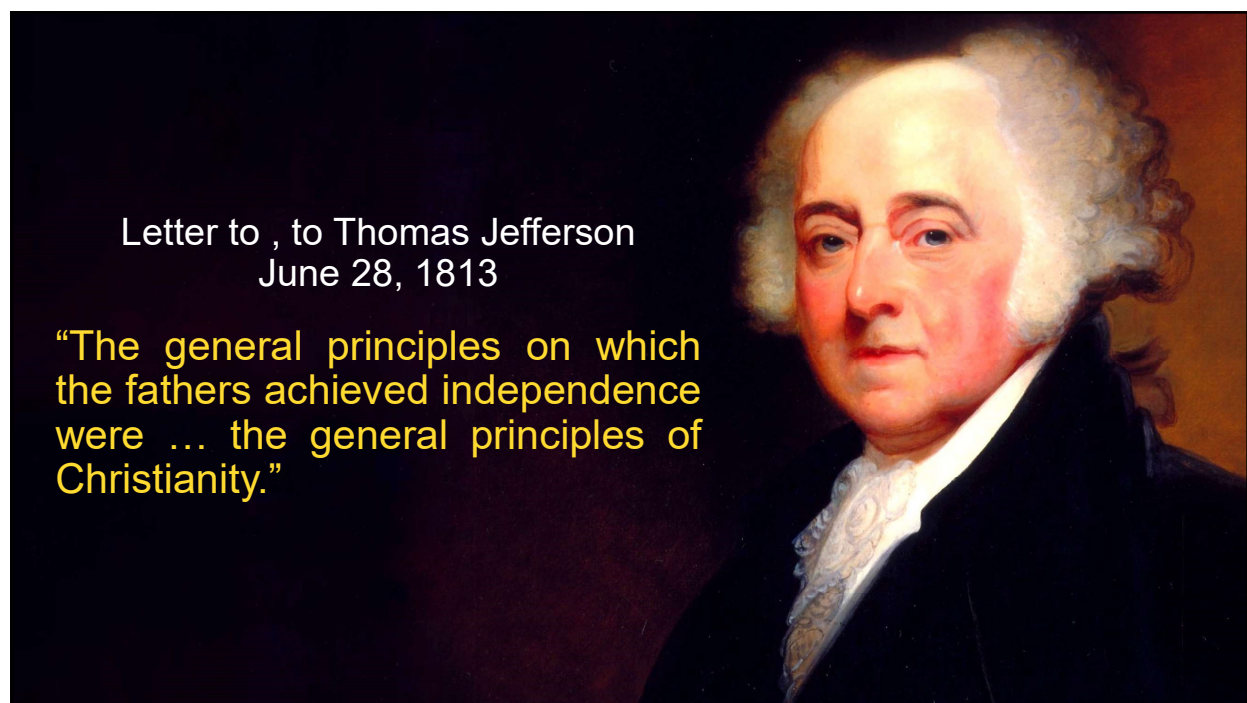
James N. Anderson, Professor of Theology & Philosophy:

“Those who wrote and signed it [Constitution] understood their political arguments to have theological foundations. They appealed to the idea of natural laws, in the sense of natural rights, but they understood that such laws need a lawmaker or lawgiver.”

