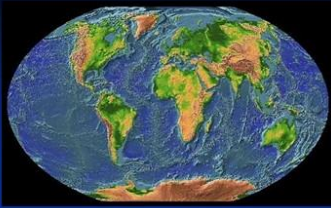


Two book covers are displayed against a blue background. The left cover is purple and white, titled "FUNDAMENTALS FOR AMERICAN CHRISTIANS VOLUME ONE GUIDE BOOK" by the "PLYMOUTH ROCK FOUNDATION". The right cover is blue and white, titled "RUS WALTON FACS! Fundamentals For American Christians". Below the covers, the text "Foundations of a Biblical Worldview Lesson Thirteen – Purpose of Property" is written in white.

A Review of Biblical Presuppositions in FACS

- Section One: The Bible is our ultimate standard:
 - As dual citizens darkness cannot conquer where light prevails
- Section Two: The Source and Quality of Govt
 - The flow of government (law and gospel) begins in the heart
- Section Three: The Sovereignty of God
 - Christ is both Savior and King (Lord, Sovereign)
- Section Four: God's Principle of Individuality
 - Individuals, by God's love, are the primary vessels of His Kingdom!
- Section Five: God's Principle of Personal Property
 - Internal property (conscience) and external property is to be protected

The Earth is the Lord's



- Ps. 24:1 (1st Corinthians 10:26) – *The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein*
 - The earth is ultimately owned by God as Creator
 - “Fullness” includes all produced, and all people
- Ge. 1:27 – *So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him, male and female created He them*
- John 1:3-4 – *All things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made.*

3

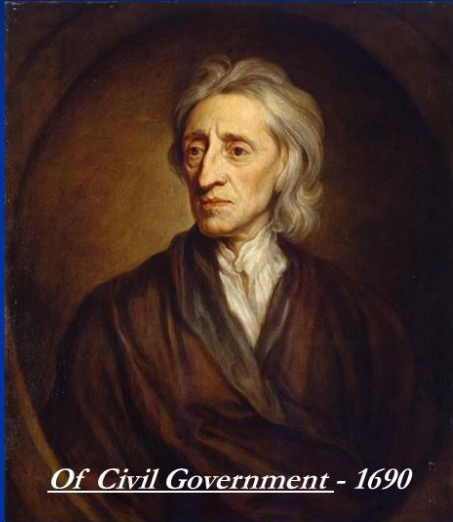
God is the Originator of All Things

- Ecc. 3:14-15 – *I know that whatever God does, it shall be forever. Nothing can be added to it, and nothing taken from it. God does it, that men should fear before Him. That which is has already been, and what is to be has already been; and God requires an account of what is past.*
- 1st Chron. 29:11 – *Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in the earth is Thine. Thine is the kingdom, O Lord!*

4

John Locke

1632-1704



Of Civil Government - 1690

Whether we consider reason – which tells us that men, being once born, have a right to their preservation and consequently to meat and drink and such other things as nature affords for their substance, or revelation – which gives us an account of those grants God made of the world to Adam, and to Noah, and his sons, 'tis very clear that God, as King David says (Ps. 115:16) 'had given the earth to the children of men...'"

5



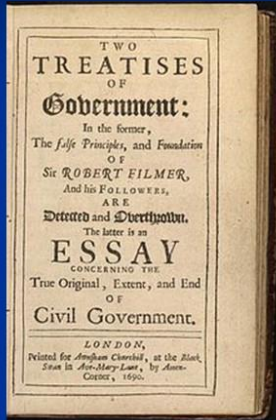
The Garden of Eden
the world's first private property

The Principles of Economics and Stewarding Property

Labor – work ethic
Management – preserve production
Liberty – freedom to choose
Consequences – freedom to fail
Planning – learn to plan with God
Categorizing – bring order
Voluntary covenant – family business

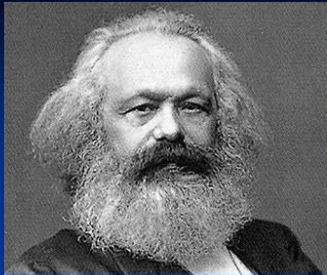
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John Locke – Of Civil Government - 1690



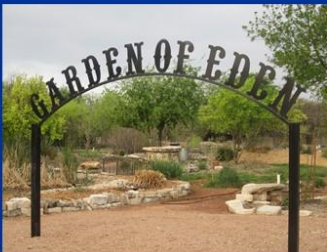
God, who hath given the world to Men in common, hath also given them reason to make use of it to the best Advantage of Life, and convenience... Though the Earth, and all inferior creatures be common to all men, yet every man has a property in his own person. This no body has any right to but himself. The labor of his body, and the work of his hands, we may say, are properly his. Whatsoever then he removes out of the state of nature hath provided and left it in, he has mixed labor with and joined to it something that is his own, and thereby makes it is his property... this labor being the unquestionable property of the laborer...

