



Biblical Citizenship Class

Coach Notes & Discussion Questions

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Biblical Citizenship Class- Coach Notes & Discussion Topics

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Thank you so much for your interest in the Biblical Citizenship Course potential discussion questions. In the course of hosting this class several times, I started taking notes of possible conversation topics as I went through the class material each week. As a result, I collected a fair amount of material! I compiled my notes over multiple sessions and my wife cleaned them up into this product.

These are just some ideas of discussion questions broken out by which week they come up in the materials. You won't have time to cover all of them in any class session so please just pick and choose which topics to cover or add your own as you go! Remember the most important thing about being a coach is to share the materials with as many as possible. So, don't stress too much about the discussion time.

Please let us know if we can help you on your Coach journey. We would love to hear your ideas as well.

RaShell and I have a website called PatriotsHope.com. We have an exclusive Coach Zone on the site to give additional resources to fellow Coaches. Please visit PatriotsHope.com and Join the Coach Zone to sign up.

I hope you find this helpful. Drop me a note if you have any questions, and I am happy to help. Thank you!

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Biblical Citizenship - Week 1 of 8

Week 1 - Discussion Topic #1:

Very title of the course... Biblical Citizenship

Do you see a conflict between these two terms? I think we will see as we go through this class they do belong together.

- **What is your definition of Biblical Citizenship?**

Rick mentioned that mindset we have likely been taught is that the Bible does not apply to how we run society... Did you catch the comments on the Great Commission – Matt 28:18-20 “Teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you...”

We have robust instructions from the Scriptures in what is right and wrong across a wide spectrum of life's activities.

- **Name a couple of the 10 Commandments and discuss how we see them being kept in society and how they are not being kept.**

- Honor your father and mother
- Do not lie
- Do not steal
- Do not commit adultery
- Do not covet
- Do not bear false witness
- Do not murder

We have a flawless instruction manual that covers all areas of our lives – Society has taught us to ignore this with regard to government and citizenship.

Like Rick's example of putting diesel in the gasoline truck, if we ignore the guidance of the creator – things break down!

Noah Webster describes this “break down” in his quote that was referenced, “All the miseries and evils which men suffer from vice, crime, ambition, injustice, oppression, slavery and war, proceed from their despising or neglecting the precepts contained in the Bible.”

- **What are some of the Biblical Principles that are being ignored by our culture today?** (Telling the truth, definition of marriage).

Wow – our society has thrown out the Bible as the guide on how we are supposed to live – and we have reaped the reward Mr. Webster warned of...

Week 1 - Discussion Topic #2:

I loved the little blurb on “Ekklesia”

- Jesus used this word that meant “an assembly” or “the public square”
- This is where the laws were made
- We should be active participants in the public square



Week 1 - Discussion Topic #3:

I love the conversation between Benjamin Rush and John Adams – at war with Great Britain, the most powerful nation in the world at that time.

- **Rush asked, “Do you think we will be successful in our struggle with Great Britain?”**
- We could be/ should be/ maybe we are all asking similar questions – **do you think we will succeed in our struggle for our country?**

- John Adams replied, “Yes, if we fear God, and repent of our sins...”

- I know things seem hopeless sometimes– but we are WAY better off than they were!
 - Nobody is shooting at us!
 - Everyone in office at every level, of every political party, is sworn to support the Constitution of the US
- However I know that our land is in need of healing... Let’s look at the Bible verse John Adams was likely thinking of...

“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”
-2 Chronicles 7:14

- This promise was made to Israel at the dedication of their temple
- Maybe God would do the same for us... I think it is worth the try

“And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the LORD hath said will we do.” -Exodus 24:3

- We need this kind of a moment in America – we need to return to the principles of His Word
- We have been lied to for decades – we need to get back



- As Kirk Cameron mentioned – this begins in each of our hearts.
 - **What are those action steps?**
 - We repent!!
 - We follow God's Word
 - As we are involved in everything (including our government), we
 - remain faithful to God's Word and that affects how we vote, how we speak at:
 - County Commissioner Court Meetings
 - City Council Meetings
 - School Board Meetings
 - Town Hall Meetings conducted by our representatives
 - Etc, etc and so on...!

Week 1 - Discussion Topic #4:

"No free government, nor the blessings of liberty, can be preserved to any people but by a frequent recurrence to fundamental principles." – George Mason

- **According to George Mason, how can we preserve a free government and the blessing of liberty?** We have to return to fundamental principles.

