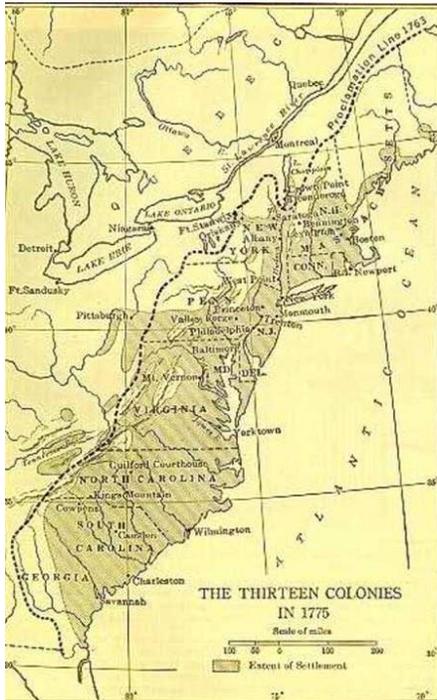


Fundamentals for American Christians

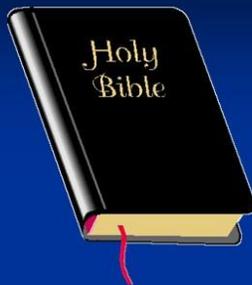
Bible Study with Dr. Paul Jehle

Week 6: June 17, 2020 - Lesson 5 “Christ’s Law of Liberty”



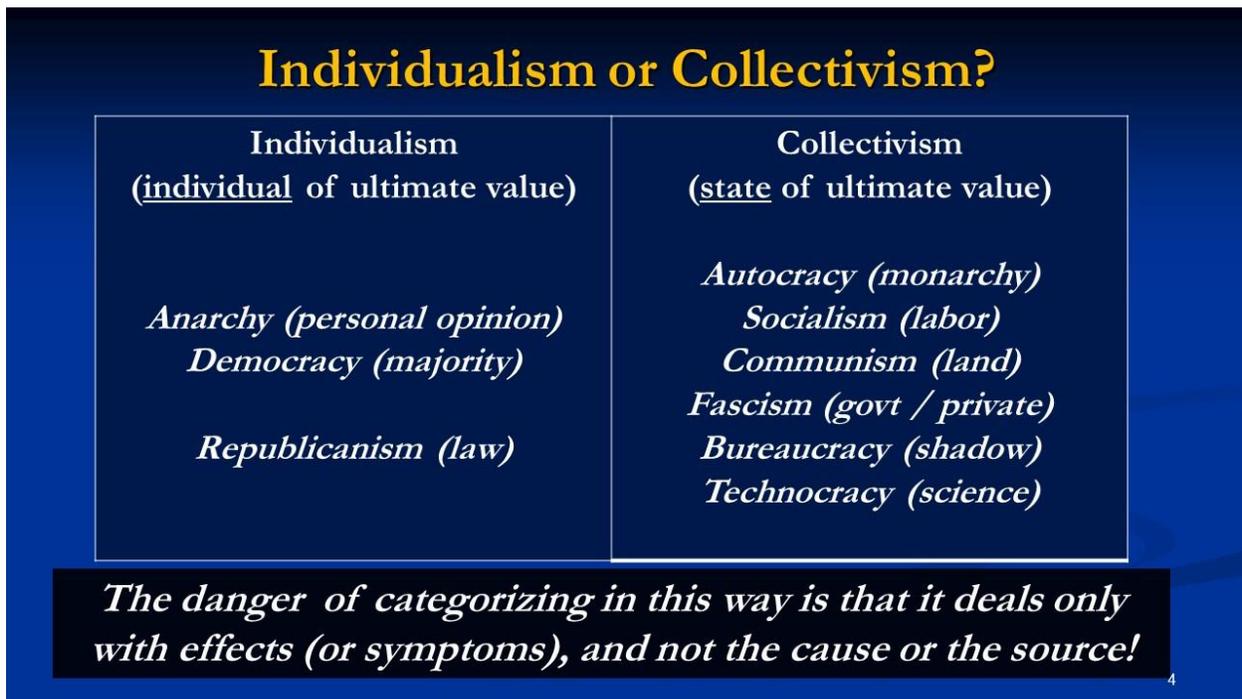
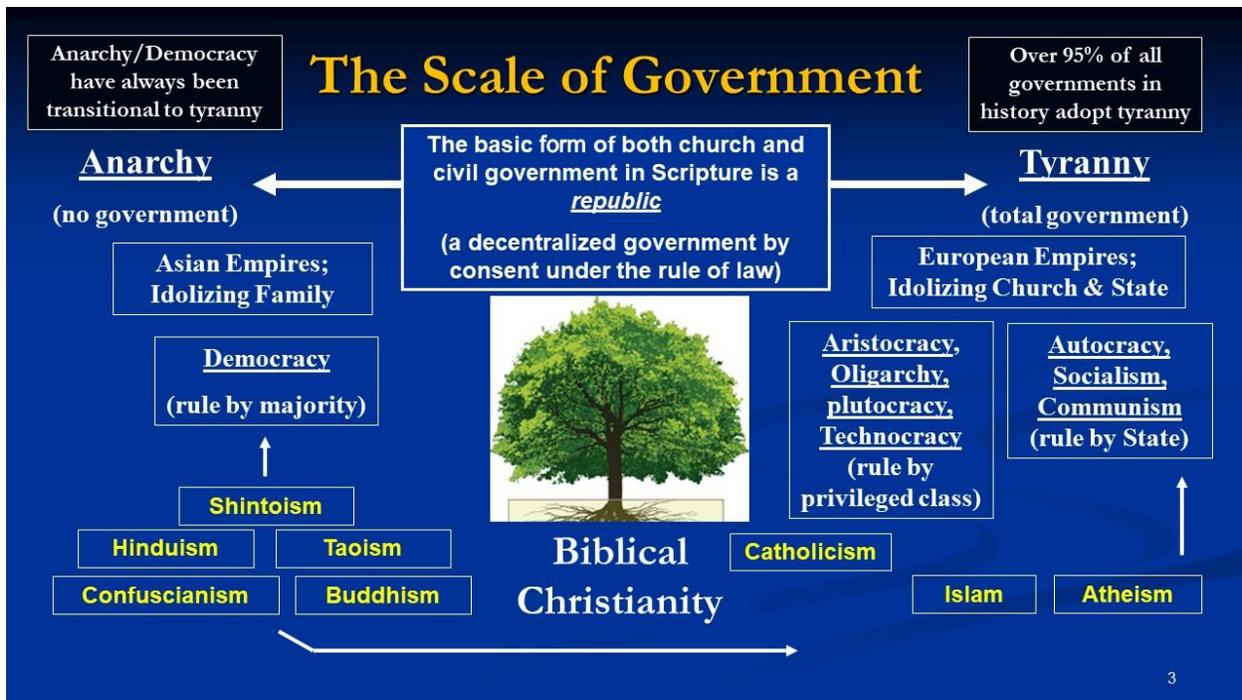
Two book covers are displayed against a blue background. On the left is the cover of "FUNDAMENTALS FOR AMERICAN CHRISTIANS VOLUME ONE GUIDE BOOK" by the PLYMOUTH ROCK FOUNDATION. On the right is the cover of "FACS! Fundamentals For American Christians" by RUS WALTON. Below the books, the text reads "Foundations of a Biblical Worldview Lesson Five – Christ’s Law of Liberty" with a small number 1 at the bottom right.