7

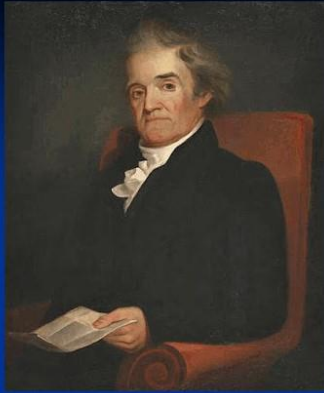


Marx and Labor

- Labor Power – *the amount of hours it takes to feed, clothe and house a worker – survival*
 - State sets minimum wage (victimized workers)
 - State sets maximum price (greedy owners)
- Biblical Labor – *the attitude one has toward work, willing to expend energy to produce*
 - Owner and worker set the wage (voluntary)
 - Market sets the price (supply and demand)



8



Noah Webster on Property - 1828

The exclusive right of possessing, enjoying and disposing of a thing; ownership. In the beginning of the world, the Creator gave to man dominion over the earth... This is the foundation of man's property in the earth and all its productions. Prior occupancy of the land and of wild animals gives to the

possessor the property of them. The labor of inventing, making or producing any thing constitutes one of the highest and most indefeasible titles to property. Property is also acquired by inheritance, by gift, or by purchase.... It is one of the greatest blessings of civil society that the property of citizens is well secured.

9



The Declaration of Independence - 1776

Endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights... Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness (Jefferson borrowed this phrase from the Virginia Declaration of Rights – June 12, 1776 which said “with the Means of acquiring and possessing Property, and pursuing and obtaining Happiness and Safety”

10

What Kind of Property?

- Allodial - *Pertaining to allodium; freehold; free of rent or service; held independence of a lord paramount; opposed to feudal. (this concept is rooted in the Common Law of England dating back to King Alfred – 900 AD)*
- Feudal - *Pertaining to feuds, fiefs or fees; as feudal rights or services; feudal tenures. (feudal property taxed by the State)*
 - William the Conqueror (1066) turned allodial land in England into feudal land owned by the King... (French vs. Saxons)
 - The concept of the King owning the land (claiming it) in explored countries was attempted to be transferred to America and was implemented by King George III beginning in 1760...

11

A Summary View of the Rights of British America, by Thomas Jefferson - 1774

America was not conquered by William the Norman, nor its lands surrendered to him, or any of his successors. Possessions there are undoubtedly of the allodial nature.... It is time, therefore, for us to lay this matter before his majesty, and to declare that he has no right to grant lands of himself. From the nature and purpose of civil institutions, all the lands within the limits which any particular society has circumscribed around itself are assumed by that society, and subject to their allotment only.... this may be done by themselves, assembled collectively, or by their legislature, to whom they may have delegated sovereign authority...

12

Currency reflects Property Value

- Currency (money) is merely a means of exchange (medium)
- The Bible indicates that silver and gold is a sure foundation
 - Divisibility – gold and silver have been “coined” into currency
 - Durability – they have stood the test of time – constant value
 - Transportability – they can be easily carried
 - Recognizability – it is easily recognized and hard to counterfeit
 - Scarcity – it is difficult enough to mine that it is not easily produced
- *Your silver has become dross* (Isaiah 1:22) – an indication of God’s judgment upon a nation when the State debases the currency and over-spends... (inflation is soon to come)

13

Property: *Key Incentive for Dominion*

- The Freedom Formula implemented by people after the Fall
 - Natural Resources + Human Energy x Tools = Welfare (C Wolfe)
 - It created *competition* between the lazy and productive
- *He who is slothful in his work is a brother to him who is a great destroyer.* (Proverbs 18:9)
- *The hand of the diligent will rule, but the lazy man will be put to forced labor.* (Proverbs 12:24)
- *Much food is in the fallow ground of the poor, and for lack of justice there is waste.* (Proverbs 13:23)

