

Happy Dependence Day! Galatians 5:1

Open Your Bibles to Romans 13:1-10

As we have just celebrated the 250th Anniversary of the nation we are citizens of I thought I would take a quick look at our founding and the republic on which it still stands. There is no perfect form of human government, but the Great American Experiment has turned out to be the best that there ever was. Our constitution has outlasted all others and has provided the most freedom for individuals to flourish and discover real liberty. Not only that but because of that freedom and liberty it has been the main output of Christian Missionaries around the world. Even with all of its failures and evils the reason you have the ability to live your faith out loud and witness to anyone anywhere without fear of retribution was made possible by the 56 men who signed the original Declaration of Independence.

We are living in a time where our history is being rewritten. It's called...

Revisionist History:

At its core, revisionist history involves reinterpreting orthodox views or conventional narratives based on new evidence, better methodologies, or different perspectives.

There are two different people that look at our Constitution, Amendments and Bill of Rights.

Constitutionalist:

One who believes in what the original founders wrote is the same today as it was meant then.

Progressive:

One who believes that the original founders meant for these documents to evolve to the needs of the current culture

It's not rocket science to figure out which side we stand. But the damage of revisionist history has permeated our schools, and we have a generation that has been taught a lie.

Remember * when Associate Justice, Ketanji Brown was asked "What is a Women?"

This is a perfect example of the direction our country has gone and this is a person that is supposed to determine the meaning of our constitution.

So, how did we get here? What do we owe the founding of our country to?

President Barak Obama, Ankara, Turkey 2009

"One of the great strengths of the United States," the President said, "is ... we have a very large Christian population -- we do not consider ourselves a Christian nation or a Jewish nation or a Muslim nation. We consider ourselves a nation of citizens who are bound by ideals and a set of values."

How did we get here? Here is an example of the changes

Noah Webster's 1828 English Dictionary

Patriotism:

Love of one's country; the passion which aims to serve one's country, either in defending it from invasion, or protecting its rights and maintaining its laws and institutions in vigor and purity. patriotism is the characteristic of a good citizen, the noblest passion that animates a man in the character of a citizen.

Merriam-Webster 2026

Patriotism:

love for or devotion to one's country

So, was this country founded only on a set of shared values? You could say yes in a way, but it matters where those values came from.

The Declaration of Independence:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government

Was this just a statement of a bunch of deists and atheists or were these people basing these principles on Christianity and the Bible?

Romans 13:1

Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

First was this:

The Magna Carta, or "Great Charter," is a foundational 1215 document sealed by King John of England at Runnymede. It established the radical principle that the monarch is not above the law and guaranteed fundamental rights, including due process, habeas corpus, and trial by a jury of peers.

Then came this:

The Mayflower Compact, signed on November 21, 1620, was the first governing document of Plymouth Colony. Drafted by the Pilgrims and other settlers aboard the Mayflower, it established a temporary, self-governing "civil body politic" based on the consent of the governed and the rule of law.

Do you know why they wrote this document? They were all Christians that realized they had no King but God and decided that the People would be King.

This leads us to what was the original 13 Colonies that became the first 13 States. What were they made up of?

The original thirteen colonies were predominantly Protestant, featuring a mix of Congregationalists (Puritans) in New England, Anglicans (Church of England) in the Southern

colonies, and a highly diverse mix of Quakers, Lutherans, Presbyterians, and Catholics in the Middle colonies

What was the charters of some of these?

DELAWARE – first to ratify the U.S. Constitution, stated in its 1776 state constitution: "Every person ... appointed to any office ... shall ... subscribe ... 'I ... profess faith in GOD THE FATHER, and in JESUS CHRIST His only Son, and in the HOLY GHOST, one God, blessed for evermore; and I do acknowledge the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by Divine inspiration.'"

PENNSYLVANIA – second to ratify the U.S. Constitution, stated in its 1776 state constitution, signed by Ben Franklin: "Each member, before he takes his seat, shall ... subscribe ... 'I do believe in one GOD, the Creator and Governor of the Universe, the Rewarder of the good and the Punisher of the wicked. And I do acknowledge the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by Divine Inspiration.'"

NEW JERSEY – third to ratify the U.S. Constitution, stated in its 1776 state constitution:

"All persons, professing a belief in the faith of any PROTESTANT sect, who shall demean themselves peaceably under the government ... shall be capable of being elected."

GEORGIA – fourth to ratify the U.S. Constitution, stated in its 1777 state constitution: "Representatives shall be chosen out of the residents in each county ... and they shall be of the PROTESTANT religion."

CONNECTICUT – fifth to ratify the U.S. Constitution, retained its 1662 Colonial Constitution, which was established PROTESTANT CONGREGATIONAL, till 1818: "By the Providence of GOD ... having from their ancestors derived a free and excellent Constitution ... whereby the legislature depends on the free and annual election. ... The free fruition of such liberties and privileges as humanity, civility and CHRISTIANITY call for."

MASSACHUSETTS – sixth to ratify the U.S. Constitution, stated in its 1780 state constitution, written by John Adams: "Any person ... before he ... execute the duties of his ... office ... [shall] subscribe ... 'I ... declare, that I believe the CHRISTIAN religion, and have a firm persuasion of its truth.' ... The legislature shall ... authorize the support and maintenance of public PROTESTANT teachers of piety, religion and morality."

MARYLAND – seventh to ratify the U.S. Constitution, stated in its 1776 state constitution: "No other test ... ought to be required, on admission to any office ... than such oath of support and fidelity to this State ... and a declaration of a belief in the CHRISTIAN religion."

