



RESTORE!

Returning to the Biblical Christian View of
God, Man, Education, and Government



A Few Assumptions and Presuppositions:

- When referencing the Deity, the American Founders were referring to the God of the Bible unless otherwise stated.
- Male and female were created *imago Dei* (in God's image) and with great individual liberty.
- Because of the fall (sin), the entire human race is born with a "sin nature," causing a breach in the relationship with God and a loss of liberty.
- God reveals Himself through the physical creation (natural law) and through His revealed Word. (The Bible and Jesus Christ = TRUTH.)
- Government existed before the fall. Sin changed the expression of government.
- A providential view of human history recognizes Christ, His Story as the framework for understanding God's plan.
- America was birthed by God with a Gospel purpose and can be restored to that purpose by returning to His way.



How we define words matters!

Key Definitions (all taken from a primary source: Noah Webster's original
1828 *American Dictionary of the English Language*).

What!?!

How we define words matter! (See Glossary.)

Civil

Education

Family

God

Government

Law

Liberty

Limited

Marriage

Principles

Providence (-tial)

Restore

Truth

Tyranny

Government – An Overview

Instituted by God

Is government an Earth-only thing?

Natural state of humans

Liberty and equality

Based on individual self-government



John Locke (1632-1704), *Of Civil-Government*

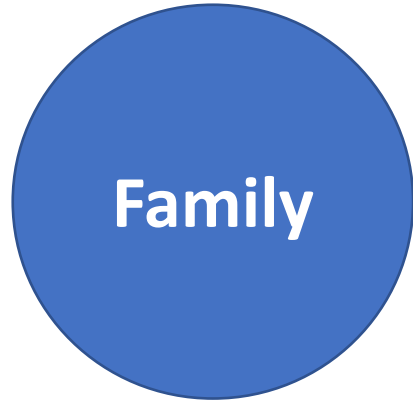
“To understand political power right, and derive it from its original, we must consider, what state all men are naturally in, and that is, a *state of perfect freedom* to order their actions, and dispose of their possessions and persons, as they think fit, within the bounds of the law of nature, without asking leave, or depending upon the will of any other man.

Locke is reasoning from Ephesians 2:10

“... The *state of nature* has a law of nature to govern it, which obliges every one: and reason, which is that law, teaches all mankind, who will but consult it, that being all *equal and independent*, no one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty, or possessions: for men being all the workmanship of one omnipotent, and infinitely wise maker; all the servants of one sovereign master, sent into the world by his order, and about his business; they are his property, whose workmanship they are, made to last during his, not one another’s pleasure...”

Governmental Sphere of Husband and Wife

The family becomes the first institution of government.
(Gen. 2:24; Matt. 19:5; Eph. 6:4)



Government – An Overview

Instituted by God

Is government an Earth-only thing?

Natural state of humans

Liberty and equality

Based on self-government

Something went wrong

Civil-government needed

Liberty with law, not license



Governmental Spheres of Authority

Civil Government Instituted

(Gen. 9:6; Romans 13:1; I Peter 2:13-15)



Self

Family

Civil


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...”


Thinking Governmentally

1. Identifies the flow of power or force in any situation.
2. Answers the question: “*Who or what controls, regulates, restrains, or directs in this situation?*”
3. Reasons from:
 - **Cause to effect**
 - **Internal** (thoughts, ideas, conscience, character) to **external** (decisions, actions)
 - **Invisible** (spiritual, eternal) to **Visible** (physical, temporal)
 - **Choices to consequences**

Thinking Governmentally

| View of God | View of Man | View of Education | View of Gov' t |
|----------------|--|----------------------|-------------------|
| Cause |  | | Effect |
| | | | |

Thinking Governmentally

| View of God | View of Man | View of Education | View of Gov' t |
|--|--|---|---|
| Cause | Biblical Christian View  | | Effect |
| The One, The Only, The Perfect, The Creator, The Infinite, Holy, Wise, Loving, Just, & Merciful Savior. | Created <i>Imago Dei</i> After the Fall, sinful by nature In Need of a Savior | God-honoring, Christ-centered, Bible-based, Holy Spirit-Inspired Aim: 1 st & 2 nd Greatest Commandments | Praise the good, Punish evil-doers, Protect God-given rights of individuals (i.e., LIMITED) |

People Ask:

“What are we restoring?”

President George Washington

“Almost all civil liberty now enjoyed in the world owes its origin to the principles of the Christian religion...By the principles of the Christian religion we are not to understand the decisions of ecclesiastical councils, for they are the opinions of mere men...No, the religion which has introduced civil liberty, is the religion of Christ and his apostles, which enjoins humility, piety, and benevolence; which acknowledges in every person a brother, or a sister, and a citizen with equal rights. This is genuine Christianity, and to this we owe our free constitutions of government.”

Myers, Michael R. (1999). *It's time to remember, America!* Horizon Books, Camphill, PA.