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 source determines the quality of government
- America inherited the Hebrew Republic



Rus Walton on *Individualism*

- *Individualism is a siren song of which the Christian must be wary! In their aversion to the heavy, godless hand of collectivism, Christians must take care that they do not blindly embrace the sins of individualism; that they do not follow the mistakes of those who now wander in the twilight of what has been hailed as the ‘enlightenment of Christian humanism.’ As if such a contradiction in fact and in word could be pleasing to God! Only that which puts God first, and recognizes Him as Supreme Sovereign in all things, is acceptable unto Him – and, of Him. (page 120 of FACS)*

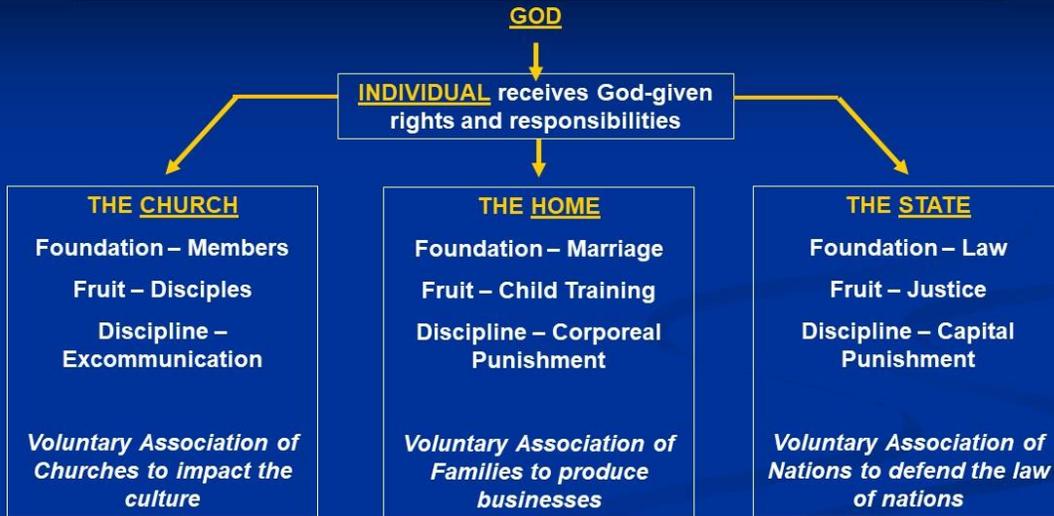
5

The Problem with a Humanistic Society

- It elevates mankind – individual or collective – above God!
- It claims autonomy – in essence; that man is “god!”
- Its claim is a secular neutrality – but that is an impossibility!
 - Secular means “pertaining to this present world; not spiritual”
 - Neutrality is a myth – *everyone has a worldview to interpret facts*
 - It is not *whether* religion motivates; but *which* religion does so!
- It claims that God must be separated from government!
 - There is a jurisdictional separation – two different responsibilities
 - Its power flow is God, to the State (mankind), then to the people

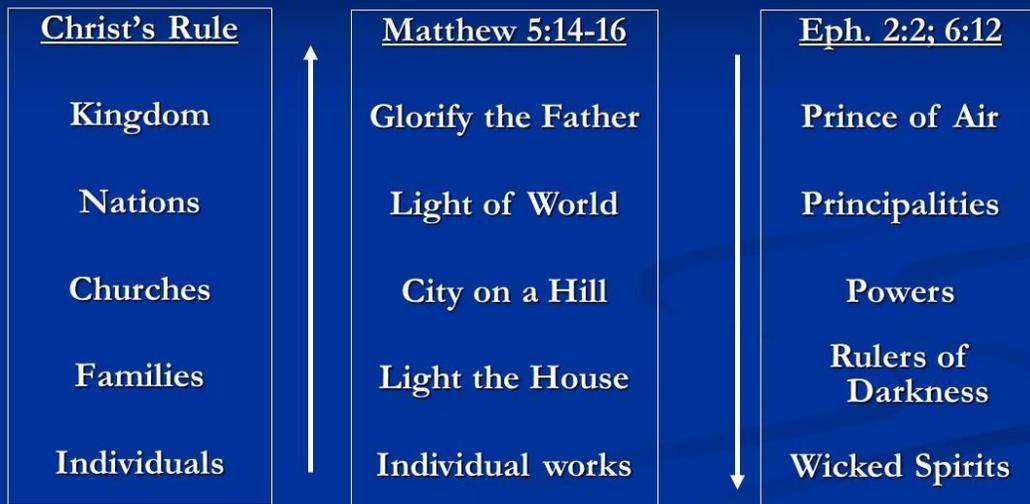
6

God's Decentralized Kingdom



7

Contrast of Christ's vs. the Enemy's Kingdom



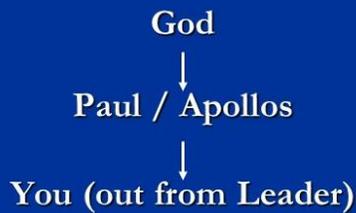
8

The Flow of Man's vs. God's Government

Paternalism

"For while one saith, I am of Paul, and another, I am of Apollos, are you not carnal?"

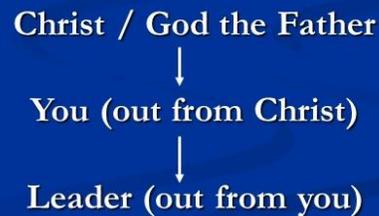
1st Corinthians 3:4



Priesthood of Believer

"...for all things are yours... Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas... all are yours, and you are Christ's and Christ is God's."

1st Corinthians 3:21-23



9

God's Power Flow is from Himself, to the people, then by consent to the State

MAYFLOWER COMPACT



In the name of God, Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of... King James...

... covenant and combine ourselves into a civil body politic

The names of each have his name on underwritten. The first sentence of our Decree foregoes and King James by a great deal of great Britain, from a great King before of 1620.

