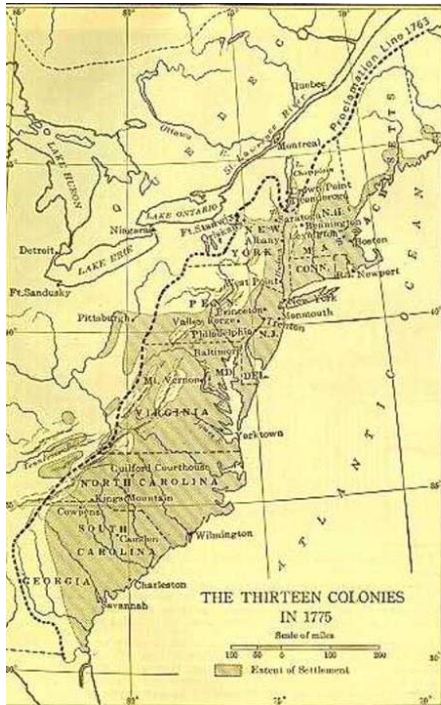


## Fundamentals for American Christians

Bible Study with Dr. Paul Jehle

Week 5: June 10, 2020 - Lesson 4 "Political Systems"



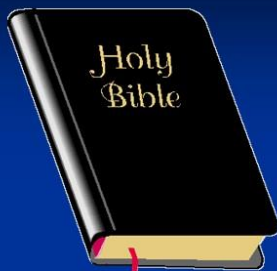
**FUNDAMENTALS FOR AMERICAN CHRISTIANS**  
VOLUME ONE  
GUIDE BOOK  
PLYMOUTH ROCK FOUNDATION

RUS WALTON  
**FACS!**  
Fundamentals For American Christians

*Foundations of a Biblical Worldview*  
Lesson Four – Political Systems

1

### A Review of Biblical Presuppositions

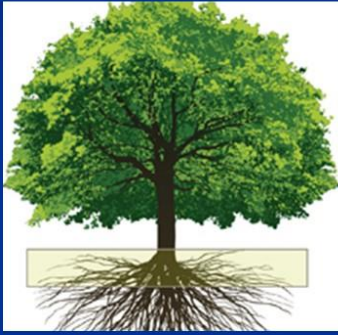


*Biblical premises or presuppositions help us apply Christianity and form a worldview of the Kingdom*

- The Bible is the ultimate standard for truth
- Darkness cannot conquer where light prevails!
- We are dual citizens – of heaven *and* earth!
- Civil Government is God's ministry of justice
- The culture is a reflection of God's people
- The flow of governmental authority and power begins with God in the heart of the believer!
- The Pilgrims set an example of self-government and the Patriots advanced its liberty!

# The Source determines the Quality

Quality or Fruit:  
Liberty under law



Source or Root:  
The most influential  
religion in a nation

- *“a tree is known by its fruit.”* – Mt. 12:33
  - Character is the fruit of an individual’s belief
  - Liberty under Law is the national fruit of the influence of Christianity – self-government
- Not all structures of civil government are equal - *power and form* are related
- Every religion has its corresponding form of civil government – to protect or enforce?
- The most influential religion in a nation is discerned by its form of civil government

# The Hebrew Republic; God’s Standard Form

← Liberty under Law on the World ‘s Stage →





# The Fruit of the Hebrew Republic

## ← Liberty under Law on the World's Stage →

**Individual Liberty**  
with God-given rights  
of life, liberty and  
property

### THE SOVEREIGNTY AND UNITY OF GOD

**Economic liberty**  
based on private  
property

**Political Equality**  
before the Law for all  
people including  
immigrants

*"And what great nation  
is there that has such  
statutes and righteous  
judgments as ae in all  
this law which I set  
before you this day?"*  
Deuteronomy 4:8

**Impartial Justice**  
swift and  
inexpensive

**Elected  
Representatives**  
accountable to the  
people at large

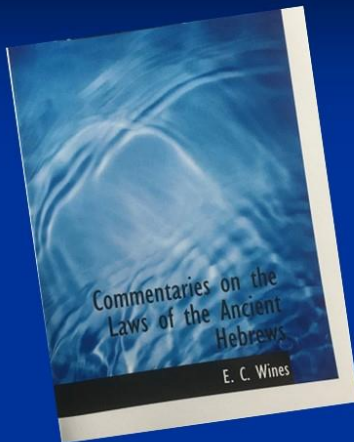
The loss of self-government leads to an  
increase in civil government