Samuel Adams

“He therefore is the truest friend to the liberty of his country who tries most to promote its virtues, and who, so far as his power and influence extend, will not suffer a man to be chosen into any office of power and trust who is not a wise and virtuous man. We must not conclude merely upon a man’s haranguing upon liberty, and using the charming sound, that he is fit to be trusted with the liberties of his country...The sum of all is, if we would most truly enjoy this gift of Heaven, let us become a virtuous people...”

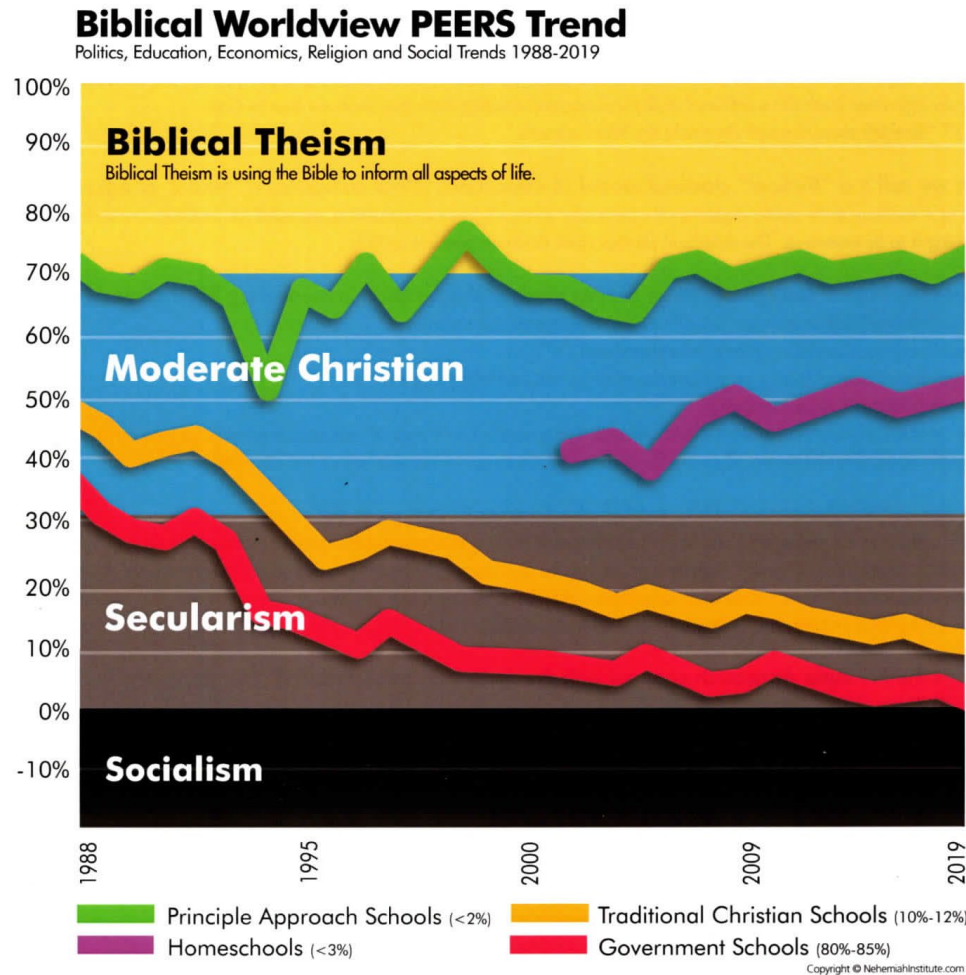
Myers, Michael R. (1999). *It’s time to remember, America!* Horizon Books, Camphill, PA.

Robert Winthrop

“All societies of men must be governed in some way or other. The less they may have of stringent State Government, the more they must have of individual self-government. The less they rely on public law and physical force, the more they must rely on private moral restraint. Men, in a word, must necessarily be controlled either by power within them, or by a power without them; either by the Word of God, or by the strong arm of man; either by the Bible or by the bayonet.”

Myers, Michael R. (1999). *It's time to remember, America!* Horizon Books, Camphill, PA.

Which way, America?



“The philosophy of education in the schoolroom in one generation becomes the philosophy of government in the next.”

-- Attributed to Abraham Lincoln

Samuel Adams Had the Answer in 1790

“Let divines and philosophers, statesmen and patriots, unite their endeavors to renovate the age, by impressing the minds of men with the importance of educating their little boys and girls, of inculcating in the minds of youth the fear and love of the Deity and universal philanthropy, and, in subordination to these great principles, the love of their country; of instructing them in the art of self-government, without which they never can act a wise part in the government of societies, great or small; in short of leading them in the study and practice of the exalted virtues of the Christian system ...”

Slater, R. J., & Hall, V. M. (1975). [Teaching and learning America's Christian history](#) (American Revolution Bicentennial ed., p. xiv). San Francisco: Foundation for American Christian Education.

Questions?



