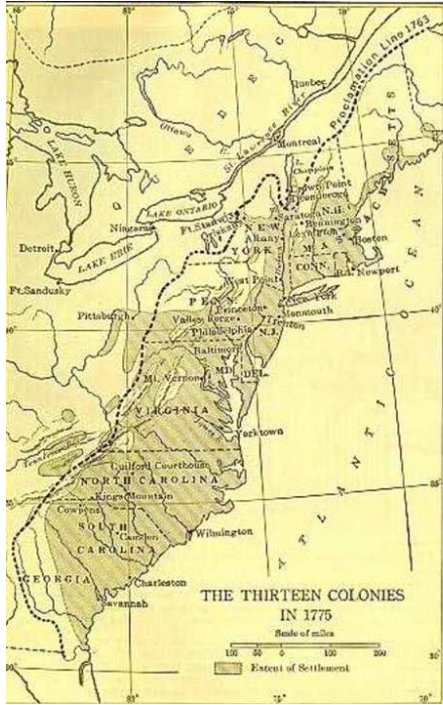


Fundamentals for American Christians

Bible Study with Dr. Paul Jehle

Week 3: May 27, 2020 - Lesson 2



Two book covers are displayed on a blue background. The left cover is purple and white, titled 'FUNDAMENTALS FOR AMERICAN CHRISTIANS VOLUME ONE GUIDE BOOK' by the PLYMOUTH ROCK FOUNDATION. The right cover is blue and white, titled 'RUS WALTON FACTS! Fundamentals For American Christians'.

Foundations of a Biblical Worldview
Lesson Two – The Great Political Textbook

Let's be sons of Issachar!



During this pandemic, we must remember that we get the government we resemble, not the one we deserve or the one we think we should have!

The Two Burdens of Issachar

... who had understanding of the times

Current Events



To know what Israel ought to do

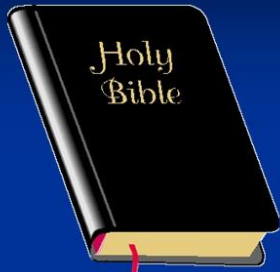
the Word applied



The Pilgrims arrived 400 years ago; an example of applying the Bible

We must know and trust the Bible if we are going to apply it to every area of life!

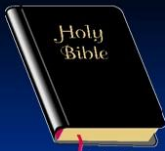
Lesson 1 review – Christ Makes the Difference!



The Bible is the standard for the believer and can be trusted! It was the standard for our nation for over two centuries!

- Darkness cannot conquer where Christ's light prevails; shining through the believer!
- We are dual citizens – we have a responsibility to the nation in which we live!
- The Dominion Charter and Great Commission give us responsibilities to disciple nations!
- Civil Government is God's ministry of justice
- The Pilgrims set an example for us of being governed by the Bible and thus produced a 400 year legacy of liberty!

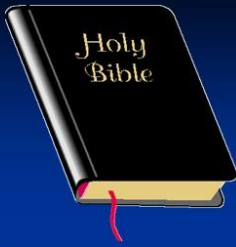
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The regular study of the Bible will enlighten us as it did the Pilgrims 400 years ago!

- *“All had gained the intelligence that comes from the diligent study of the Bible, and all were honest and earnest believers in the Christ of the New Testament”* – Leonard Bacon, Genesis of New England Churches
- The Bible is our “textbook for life” and its study will
 - Guide (direct) us – Proverbs 3:6
 - Cleanse (confession, forgiveness) us – Psalms 119:9
 - Edify (build up, grow in spiritual strength) us – Acts 20:32
 - Bring us hope, sustaining and nourishing us – Romans 15:4
 - Provide answers – Psalms 119:42; 1st Peter 3:15
 - Be our helmet of salvation and sword of the Spirit – Ephesians 6:17

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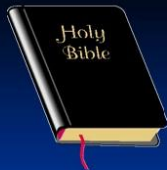
America was founded on the Bible

George W. Dollar was quoted as saying... FACS p. 34

If America is to be restored, it is the responsibility of the believer to restore the foundation of Biblical obedience

- On the Bible, America was founded.
- With the Bible, America was built.
- Because of the Bible, American chose the high road of morality and idealism...
- For the Bible, America was willing to throw off the shackles of tradition and tyranny.
- Under control of the Bible, America demanded that her leaders believe in and follow God, and (that) her teachers teach the ways of God.

