

Two book covers are displayed against a blue background. The left cover is purple and white, titled 'FUNDAMENTALS FOR AMERICAN CHRISTIANS VOLUME ONE GUIDE BOOK' by Plymouth Rock Foundation. The right cover is dark blue with white text, titled 'FACS! Fundamentals For American Christians' by Rus Walton.

Foundations of a Biblical Worldview
Lesson Eight – Whom Shall We Obey?

A Review of Biblical Presuppositions

- Section One: The Bible is our ultimate standard:
 - Darkness cannot conquer where light prevails
 - We are dual citizens – of heaven *and* earth (civil government)
 - The culture is a reflection of God's people
- Section Two: The Source and Quality of Govt
 - The flow of government begins in the heart (the source of its quality)
 - Christ's Law of Liberty is both law and gospel
- Section Three: The Sovereignty of God
 - Christ is both Savior and King (Lord, Sovereign)
 - Humanism (man as god) moves between anarchy and tyranny

The American Revolution - 1775

Pastor Jonas Clark *We have no Sovereign but God and no King but Jesus!*

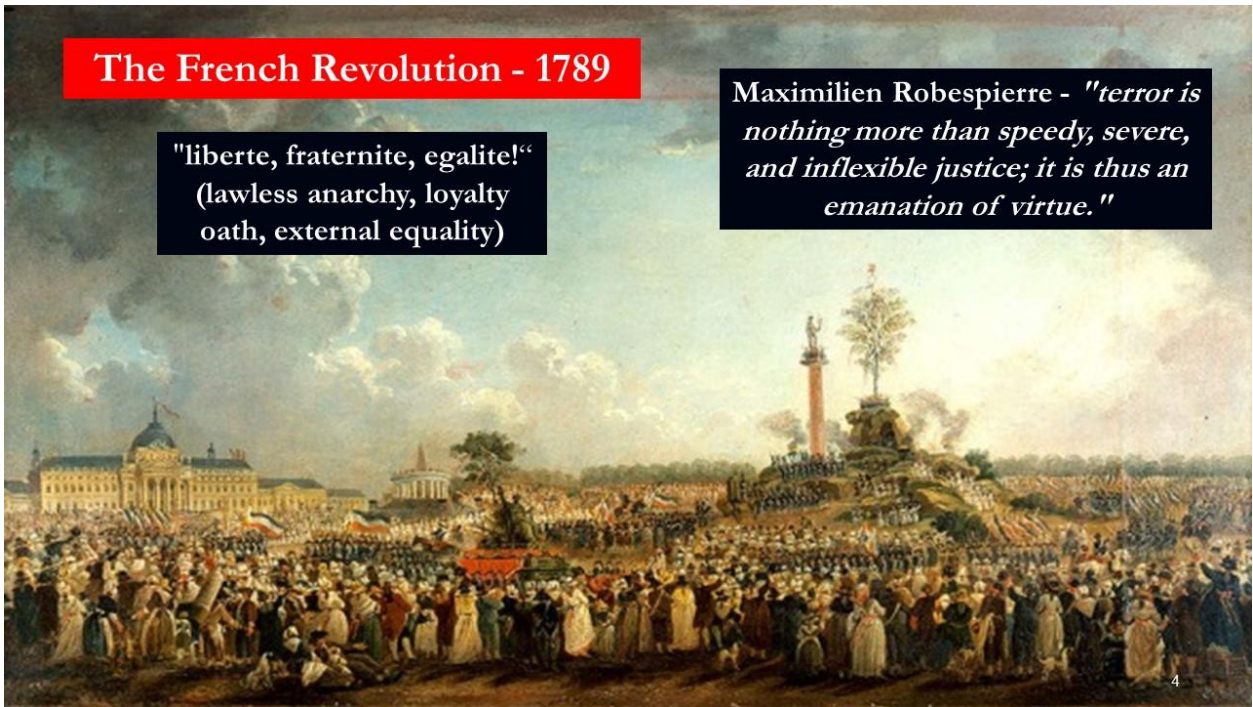
Major Pitcairn *Disperse, ye villains, lay down your arms in the name of George the Sovereign King of England.*



The French Revolution - 1789

"liberte, fraternite, egalite!"
(lawless anarchy, loyalty oath, external equality)

Maximilien Robespierre - *"terror is nothing more than speedy, severe, and inflexible justice; it is thus an emanation of virtue."*



The Christian Idea of Man – A Promise

Richard Frothingham

- Man (male and female) created in the image of God
- Each individual is destined for immortality (eternity)
- In the eyes of God, all men are created equal
 - All races were included in this theological premise
 - Both male and female were also included as well
- The individual has independent value – equal before the law
- Mankind – the individual – is superior to the State
- The State should be fashioned for his use (service)

5

R. J. Rushdoony on the *American System*

- *The concept of the secular state was virtually non-existent in 1776, as well as in 1787... to read the Constitution as a charter for a secular state is to misread history, and to misread it radically. (Declaration and Constitution related)*
- *There is an absence of reference (to God) because the framers of the Constitution did not believe that this was an area of jurisdiction for the federal government....*
- *The freedom of the first amendment from federal interference is not from religion but for religion in the constituent states! (“Congress shall make no law”)*

6



*Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's,
and unto God the things which be God's (Luke 20:22-25)*