18



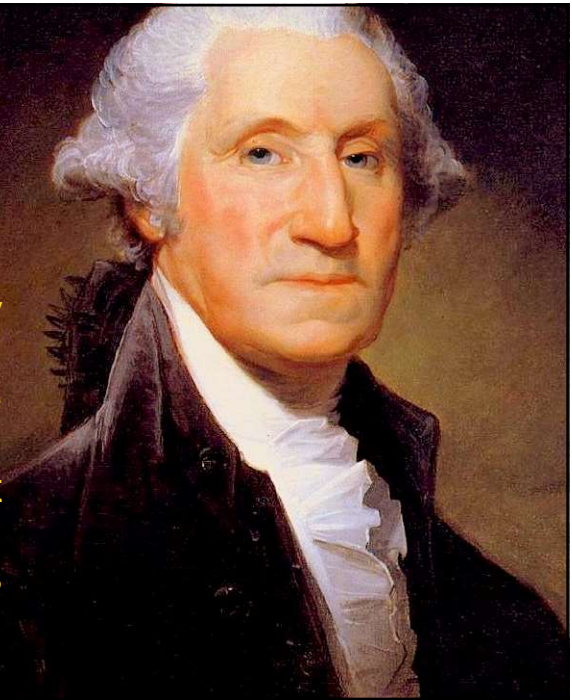
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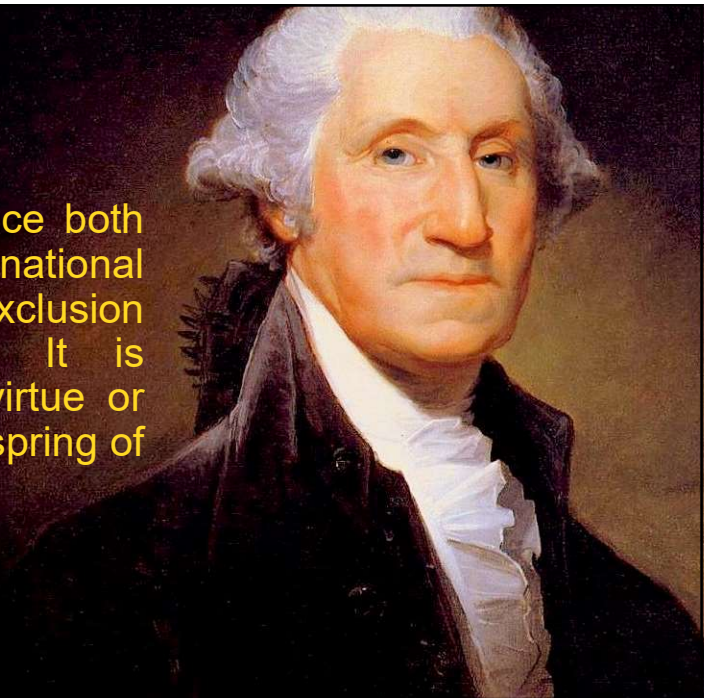
Washington farewell address
1796:

“Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens.

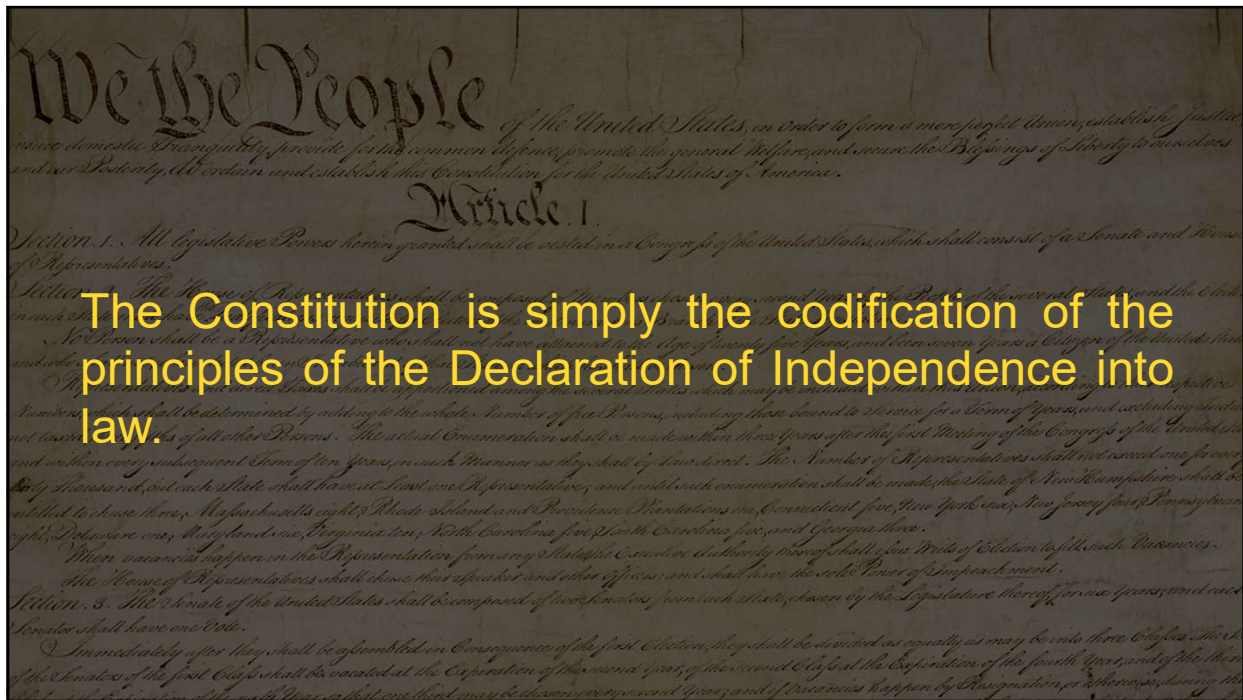


21

... reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle. It is substantially true that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government.