5



The distinction between Pilgrim and Puritan is a difference in internal vs. external priority

- Both the Pilgrim and Puritan had a similar reformed theology
- Leonard Bacon succinctly writes the following (FACS, p. 37):
The Pilgrim wanted liberty for himself and his wife and little ones, and for his brethren, to walk with God in a Christian life as ...revealed to him from God's word. For that he went into exile; for that he made his home in the wilderness. The Puritan's idea was not liberty, but right government in church and state – such government as should not only permit him, but also compel other men, to walk in the right way.

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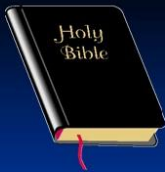


The Bible is the source for maintaining Christian Civil Liberty

- *The Bible is the only source of man's knowledge of how to obtain and maintain Christian civil liberty, and history shows that according to the degree the Bible has been received by the individual and its content related to all aspects of his life, has Christian civil freedom risen or declined.*
- *To learn of salvation through Jesus Christ, and how to live the Christian life, the Bible must be opened to the individual. Therefore, the history of the Bible in the hands of the individual is the history of Christian civil government.*

Verna Hall, *Christian History of the American Revolution*

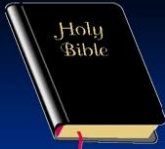
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The Bible is the source for maintaining Christian Civil Liberty

- *Also, because the church is the assembly or congregation of believers, whatever is reasoned from the Scripture regarding church polity or government, is the precursor of civil polity or government. Thus, it also can be said that the history of church government is the history of Christian civil government.*
 - Verna Hall, *Christian History of the American Revolution*
- John Wycliffe, "morning star of the Reformation" translated the Bible from Latin to English in 1383 – "this Bible is for the government of the people, by the people, and for the people"

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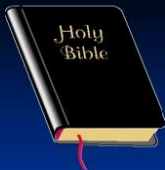


The Fundamental Orders of Connecticut January 14, 1639

- Instructed by the sermon of Thomas Hooker, May 31, 1638

... well knowing where a people are gathered together the word of God requires that to maintain peace and union of such people there should be an orderly and decent government established according to God, to order and dispose of the affairs of the people at all seasons as occasion shall require; do therefore associate and conjoin ourselves to be as one Public State or commonwealth; and do... enter into combination and confederation together, to maintain and preserve the liberty and purity of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ which we now profess...

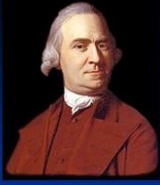
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Congress imports 20,000 Bibles at one of the darkest times of the American Revolution

- On September 11, 1777, imported Bibles for troops in the field:
The use of the Bible is so universal and its importance so great that ...Congress will order the Committee of Commerce to import 20,000 Bibles from Holland, Scotland, or elsewhere into the different parts of the States of the Union...
- On the front page of this Robert Aitken edition it stated:
Whereupon, Resolved, that the United States, in Congress assembled... recommend this edition of the Bible to the inhabitants of the United States...

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Sam Adams addresses the Continental Congress in York, PA – Sept. 27, 1777

- The Congress had fled from Philadelphia and the British

Gentleman, your spirits appear oppressed with the weight of the public calamities. Your sadness of countenance reveals your disquietude. A patriot may grieve at the distress of his country. But he will never despair of the commonwealth.... Our affairs, it is said, are desperate! If this be our language, they are indeed. If we wear long faces, long faces will become fashionable. The eyes of the people are upon us. The tone of their feelings is regulated by ours. If we despond, public confidence is destroyed, the people will no longer yield their support to a hopeless contest, and American liberty is no more.