SOUTH CAROLINA – eighth to ratify the U.S. Constitution, stated in its 1778 state constitution: "No person shall be eligible to a seat ... unless he be of the PROTESTANT religion. ... The CHRISTIAN PROTESTANT religion shall be deemed ... the established religion of this State."

NEW HAMPSHIRE – ninth to ratify the U.S. Constitution, stated in its 1784 state constitution: "No person shall be capable of being elected ... who is not of the PROTESTANT religion."

VIRGINIA – 10th to ratify the U.S. Constitution, stated in its 1776 state constitution, bill of rights, written by James Madison and George Mason: "It is the mutual duty of all to practice CHRISTIAN forbearance, love, and charity towards each other."

NEW YORK – 11th to ratify the U.S. Constitution, stated in its 1777 state constitution: "The United American States ... declare ... 'Laws of nature and of NATURE'S GOD ... All men are

created equal; that they are endowed by their CREATOR with certain unalienable rights ... Appealing to the SUPREME JUDGE of the world ... A firm reliance on the protection of DIVINE PROVIDENCE' ..."

NORTH CAROLINA – 12th to ratify the U.S. Constitution, stated in its 1776 state constitution: "No person, who shall deny the being of GOD or the truth of the PROTESTANT religion, or the Divine authority either of the Old or New Testaments, or who shall hold religious principles incompatible with the freedom and safety of the State, shall be capable of holding ... office."

RHODE ISLAND – 13th to ratify the U.S. Constitution, retained its 1663 Colonial Constitution till 1843, which stated: "By the blessing of God ... a full liberty in religious concernments ... rightly grounded upon GOSPEL principles, will give the best and greatest security ... in the true CHRISTIAN faith and worship of God. ... They may ... defend themselves, in their just rights and liberties against all the enemies of the CHRISTIAN faith."

What did Obama say? Is it true? NO!

As we celebrate 250 years of our nation. The only reason we are still here is because of the foundations laid by our

forefathers. It was because of their Christian Faith we have what we have. This is also proven in how God blessed us with awakenings and revivals through out our history. The groundwork of 1776 was what was known as the First Great Awakening

The First Great Awakening was a massive transatlantic religious revival that swept through Britain and the American colonies in the 1730s and 1740s. It shifted the focus of faith from formal doctrine and church hierarchy to personal, emotional conversion and individual salvation, laying the groundwork for religious and democratic freedom.

George Whitefield: An Anglican priest from England whose extensive, theatrical preaching tours across the American colonies are widely credited with igniting the Awakening.

Jonathan Edwards: A Congregational minister in Northampton, Massachusetts, famous for intellectual, deeply theological sermons—most notably "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God".

Gilbert Tennent: A prominent Presbyterian leader who pushed for intense, experiential faith.

But as America grew and started to expand the lethargy of religion stepped in and again God had to move through another awakening...

The Second Great Awakening was a transformative Protestant religious revival in the United States that lasted from roughly 1790 to 1840, fundamentally altering the nation's religious landscape and fueling massive social reform movements. Unlike earlier Calvinist traditions that emphasized predestination, this movement preached free will and individual responsibility for salvation, democratizing religion and making it accessible to ordinary people. It spread rapidly through emotional outdoor gatherings called camp meetings and produced explosive growth in the Methodist and Baptist denominations.

Frontier Camp Meetings

In the West (regions like Kentucky and Tennessee), the revival was famous for massive, multi-day outdoor gatherings. The landmark Cane Ridge Revival of 1801 drew up to 20,000 people, featuring intense emotional and physical displays like weeping, shaking, and shouting.

Circuit Riders

The Methodist church utilized circuit riders— itinerant ministers who traveled on horseback to preach to isolated communities in remote frontier territories.

The Third Great Awakening refers to a historical period of intense religious activism and revival in American history stretching from the late 1850s to the early 20th century.

Propelled by a strong belief that society needed to be morally purified ahead of the Second Coming of Christ, this movement was defined by its massive urban revival campaigns and deep connection to social reform. While some historians debate the exact boundaries of the movement, it fundamentally reshaped the religious and social fabric of the United States.

Dwight L. Moody: The defining evangelist of the era who pioneered large-scale urban campaigns and founded the Moody Bible Institute.

Billy Sunday: A popular former baseball player turned preacher whose dramatic, energetic sermons drew immense crowds in the early 1900s.

(Mention Postmillennialism)

Let's not forget Billy Graham...

William Franklin Graham Jr. (November 7, 1918 – February 21, 2018) was a prominent American evangelist and ordained Southern Baptist minister who became one of the most influential Christian figures of the 20th century. Known globally as Billy Graham, he pioneered stadium-sized revival meetings called "Crusades" and served as a trusted spiritual adviser to 12 consecutive U.S. presidents. Over a career spanning six decades, he preached the Gospel message to an estimated 215 million people in person across 185 countries

But God was done with America yet as there would still be one more great movement that the current Remnant Church movement you are part of began...

The Jesus Movement was a massive Protestant revival that emerged from the West Coast hippie counterculture in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Disillusioned youth traded drugs and "free love" for conservative Christianity

This brought us:

Pastor Chuck Smith

Chuck Missler

Hal Lindsey

Tim LaHaye

And Many Others!

But where are we today? We are in the back end of a generational wave that has led to religious lethargy, and we are left with only two possibilities

Rapture * or Revival!

But what do we do in the meantime?

Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

Galatians 5:1

Our liberty and freedom do not come from our independence but for our dependence on God. The only way back from where we are now is true repentance and a fresh reliance on the Mercies and Grace of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Communion