Having undertaken for the glory of God and advancement of the Christian Church and honor of our King James, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia by the help of which we hope to give a present and perpetual help to our brethren, we do hereby certify that we are bound one to another, covenant, combine our selves together into a civil body politic, for the better ordering and preservation of ourselves and posterity, and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, decrees, censures, penalties, and such other things as shall be thought meet, for the general good of the colony, unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names at Cape Cod the 11th of November in the year of our Sovereign Lord King James of Great Britain the sixth year, and of the said State of Virginia the first year, 1620.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE



... all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights... deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed



10

Christ's Law of Liberty

- The gospel of Christ is grace fulfilling law; bringing liberty!
- *Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in the mirror, for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. – James 1:22-25*
- *... Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this; to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world. - James 1:27*

11

Rev. John Zubly – Congress of Georgia - 1775

- *Grace and truth was brought to light by Jesus Christ, and hence the dispensation of the Gospel, under which we live, is called the law of liberty.*
- *It deserves very particular attention that the doctrine of the Gospel is called the law of liberty. Liberty and law are perfectly consistent; liberty does not consist in living without all restraint; for were all men to live without restraint, as they please, there would soon be no liberty at all.*
- *...a more unhappy situation could not be easily devised unto mankind than that every man should have it in his power to do that which is right in his own eyes.*

12



....on Self-Government

- Rev. Zubly continues... *the law is spiritual, and no law more so than the law of the Gospel; it requires not merely external obedience but an internal conformity to the will of God; it demands truth in the inward part, it looks not only to actions that are done, but to the principle form which they flow...*
- Verna Hall... *Each religion has a form of government, and Christianity astonished the world by establishing self-government. With the landing of the Pilgrims in 1620, Christian self-government became the foundation stone of the United States of America.*

13

Conclusions drawn from these Premises

- Gad Hitchcock, 1774 - *... in proportion as the minds of individuals are made free from sin, the virtues of the gospel are practiced, oppression and tyranny must cease, and liberty revive and prevail.*
- Self-government without Christ will become tyrannical
- Verna Hall – *the ‘sovereignty of the people,’ therefore, the source and quality of force and power, i.e. government, is only as good as their acceptance of the sovereignty of God.*
- *Only the flow of good government can reduce (and finally eliminate) the flow of bad government.*

14

- Rus Walton - *For the first one hundred years of this Republic, the people of America – not all of them, perhaps, but most – made their choice: led by American Christians, clergy and lay leaders, they determined to serve the Lord.*
- Verna Hall - *As each generation of Americans rose after the establishment of our Constitution, it should have been taught what the Lord had done in bringing this nation into being. But, alas! We Christians failed to do so, especially after the founding fathers were gone from the scene. As a nation we became enamored of the fruits of freedom, and like Israel of old, began to worship other gods, and forget God's wonderful... benevolence, 'and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord, nor yet the works which He had done...' (Judges 2:10)*