These are principles that have been removed from our society – they haven't been taught in schools, etc, but we need to know these things!

That's what we are doing here tonight and for the next 7 weeks after tonight...

Week 1 - Discussion Topic #5:

Side Note: Coloring Pages of the National Monument to the Forefathers can be found here. Scroll part way down the page. <https://matrixofliberty.com/resources>

- We are seeing Americans wake up and notice that things are not right!
- Let's continue to learn and let's commit to learning what is right and working to find out where God would have us plug in to make a difference!
- **What did you think of Kirk Cameron's presentation on the monument?**

Faith – Main figure at the top of the statue. She is pointing upward to the one true God of heaven. She has a star on her forehead which represents wisdom. She is holding the Bible – with pages being blown open by Spirit of God.

Faith is then manifested through several other key characters below:

Morality – Woman seated. Eyes closed – looking inward. Morality is inward quality. She is holding the 10 Commandments in one hand, and the scroll of Book of Revelation in her right hand. Morality is not imposed by a king through rules. They believed



morality is internal quality that begins with transformation of your heart. Under her chair says "Evangelist" – Liberty has to begin with transformation of the heart through the preaching of the gospel.

Law – Once you have an established morality, you can now make laws. Morality is the basis for good laws. Man of law is seated, holding the book of law – which is directly in line with the Bible in Faith's hand above. Man's laws must always line up under God's laws, or they're not good laws. Justice on right side of his chair, and mercy on the left. There is a balance in good and Godly laws between justice and mercy. The man of law is able to extend either one... Laws nourish good and punish evil.

Education – Woman leading education of her children. Wreath of victory on her head. Holding books of knowledge in her hand. On her right, it says "Youth" and has picture of mother training her child; on her left, it has an old, bearded man holding globe and a Bible – he has Biblical worldview. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he won't depart from it."

Liberty – Warrior ready to fight – wearing the armor of God described in Ephesians. Chains of tyranny laying there broken. Lion is dead – represented Britain defeated. He is ready to defend all of this.

The enemy wants to destroy a free society – he just works the steps backward...

Education – capture the education of our youth – teach them a new value system. Change the way they think...

Laws – if you change the way people think, you can begin to change the laws.

Morality – where did these old laws come from? Oh, this archaic morality... we need to change that too.

Faith – hijack faith. Don't have to remove it – just have people put their faith in something other than the Bible in her hand. Give them the Communist Manifesto, or the Koran, or we can write our own book, etc. Then people will reason from that faith and make a new morality, new set of laws, etc. New re-education of our children.

This all results in – not liberty man – but tyranny, so the Lion is seated on the Liberty chair and has killed liberty man.



Biblical Citizenship - Week 2 of 8

Week 2 - Discussion Topic #1: Jurisdictions

I love the first few seconds where David Barton shows us the beginnings of government in the Book of Genesis

- Self govt
- Family govt – ex Eph 5& 6 – family supposed to raise up children
- Ch9 – start of civil govt – Rom 13:4 – sword of civil justice
- Then church govt – ex Eph 4 Church is to train Saints for work of ministry

Each of these is referred to as a jurisdiction – when we see commands in the Bible, we need to also look at which jurisdiction they are given to

- We don't want civil leaders barking out orders to families or churches
- We now have a President of the United States trying to mandate decisions individual people make for their own health with regard to vaccines – should be self or maybe family
- That's not to say people should or should not be vaccinated – it's just saying that decision should be made in the right jurisdiction

Anyone ever been in a church where they get in the middle of family

jurisdiction? RaShell and I found ourselves at a church once where someone was being talked to because they had a Chevy Suburban instead of a full-size van. No kidding...

- Anyone catch (it came a little bit later) but did you catch **what is the Proper jurisdiction responsible for home defense? Civil govt – police?** James Wilson quote (signer of Declaration and Constitution) – Castle doctrine – it is our responsibility to defend our homes!
- Not so Trick Question - - **If I want to know the definition of what things are legitimately within the jurisdiction of the federal government – where would I go?** The Constitution! That's right!

What percentage of quotes from the Founding Era were from the Bible?