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...Our burdens, though grievous, can be borne. Our losses, though great, can be retrieved. ...Let us awaken then, and evince a different spirit - a spirit that shall inspire the people... until their rights and liberties shall be established on a rock. We have proclaimed to the world our determination 'to die freemen, rather than to live slaves.' We have appealed to Heaven for the justice of our cause, and in Heaven have we placed our trust. Numerous have been the manifestations of God's providence in sustaining us.... we have had 'our cloud by day and pillar of fire by night.' We have been reduced to distress, and the arm of Omnipotence has raised us up. Let us still rely in humble confidence on Him who is mighty to save. Good tidings will soon arrive. We shall never be abandoned by Heaven while we act worthy of its aid and protection.

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The Surrender at Saratoga, New York October 17, 1777

Good Tidings
did arrive!

“A signal stroke of
Divine Providence”
George Washington

“Our sincere Acknowledgements of gratitude are due to the Supreme Disposer of All Events. I suppose Congress will recommend that a Day be set apart through out the United States for solemn Thanksgiving.” – Samuel Adams

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Noah Webster extols the influence of the Bible

The religion which has introduced civil liberty, is the religion of Christ and His apostles... these principles have truth, immutable truth, for their foundation... they are exactly adapted to secure the practice of universal justice and kindness among men; and, of course, to prevent crimes, war and disorders in society. No human laws dictated by different principles from those in the gospel, can ever secure these objects. All the miseries and evils from which men suffer vice, crime, ambition, injustice, slavery and war, proceed from their despising or neglecting the precepts contained in the Bible.

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Scriptural Warnings...

- Psalm 14:1-3 – only fools say there is no God
- Psalm 127:1 – God must be the foundation of the house/nation
- Matthew 7:26-27 – a house on sand will fall...
- Psalm 1:6 – the path of the wicked leads to destruction...
 - Church has not heeded this – less than 7% have a Bib. Worldview
 - We no longer educate our children (85% by State and few involved)
 - Less than half of believers are registered to vote; less than a third vote
- Psalm 11:3 – *If the foundations are destroyed, what do we do?*
- Isaiah 58:12 – *We rebuild the foundations!*

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The Decline to Humanism (man as god)

- 1830's – *believers began giving up the education of their children to the State... and then gradually, this happened...*
 - Evolution replaced Creation
 - Self gratification replaced self-control
 - License replaced liberty
 - Situational ethics replaced the Christian ethic
 - Man's law replaced God's law
 - External civil government (socialism) replaced the internal focus on the development of internal self-government
- Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn – June 8, 1978 at Harvard University

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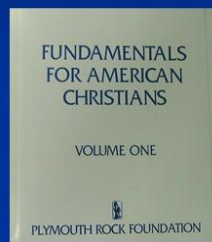
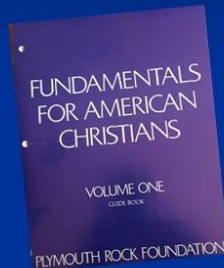
This “Global Pause” - An Unprecedented Time

- Believers face a critical decision in dealing with over-reach
 - *Will we embrace the pilgrim spirit and heart of liberty of conscience?*
 - *Will pastors begin applying the Bible to every area of life?*
- There is a constitutional movement pushing back!
 - Sheriffs refuse to enforce Illinois orders on churches and businesses!
 - In *Mainer vs. Pritzker*, the Judge
- Our priorities ought to be set on...
 - Asking God for a deeper work on our attitude within...
 - Restoring our own Biblical understanding and worldview...
 - While all suffer, we don't rush to resist, but patiently obey God...

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Suggested reading before Lesson 2...

- Get either the *FACS notebook or paperback (508-888-1889)*



- Read Lesson 2 of the notebook; Chapters 2-3 of the paperback
- Read the *The Great Political Textbook* article by Rus Walton
- Ponder questions in the notebook; review PowerPoint slides

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