22



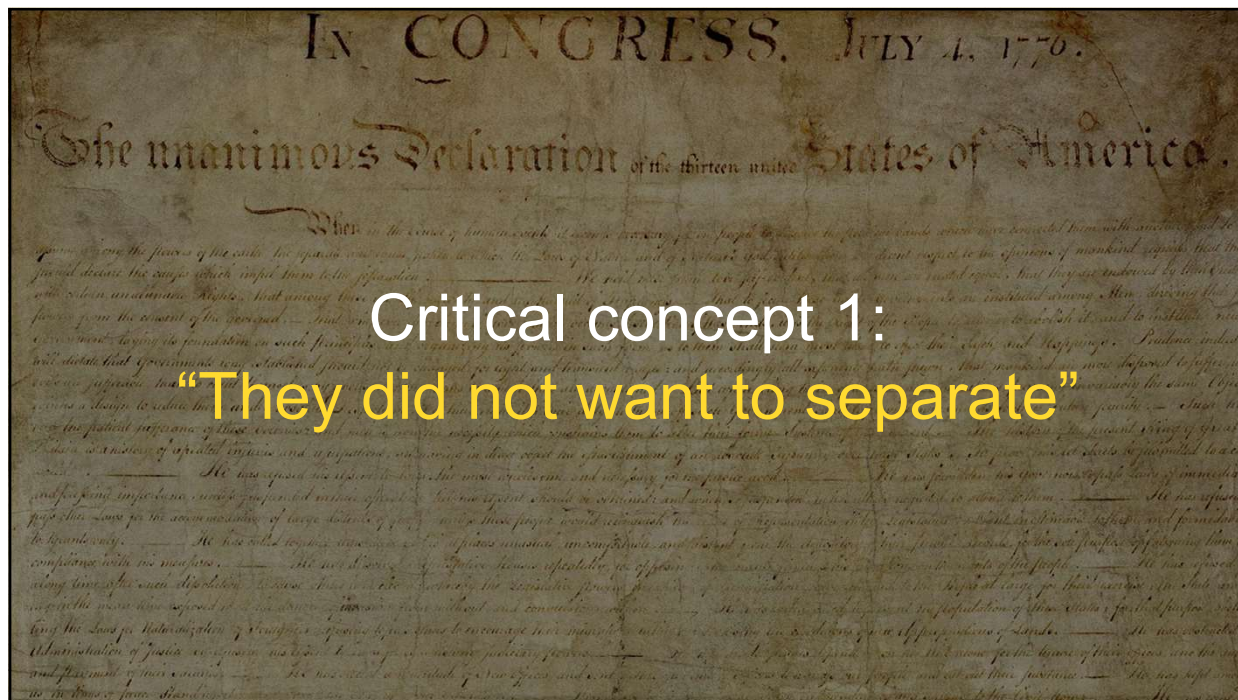
The Constitution is simply the codification of the principles of the Declaration of Independence into law.

23

The Declaration of Independence is our Nation's Birth Certificate

- Declaration is our statement of beliefs
- Declaration established purpose of government
- Constitution is our operations manual
- Constitution established practice of government

24



25

The Fate of Blood-thirsty Oppressors, and GOD'S tender Care of his distressed People.

A
S E R M O N,
PREACHED AT LEXINGTON,
APRIL 19, 1776.

To commemorate the **MURDER, BLOOD-SHED** and Commencement of Hostilities, between Great-Britain and America, in that Town, by a Brigade of Troops of **GEORGE III.** under Command of **Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,** on the Nineteenth of APRIL, 1775.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,
A BRIEF NARRATIVE of the principal Transactions of that Day.

By **JONAS CLARK, A. M.**
PASTOR of the CHURCH in LEXINGTON.