Rev. David Jones – July 20, 1775

- *The apostle (Paul) is no friend of anarchy; for he well knew the corruption and depravity of man would oppress the innocent, if there were no legal restraints....*
- *We cannot suppose, either, that this text (Romans 13) enjoins absolute submission to all law, which may be made in a land, for some are so wicked, oppressive and unjust in their nature and tendency that the best of men have thought it their indispensable duty to disobey them...*
- *As E. E. Cairns wrote – Our obedience to the state is not absolute; it is obedience under God.*

The Doctrine of Biblical Self-Defense

- *Thou shalt not murder* – Exodus 20:12 – *if the thief is found breaking in, and he is struck so that he dies, there shall be no guilt for his bloodshed* – Exodus 22:2 – A Just Peace
 - Realism (war to promote good) – *end does not justify the means*
 - Pacifism (peace is the goal) - *means does not justify the end*
- Just cause – *love your enemies* – Luke 6:27
 - Our ultimate motive must be love for God's justice and others
 - Sin and evil requires force at times to defend what is right (last resort)
- Just conduct - *self-preservation* – 2nd Corinthians 10:14-15
 - Under authority of God and others – proportionate force necessary
 - Avoid killing the innocent – borders/limits act of self-government

9

The Biblical Doctrine of Resistance

James 4:6-7 - *God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble. Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.*

- Direct rebellion against authority is wrong (Romans 13:2)
- Submission to God is the pre-requisite (Eph. 6:12; Mt. 5:43-44)
 - Are we submitting to God's authorities spiritually and naturally?
 - *A respectful attitude of submission* incorporates loving one's enemy
- Lawful resistance avoids personal vengeance and preserves love as a motive even when justice is sought (Ro. 12:17-19)
 - This doctrine gave rise to the idea of *lower magistrate resistance*

10

What are the Steps for Lawful Resistance

- Matthew 5:38-41 – personal offenses (build relationships)
- Matthew 18:15-18 - Appeal to authority for a resolution
- Matthew 10:14 - Boycott – economic resistance
- Acts 25:11 - Civil interposition – by lower magistrate, resistance must be *under authority*
- Matthew 10:23 - Flee – avoid greater conflict if possible
- Acts 5:29 - Disobey – if commanded to disobey God's Word we must resist but it could result in martyrdom
- Luke 22:36 - Forceful resistance – self-defense / war

11

Rus Walton... Lesson 8 conclusions...

- *The Lord God is the Supreme Sovereign of the universe*
- *Christ is King and should be Master of all our affairs*
- *God's Word – written and revealed and living – must be our ultimate authority*
- *Christians are no friends of anarchy – we are not to use our God-given liberty as a cloak for maliciousness, or are we to engage in needless strife, contention, or vain-glorious disputations. Yet, when there is a definite conflict between*

12

Rus Walton... Lesson 8 conclusions...

- *God's laws and man's, Christians have no choice but to take their stand with and for Christ, and on Biblical principles.*
- *He that is not with Me, said our Lord, is against Me.*
- *As Jesus loves us, so we must "love the Lord our God, and keep His charge, and His statutes, and His ordinances, and His commandments, always" (Deut. 11:1)*
- *If we find that the laws of our society are in conflict with the laws of God, it is our responsibility to exercise due process to change the laws so that they are in accord with God's will – to change the law-makers, if that is necessary.*

13

The Consequences of the Failure of the Church

- "All men created equal" included *all* races and *both* sexes
- The promise of equality initially progressed gradually
 - African American racism was defended at times by the Church!
 - The American Indian was ignored and *driven off their lands!*
- In both cases, the Church at times allowed or promoted...
 - The Federal Government "controlling" land and opportunity
 - Dependency on government instead of personal empowerment
- Our nation has not been stolen by the enemy; it has been given away by the compromised Church; effects are with us

14

But the Remnant Church...

- “All men created equal” included *all* races and *both* sexes
- Became missionaries to the Native Tribes
 - Zachariah Howwaswee (Sr. and Jr.) banned Zachariah Mayhew from the Island of Martha’s Vineyard in 1789 using the Declaration
 - Blind Joe Amos continued the missionary legacy by 1830...
- Disobeyed civil laws and created the Underground Railroad
 - Anti-slavery societies began forming right after 1776...
 - Led by Quakers, Methodists and Baptists... it gained momentum
 - Fanny Kemble, William Lloyd Garrison, Nat Turner...
 - The *Amistad*, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglas, *Dred Scott*

15



Amazon owner Jeff Bezos targeted at his home in Seattle, Washington

Kshama Sawant
(Councilmember) – “we
are coming for you”



- “Support our poor communities, not our wealthy men”
- Flyer “Amazon works directly with police to surveil us, stoking racist fears in the name of profit. Doubling down on their union-busting and mistreatment of workers... Join us to tell Jeff Bezos enough is enough?”

16

What can the Church do now?

- Press into the Lord to walk closely with Him as never before
- Teach and re-teach Biblical principles for a clear worldview
- Discuss within and among churches on when, and how, we must disobey with the right focus of *obeying God*
- Identify safe houses for families and churches, and be prepared to help your neighbors with food, water, supplies
- Pray for love, unity, service and uplift public officials
- Pray for a national call for humiliation, prayer and fasting

17

Suggested reading from Lesson 8...

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



- Read Lesson 8 of the notebook; Chapter 10 of the paperback
- Read *Whom Shall we Obey?* by Paul Jehle
- Ponder the PowerPoint slides and/or review the recording

18