

WEEK SEVEN

Religious Liberty

The purpose of government is to secure _____¹, which is the function of the Bill of Rights.

Signer of the Constitution John Dickinson defined an inalienable right as a right “which God gave to you and no inferior power has a right to _____².”

[Human governments] could not give the rights essential to happiness... We claim them from a higher source – from the King of kings and Lord of all the earth. They are not annexed to us by parchments and seals. They are created in us by the decrees of Providence, which establish the laws of our nature. They are born with us; exist with us; and cannot be taken from us by any human power, without taking our lives. ^{liv}

- John Dickinson, Constitution Signer

Inalienable rights are:

not to be rummaged for, among old parchments, or musty records. They are written, as with a sun beam, in the whole volume of human nature, by the hand of the divinity itself; and can never be erased or obscured by mortal power.^{lv}

- Alexander Hamilton, Constitution Signer & co-author of the Federalist Papers

imprinted by the finger of God on the heart of man.^{lvi}

- Samuel Adams, Signer of the Declaration

antecedent to all earthly government; rights that cannot be repealed or restrained by human law; rights derived from the great Legislator of the Universe.^{lvii}

- John Adams, Signer of the Declaration

The Noahide laws, the first earthly government established by God, were given to _____
_____.³

Our nation has only fallen by _____⁴:
our government has forgotten that there is a Power higher than itself.

The five fundamental freedoms in the First Amendment are: _____, _____, _____,
_____, _____, & _____.⁵

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. . . .^{lviii}

Where in the Constitution is the phrase, *separation of church and state*? _____⁶

To understand the “intent” of the legislators who pass any law, one must look at the _____⁷ where the discussions that took place at the time the law was being debated were recorded.

Article _____, Section _____⁸ of the *Constitution* requires that everything said on the floor of the House and Senate be recorded in a journal.^{lix}

How many times do the Annals of Congress record the phrase, *separation of church and state*, during the debates drafting the First Amendment? _____⁹

The phrase appears in a letter from _____¹⁰ to the Danbury Baptists, assuring them that government would not _____¹¹ on their freedom of religion.

James Madison said that the intent of the First Amendment was to prevent a _____¹², like the Church of England.

Two days after writing the phrase, *separation of church and state*, Thomas Jefferson attended the weekly church service held at _____¹³. These were religious services that he had helped to start and faithfully attended throughout the remainder of his presidency.^{lx}

General Henry Knox & Charles Thomson both wrote in their journals about accidentally interrupting George Washington _____¹⁴.

What words are usually left out of Patrick Henry's famous speech by modern historians? "_____, _____^{15!}"

_____¹⁶ founded the University of Georgia and served as a _____¹⁷ in the Revolutionary War.

Framers of the Constitution, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney and John Langdon, were founders of the _____¹⁸.

_____¹⁹ quoted from the book of Acts to challenge public school graduates to fulfill their duties to serve their Creator and country.

Constitution Framer James McHenry helped found the _____²⁰.

The most active and influential man of the Constitutional Convention and author of the Preamble was _____²¹.

Religion is the only solid basis of good morals. Therefore, education should teach the precepts of religion and the duties of man toward God.^{lxi} - **Gouverneur Morris, Signer of the Constitution**

The Northwest Ordinance required public schools to teach _____, _____²², and knowledge.^{lxii}

_____²³ signed both the Declaration & Constitution, and served on the original Supreme Court.

Human law must rest its authority ultimately 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. Indeed, these two sciences run into each other.^{lxxiii}

- **James Wilson, Signer of the Constitution**

If the First Amendment is reduced to “freedom of _____²⁴” instead of “freedom of _____²⁵,” there will be no protection of conscience anymore.

James Madison called conscience “the most sacred of _____²⁶.”

We should be very cautious of violating the rights of conscience in others, ever considering that God alone is the judge of the hearts of men and to Him only they are answerable. ^{lxciv}

- George Washington

For what business, in the name of common sense, has the magistrate with our religion? The state does not have any concern in the matter. In what manner does it affect society in what outward form we think it best to pay our adoration to God? The consciences of men are not the objects of human legislation. In contrast with this spiritual tyranny, how beautiful appears our constitution in disclaiming all jurisdiction over the souls of men, securing by a never-to-be-repealed section the voluntary, unchecked moral persuasion of every person by his own self-directed communication with the Father of spirits! ^{lxcv}

- William Livingston, Constitution Signer

Security under our constitution is given to the rights of conscience and private judgment. They are by nature subject to no control but that of Deity, and in that free situation they are now left. ^{lxcvi}

- John Jay, first Supreme Court Chief Justice

Starting in _____²⁷, the top issue that brought people to America was the right of conscience.

The phrase *the laws of nature and nature's God* came from _____²⁸.

Blackstone taught that God _____²⁹ in nature and in His laws, i.e. the holy _____³⁰.

The abolitionist Founding Fathers fought slavery on the basis of the laws of nature.

The Bill of Rights prohibits government from _____³¹ inalienable rights and commands government to _____³² them.

... select from all the people able men ... to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.
- Exodus 18:21

For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge, and the people should seek the law from his mouth... - Malachi 2:7

Resistance to sudden violence for the preservation not only of my person, my limbs, and life, but of my property, is an indisputable right of nature which I never surrendered to the public by the compact of society and which, perhaps, I could not surrender if I would.... [T]he maxims of the law and the precepts of Christianity are precisely coincident in relation to this subject.^{lxvii}

- John Adams, Signer of The Declaration

[T]o preserve liberty, it is essential that the whole body of the people always possess arms, and be taught alike, especially when young, how to use them...^{lxviii}

- Richard Henry Lee, Declaration Signer

George Mason did not sign the Constitution because it did not _____³³, and because he wanted more _____³⁴ placed around government.

The Supreme Court changed the “eminent domain” clause in the Constitution from “_____³⁵” to “_____³⁶” which makes it much easier to take private property.

Government is instituted to protect property. This being the end of government, that alone is a just government which impartially secures to every man whatever is his own. It is not a just government, nor is property secure under it, where arbitrary restrictions deny to part of its citizens that free use of their faculties or where the property which a man has in his personal safety and personal liberty is violated by arbitrary seizures of one class of citizens for the service of the rest.^{lxcix}

- James Madison