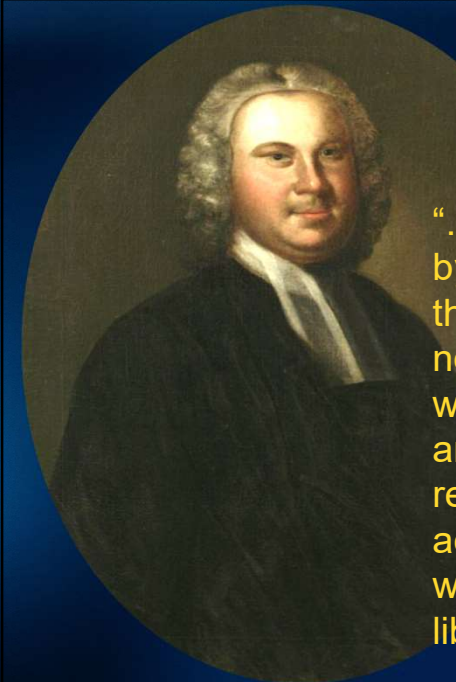
Those Things doth the LORD hate:—*A proud Look, a lying Tongue, and Hands that shed innocent Blood.* PRO. vi. 16, 17.
—*Qui non mortalia peccata cogit, Auri sacra fames!*—

Qui tollis furores, Myrdinorum, Dolophum, aut duri militis Uffidum, Tempus a delictis!—

MASSACHUSETTS: STATE: BOSTON:
PRINTED BY POWARS AND WILLIS.
MDCCLXXVI.

“... the connection of America with Britain ... might have been preserved inviolate to the end of time. And it may be added, that there is no just ground to suppose, that it would have ever entered the heart of Americans, to have desired a dissolution of so happy a connection with the Mother-Country, or to have sought independence of Britain, had they not been urged, and even forced upon such an expedient, by measures of oppression and violence, and the shedding of innocent blood.”

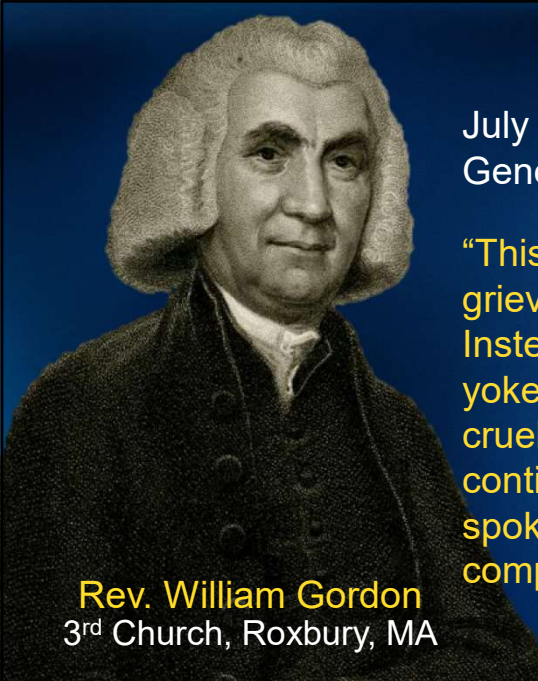
26

A circular portrait of Abraham Keteltas, a Black Robe preacher. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark robe over a white shirt and cravat. He has long, wavy, light-colored hair.

Abraham Keteltas, Black Robe preacher in NY, NJ, CT, MA, and member of NY Provincial Congress, 1777 sermon:

“... all our assemblies ... have endeavored, by the most humble and earnest petitions to the throne, to prevent the fatal war, which now rages and desolates our land. ... and it was not until every pacific measure failed, and our petitions were scornfully treated, and rejected, and a powerful fleet and army had actually invaded us and shed our blood; that we took up arms, in behalf of our lives and liberties.”

27

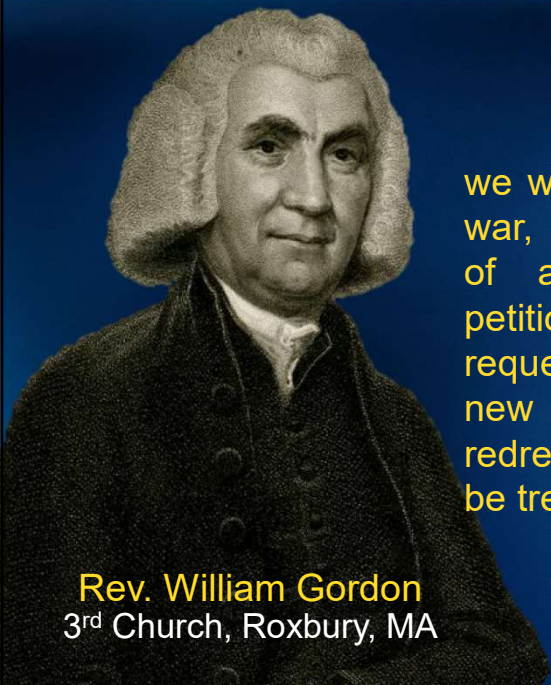
A portrait of Rev. William Gordon, a man with a large, white, powdered wig. He is wearing a dark, high-collared coat over a white shirt. He is looking slightly to the right of the viewer.