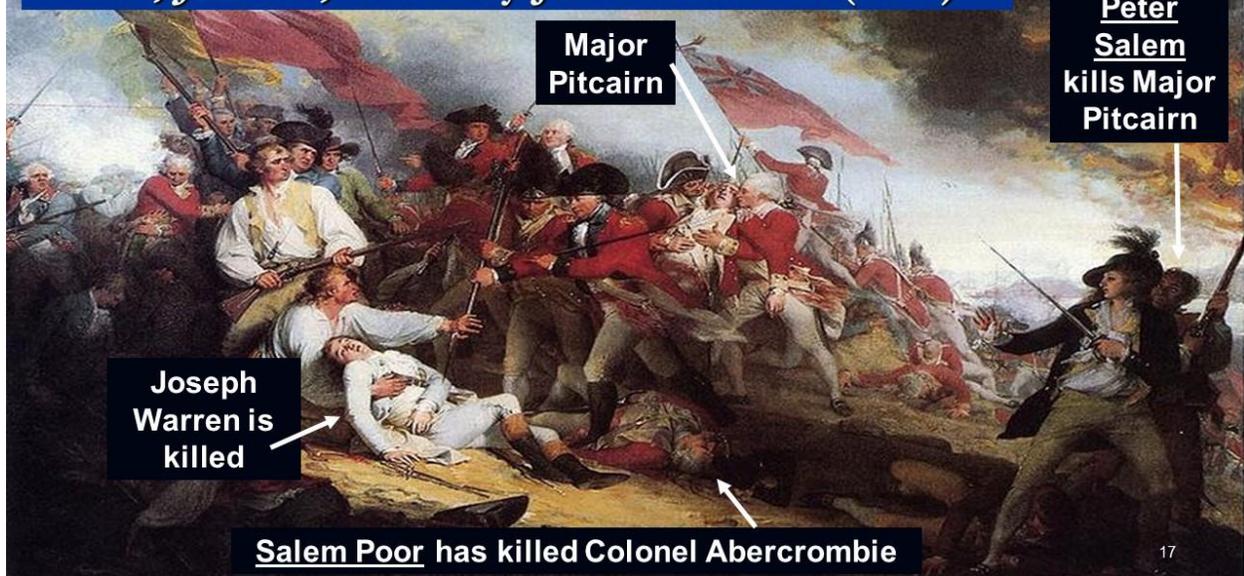
15

Slavery and the Reduction of Christian Influence

- “All men created equal” included *all* races and *both* sexes
- State Constitutions of Delaware (1776); Maryland (1776); Pennsylvania (1776); New York (1777); Massachusetts (1780), and New Hampshire (1784); all protected multi-racial voting
- Freed blacks & whites ratified the Constitution (1787-1788)
- Some African-Americans held office prior to the Civil War;
- But Federal and State laws re-defined equality as government-granted and racism reared its ugly head again due to greed and a loss of Christian influence from 1800-1860

16

Death of General Warren in the Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775 – by John Trumbull (1786)

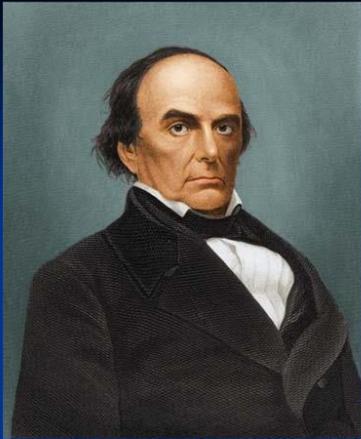


Major Pitcairn

Peter Salem kills Major Pitcairn

Joseph Warren is killed

Salem Poor has killed Colonel Abercrombie



Daniel Webster on Forefathers Day; Plymouth, MA; 1820

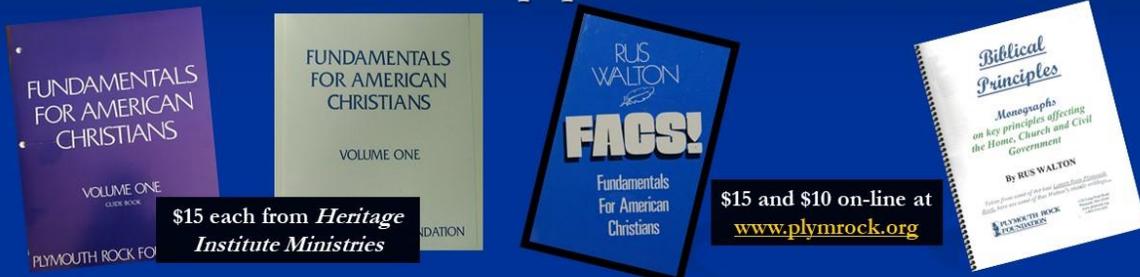
I deem it my duty on this occasion to suggest, that the land is not yet wholly free from the contamination of a traffic, at which every feeling of humanity must forever revolt, - I mean the African slave-trade. Neither public sentiment, nor the law, has hitherto been able entirely to put an end to this odious and abominable trade. At the moment when God in his mercy has blessed the Christian world with a universal peace, there is reason to fear, that, to the disgrace of the Christian name and character, new efforts are making for the extension of this trade by subjects and citizens of Christian states, in whose hearts there dwell no sentiments of humanity or of justice, and over whom neither the fear of God nor the fear of man exercises a control. In the sight of our law, the African slave-trader is a

felon; and in the sight of Heaven, an offender beyond the ordinary depth of human guilt. There is no brighter page of our history, than that which records the measures which have been adopted by the government at an early day, and at different times since, for the suppression of this traffic; and I would call on all the true sons of New England to cooperate with the laws of man, and the justice of Heaven. If there be, within the extent of our knowledge or influence, any participation in this traffic, let us pledge ourselves here, upon the rock of Plymouth, to extirpate and destroy it. It is not fit that the land of the Pilgrims should bear the shame longer. I hear the sound of the hammer, I see the smoke of the furnaces where manacles and fetters are still forged for human limbs. I see the visages of those who by stealth and at midnight labor in this work of hell, foul and dark, as may become the artificers of such instruments of misery and torture. Let that spot be purified, or let it cease to be of New England. Let it be purified, or let it be set aside from the Christian world; let it be put out of the circle of human sympathies and human regards, and let civilized man henceforth have no communion with it...

19

Suggested reading from Lesson 5...

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



- Read Lesson 5 of the notebook; Chapter 6 of the paperback
- Read *Making your Mark for Christ* article by Rus Walton
- Ponder the PowerPoint slides and/or re-view the recording

20