14

God's Law protects Property and the Family

Rushdoony writes - *God established man in the possession of property under God as a basic aspect of the life of the family and as an essential to the economy of the family. The basic principle is this: The (Biblical) law protects the family and its property from interference by the state... the family depends on property for its material independence, and property depends on the family for its meaning and protection. This relationship, although distorted and misrepresented, has been seen by socialists, as witness Frederick Engels' study... for such men, the abolition of private property requires also the abolition of the family...*

15

The Eighth and Tenth Commandments

- Thou shalt not steal - Thou shalt not covet (steal/covet what?)
- Matthew Henry's Commentary – *The eighth commandment... forbids us to rob ourselves of what we have by sinful spending, or of the use and comfort of it by sinful sparing, and to rob others by removing the ancient landmarks, invading our neighbor's rights, taking his goods from his person, or house, or field, forcibly or clandestinely, over-reaching in bargains, not restoring what is borrowed or found, withholding just debts, rents or wages, and (which is worst of all) to rob the public in coin or revenue, or that which is dedicated to the service of religion.*
- Ancient landmarks are spiritual (truths) and physical (boundaries)

16

The Tenth Commandment

- *The tenth commandment strikes at the root... the foregoing command implicitly forbids all desire of doing that which will be an injury to our neighbor; this forbids all inordinate desire of having that which will be a gratification to ourselves. St. Paul, when the grace of God caused the scales to fall from his eyes, perceived that his law, thou shalt not covet, forbade all those irregular appetites and desires which are the beginnings of all sin that is committed by us.*
- Only Christianity – Christ within – can heal the heart and help us steward our “conscience as the most sacred of all property”

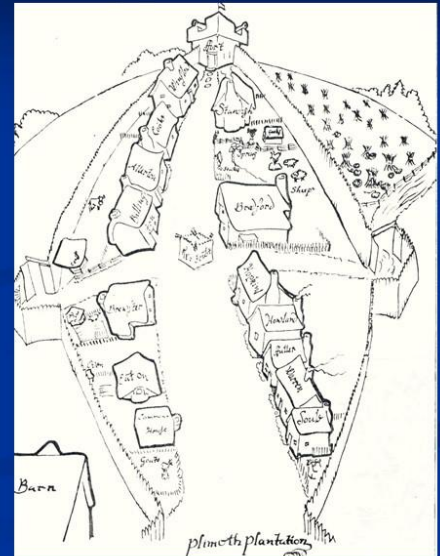
17



Pilgrim Economic Liberty - 1623

From one common field to adding private gardens

“The experience that was had in this common course and condition, tried sundry years and that amongst godly and sober men... that the taking away of property and bringing in community into a commonwealth would make them happy and flourishing, as if they were wiser than God.”



The change to private gardens triples production!

...the Governor (with the advice of the chiefest amongst them) gave way that they should set corn every man for his own particular... And so assigned to every family a parcel of land, according to the proportion of their number... This had very good success, for it made all hands very industrious, so as much more corn was planted than otherwise might have been... The women now went willingly into the field, and took their little ones with them to set corn; which before would allege weakness and inability; whom to have compelled would have been thought great tyranny and oppression...

19

Puritan “communal” Economics fails



Saugus Iron Works
1646-1670

Just price set
Wage Ceiling set
“squeezed” out of
business

The court having found by experience, that it would not avail by any law to redress the excessive rates of laborers' and workmen's wages, etc. (for being restrained, they would either remove to other places where they might have more, or else being able to live by planting and other employments of their own, they would not be hired at all), it was therefore referred to the several towns to set the rates among themselves. This took better effect, so that in a voluntary way, by the counsel and persuasion of the elders, and example of some who led the way, they were brought to more moderation than they could be by compulsion. But it held not long.

Gov. John Winthrop

20

So how do we preserve our property?

- Endeavor to keep a clean conscience before God
- Guard our attitude against coveting other's property
- Develop a godly attitude toward work and productivity so that our labor becomes more valuable to our employers
- Cultivate wealth that can be passed on to our children that appreciates in value – (invest a portion in silver or gold)
- Share what you have learned with at least one other person who has not taken this course or may not know the premises and illustrations that you have learned...

21

Suggested reading from Lesson 13...

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



- Read Lesson 13 of the notebook; Chp. 16-17 of the paperback
- Read the PRF newsletter on *Property* by Rus Walton
- Ponder the PowerPoint slides and/or review the recording

22