July 4, 1777 sermon preached before the General Court of MA:

“This continent complained of real grievances, and humbly petitioned. ... Instead of being heard and relieved, the yoke was increased by fresh acts of cruelty, and new burdens laid upon the continent. Our first grievances were spoken of as if not real; and as though we complained without cause, ...

Rev. William Gordon
3rd Church, Roxbury, MA

28

A portrait of Rev. William Gordon, a man with a large, light-colored wig and a dark coat, set against a blue background.


we were at once plunged into a defensive war, ... Still we were desirous, if possible, of an accommodation. We therefore petitioned again, without rising in our requests, only enlarging them to take in new grievances. Instead of having them redressed, we were deemed and were to be treated as rebels."

Rev. William Gordon
3rd Church, Roxbury, MA

29

April 19, 1781 sermon in Lexington, MA:

"Had our petitions and prayers been properly regarded, and moderate pacific measures pursued, we should have entertained no thoughts of a revolt; for even after hostilities had commenced, we were ardently desirous of continuing united with our mother country, if such an union could have been preserved, without making a sacrifice of our liberties."

A portrait of Henry Cumings, a man with a large, light-colored wig and a dark coat with a white cravat, set against a dark background.

Henry Cumings
BRR Pastor, MA

30

1780 sermon:

“Peace, peace, we ardently wish; but not upon terms dishonorable to ourselves, or dangerous to our liberties; and our enemies seem not yet prepared to allow it upon any other. At present the voice of providence, the call of our still invaded country, and the cry of everything dear to us, all unite to rouse us to prosecute the war with redoubled vigor; upon the success of which all our free constitutions, all our hopes depend.”

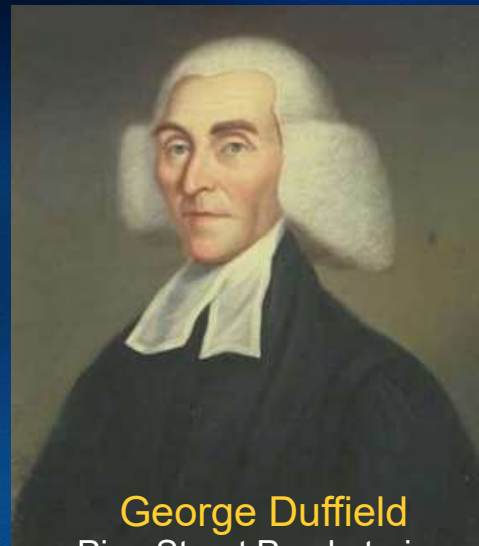


Samuel Cooper
Pastor Brattle Street
Boston, MA

31

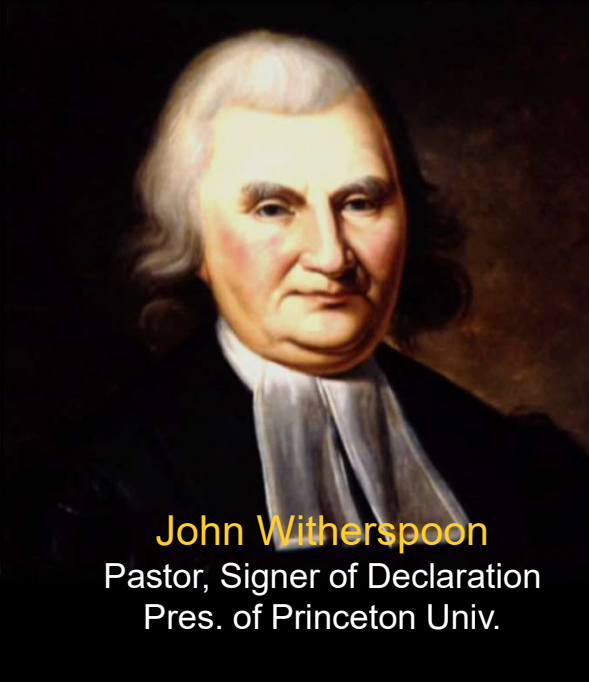
December 11, 1784 sermon:

“Hard alternative! to resign liberty or wage this hazardous war. And yet none other remained. ... But *Liberty* was the prize. She chose “Freedom or Death” as her motto; and nobly resolved on war with all its horrors; that at least, her last expiring groan might breathe forth freedom.”