**Universal education  
and literacy** based in  
the family

← 1450 B.C. — Formation of Israel and the Period of the Judges — 1050 B.C. →

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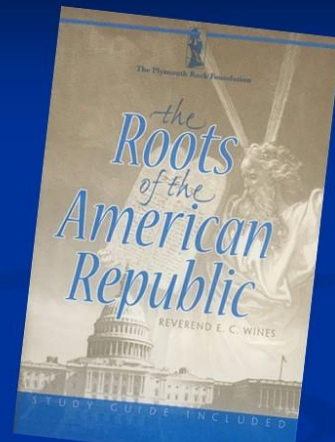
## Commercial Break! ([www.plymrock.org](http://www.plymrock.org))



Commentaries on the Laws  
of the Ancient Hebrews by  
E. C. Wines

Roots of the  
Republic  
*A digest of key  
truths from E.C.  
Wines that reveal  
the true roots of the  
American Republic*

The United States  
has its roots in  
Jerusalem and not  
Athens or Rome!



Roots of the Republic with  
study guide \$15

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## Warnings of Samuel; parallels to the Declaration?

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sam. 8:10 & Deuteronomy 17:14-20 – *limits on the King...*
  - *President must be God's choice; natural born citizen*
  - *No standing army; resist immorality; refuse government wealth*
  - *Must read and write out the Law every 7 years...*
- v. 11 – *draft children to fight in unjust wars and thus turn foreign policy into aggression...*
- v. 12-13 – *enlarge government with bureaucratic workers that would compete with the free market...*
- v. 14-17 – *income tax that competes with the tithe...*
- v. 18-22 – *government will do what you should be doing...*

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## Summary of Old Testament Government

- *a form of godliness but denying its power – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tim. 3:5*
  - *Rejection of God brings a loss of self-government and liberty*
  - *Mixture of godly and ungodly ideas – syncretism*
  - *Compromise by the people/leaders of God's standards and laws*
  - *Division – Israel went through a civil war – the kingdom split*
  - *Captivity – God warned, mercy offered, repentance or slavery...*
- *The Law operates from the outside – exposure of sin*
  - *The purpose of Law is to drive us to Christ – all have sinned*
  - *The conclusion of the OT – godly form; no power without Christ*
- *what the law could not do... God did sending His Son – Ro. 8:3*

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## The Form of New Testament Government

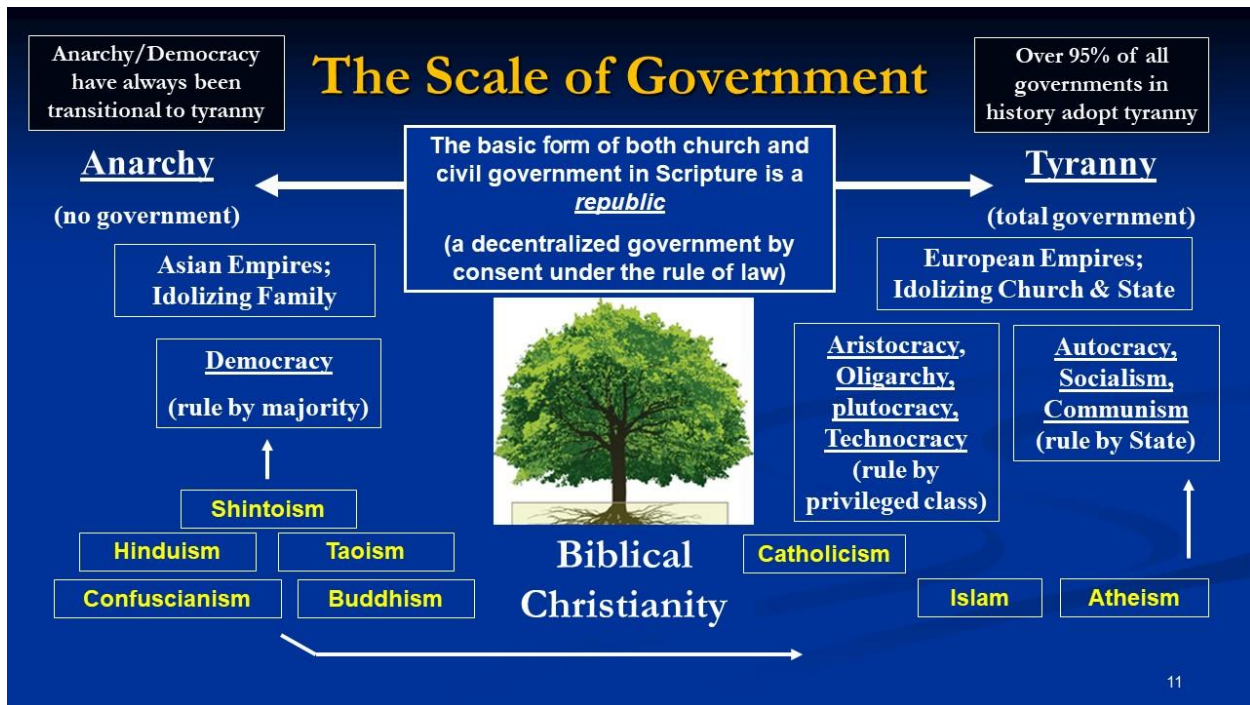
- *Christ in you, the hope of glory – Colossians 1:27*
  - The New Covenant rests on Christ in us; internal governance
  - It inspires a measure of self-restraint by example
- *The Christian methodology of government is self-government. The government set forth in the New Testament is Christ-centered; it radiates from the inside-out... This Christian self-government is to be the source of the power and the flow... Good government, God-directed civil government, becomes an external expression, an extension, of our Christ-centered internal government. – Rus Walton – FACS, pages 108-109*