George Duffield
Pine Street Presbyterian
Philadelphia, PA

32

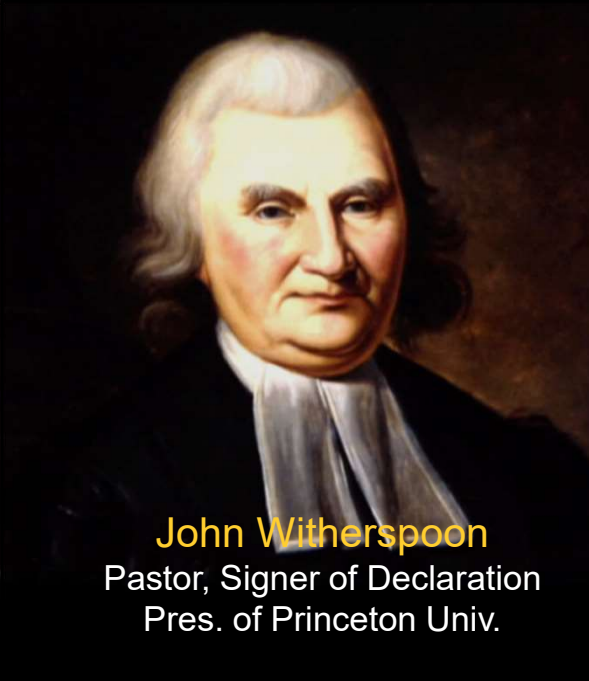
A portrait of John Witherspoon, an older man with white hair, wearing a dark coat and a white cravat. He is looking slightly to the right with a serious expression.

John Witherspoon
Pastor, Signer of Declaration
Pres. of Princeton Univ.

Dr. John M. Krebs, a witness of the scene, gives the following account:

“Every eye went to him with the quickness of thought and remained with the fixedness of the polar star. He cast on the assembly a look of inexpressible interest and unconquerable determination, while on his visage the hue of age [64 yrs] was lost in the flush of burning patriotism that fired his cheek.”

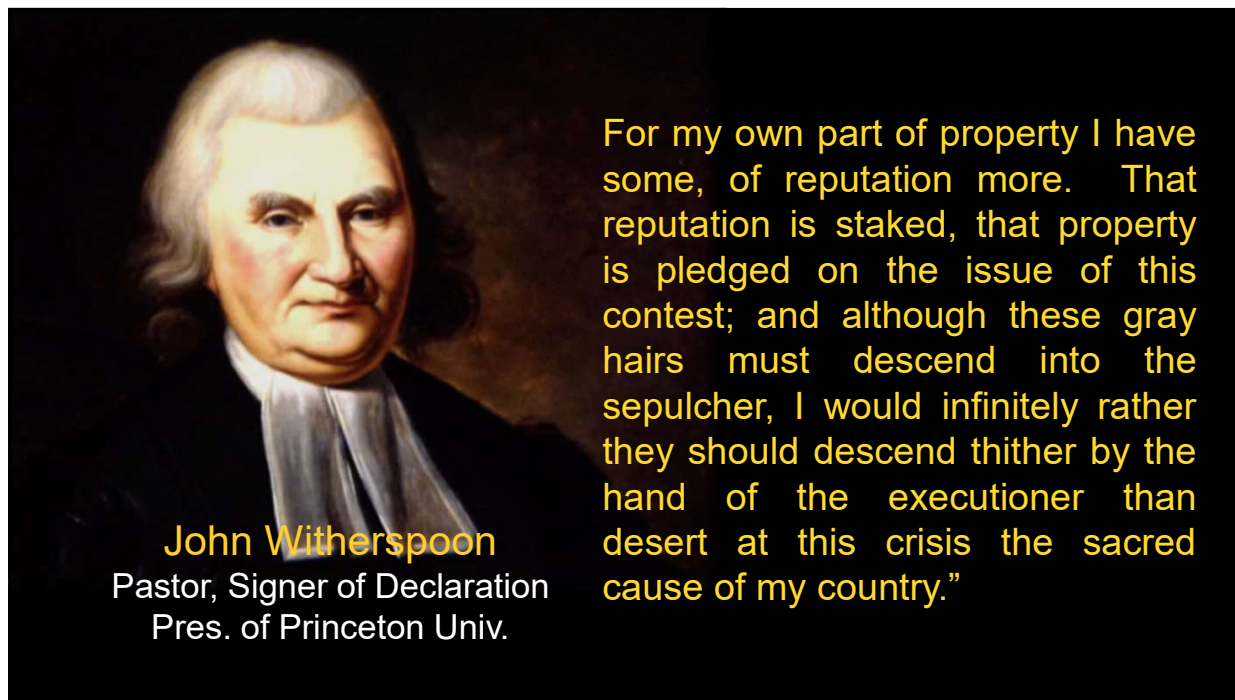
33

A portrait of John Witherspoon, an older man with white hair, wearing a dark coat and a white cravat. He is looking slightly to the right with a serious expression.

John Witherspoon
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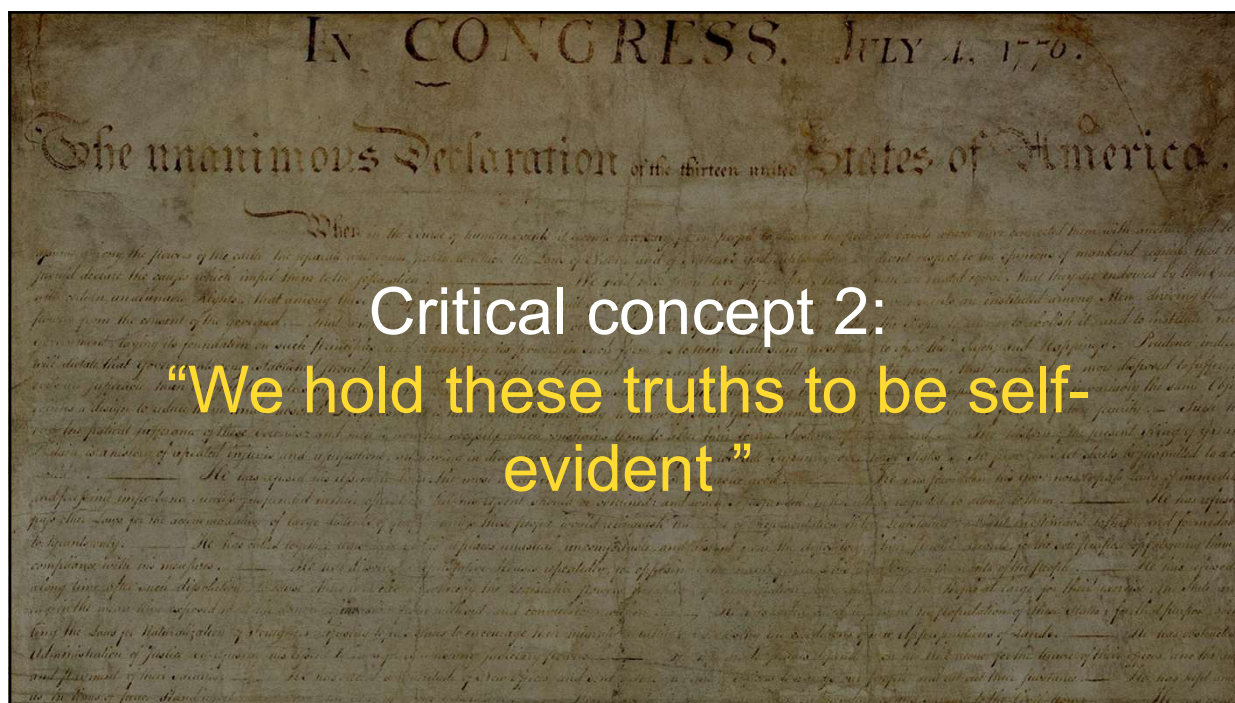
“There is a tide in the affairs of men, a nick of time. That noble instrument upon your table, which ensures immortality to its author, should be subscribed this morning by every person of this house. He that will not respond to its accents and strain every nerve to carry into effect its provisions is unworthy the name of freeman.”