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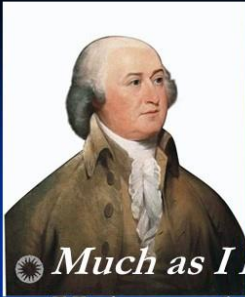
## The Form of New Testament Government

- *It is remarkable how men of comprehensive views, and free from sectarian bias, have agreed with regard to the Republicanism of Christianity. ‘Christianity,’ says Montesquieu, ‘is a stranger to despotic power.’ ‘The religion,’ says deTocqueville, ‘which declares that all are equal in the sight of God, will not refuse to acknowledge that all citizens are equal in the eye of the law. Religion is the companion of liberty in all its battles and all its conflicts; the cradle of its infancy and the divine source of its claims.’ ...Christianity, in its essence, its doctrines, and its forms, is republican.” – E. Hall, 1846; CHOC, ps 27-28*

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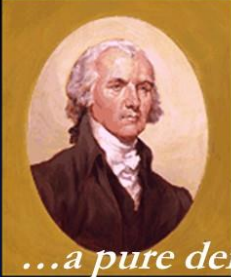
## On the Hebrews

### John Adams

*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 their legislators and philosophers... they are the most glorious nation that ever inhabited this Earth. The Romans and their empire were but a bubble in comparison to the Jews. They have given religion to three quarters of the globe and have influenced the affairs of mankind more... than any other nation, ancient or modern.*

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## On Democracy James Madison

*...a pure democracy... citizens, who assemble and administer the government in person, can admit of no cure for the mischiefs of faction.... such democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property; and have in general been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths.... A republic... promises the cure for which we are seeking... - Federalist #10*

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## The Clergy recommended the Hebrew Republic as the prime example for forming the States and Nation

- The Clergy preached two hours each Sunday...
  - Artillery Election sermons / Election sermons / Thursday lectures
- They taught on every feature of the Hebrew Republic
  - God-given rights, separation of powers, bottom up appeals system
  - Constitution as covenant, political equality, electing Representatives
- 1780 – Samuel Cooper – MA – *Inauguration of MA State Const*
- 1788 - Samuel Langdon – NH – *Republic of Israel an Example*

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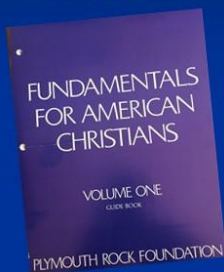
## Conclusions drawn from these Premises

- Matthew 12:33 – *a tree is known by its fruit...*
- The source of the flow determines its quality
- Every religion has a corresponding form of government
- We get the government we as believers resemble
- Applying this to the demand for change “from the streets”
  - We need to listen and discern the source of the demands...
  - Anarchy and lawlessness reduces freedom for all...
  - Sins of the past must should be discussed in context of history...
  - The goal should be to teach our children to reason from premises...

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## Suggested reading from Lesson 4...

- Get the *FACS notebook or paperback and booklet of articles!*



\$10 on-line at  
[www.plymrock.org](http://www.plymrock.org)



- Read Lesson 4 of the notebook; Chapter 6 of the paperback
- Read *Roots of our Republic* article by Rus Walton
- Ponder the comparison chart and “USA Today” description

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