34

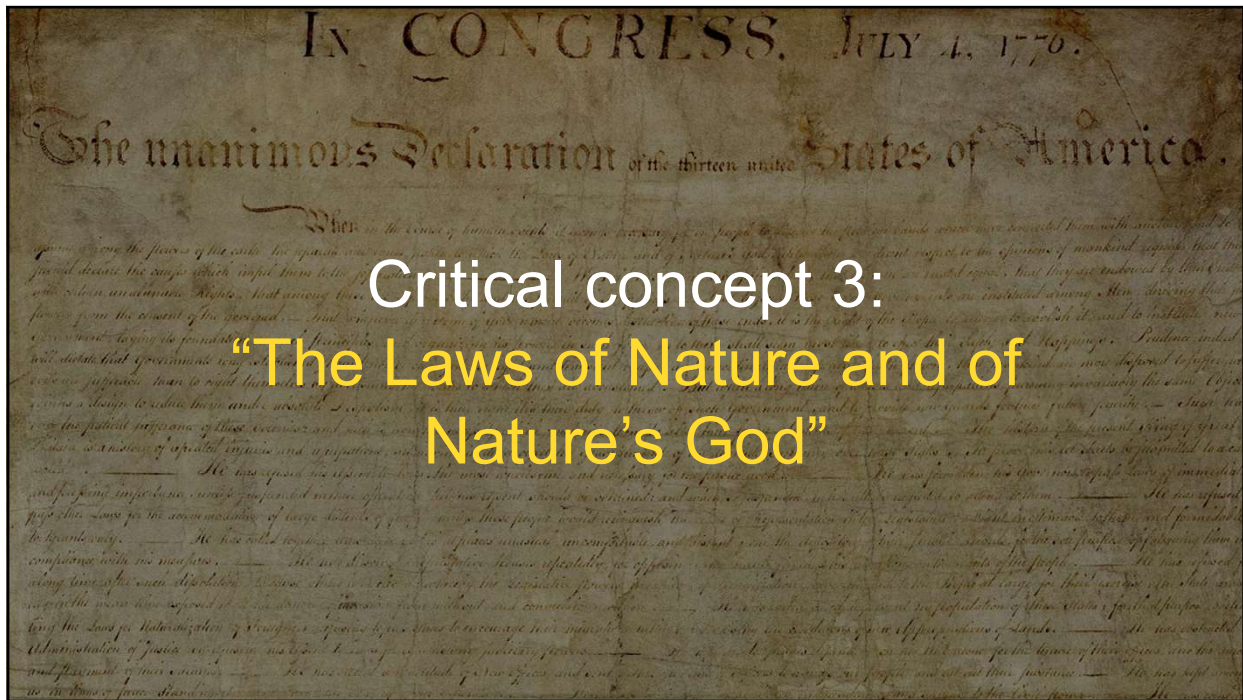


John Witherspoon
Pastor, Signer of Declaration
Pres. of Princeton Univ.

35



36




Critical concept 3:
“The Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God”

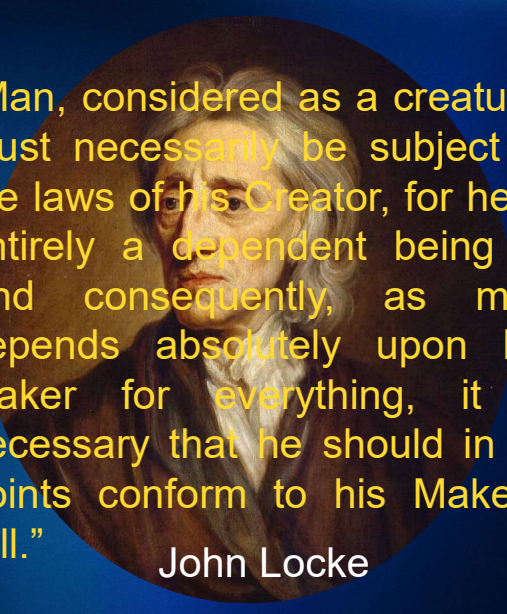
37



38




Sir William Blackstone



John Locke

“Man, considered as a creature, must necessarily be subject to the laws of his Creator, for he is entirely a dependent being ... And consequently, as man depends absolutely upon his Maker for everything, it is necessary that he should in all points conform to his Maker's will.”

39



Sir William Blackstone

“This will of his Maker is called the law of nature... The doctrines thus delivered we call the revealed or divine law, and they are to be found only in the holy scriptures...no human laws should be suffered to contradict these.” (1753)

Blackstone Commentaries on Law, Book 1, Section 2

40