34% of all the quotes of our Founding era were from the Bible. Wow! And now-a-days people will say being secular is a "foundation of our country"

Week 2 – Discussion Topic #2: Man's home is his Castle

Several great quotes given – I think the one from James Wilson is a great overview of them:

"The great natural law of self-preservation cannot be repealed or superseded or suspended by any human institution. The right of the citizens to bear arms in the defense of themselves shall not be questioned. Every man's house is



deemed by the law to be his castle; and the law invests him with the power and places on him the duty of the commanding officer of his house. Every man's house is his castle, and if anyone be robbed in it, it shall be esteemed his own default and negligence.” – James Wilson

James Otis – Spoke against Writs of Assistance – Ignited American Independence!

What were Writs of Assistance?

- Blank search warrants (go search for things, THEN fill out the warrant for what they find)
- Writs of Assistance violate this Castle Doctrine

How do the 2d, 3rd, and 4th Amendments to the Constitution support this idea of the Castle doctrine?

- 2d Amendment – right to keep arms (for self-defense)
- 3rd Amendment – No quartering of troops in private homes
- 4th Amendments – Protects against illegal search and seizures

Week 2 – Discussion Topic #3: Amazing contributions by Black Patriots

This is not a complete list of all that were discussed – but just a few - enough to give you the idea. Independence (and the United States) is an American thing – not a white person thing.

Reverend Harry Hoosier – Prior slave & evangelist

- Benjamin Rush was a key founder of our country - How did he describe Harry Hoosier? “The best speaker he had ever heard...”
- People saved under his evangelism work migrated to Indiana... Hoosier State... How could we not have heard of this man?

Wentworth Cheswill

- Midnight rider to warn of coming British
- Held public office (variety of offices) 1768 – 1817. Wow...



Peter Salem – Hero of the Battle of Bunker Hill

- Patriots out of ammo – Peter Salem had a shot left and took out Major Pitcairn
- Turned the momentum of the battle

James Armistead – Patriot spy

- Former slave
- Worked as a servant for British – such a diligent worker, he was promoted and ended up working directly with General Cornwallis
- Able to tell of Cornwallis' movements as a spy
- Made an incredible difference at Battle of Yorktown

Seeing the contributions of these Black Patriots tells us the claims of the CRT and the revisionist historians of today are not true – ours is not a nation where all of our founders were old, rich, white slaveholders. A great resource for learning more is the book or DVD is [Setting the Record Straight- American History in Black & White](#) by David Barton of WallBuilders.



Biblical Citizenship - Week 3 of 8

Week 3 – Discussion Topic #1: Truth – “On Life Support” in our country...

I love the first few minutes with David Barton talking about truth – although what he says is sobering! He says Truth is on Life Support...

- 3 in 5 Americans believe there is no moral truth – no nation has ever survived if they can't get at least half the people to agree certain things are right and wrong.
- Among millennials, number drops to 4 of 5 believe there's no moral truth...
- Among Christians – 1 in 2 believe there is no absolute moral truth
 - 80% of CHRISTIANS say they believe religions other than Christianity will get you to heaven
 - 42% of Christians believe Atheists will get into heaven.
 - 56% of Christians believe that belief in no religion at all will get you into heaven

What can we do – what can YOU DO to help show the world truth? (Lots of great answers... Some ideas below:)

- Share God's Word - Share the Gospel! Let folks know Jesus said He is the Way, Truth, and Life (John 14:6)
- **What are some ways you can share God's Word with others?** (talking to our friends, Social Media (Bible verses – so far anyway – still seem to be allowed on Facebook, etc.)

What are some ways you can share the truths of our founders and founding documents? (again – lots of possibilities)

- Here we will likely run into more censorship on social media, but we can still try!
- Become a Constitution Coach! Host classes!
- Refer folks to Wallbuilders Live Podcast...
- Refer folks to good sources: PatriotAcademy.com, Wallbuilders.com, PatriotsHope.com
- Help young folks get to Patriot Academy Boot Camp! Maybe sponsor someone from your class??



Week 3 – Discussion Topic #2: Passage from 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

Passage David Barton quoted from 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 Especially verses 10-12...

“And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” -2 Thessalonians 2:10-12

These verses describe the pattern:

- 1) If you do not love the truth – you “reject” the truth
- 2) Delusion Enters
- 3) You believe a lie
- 4) You act on the lie
- 5) There will be high cost and consequences

David Barton gave the illustration of the law of gravity –

1) It's a scientific law but we've come so far and done so much – it doesn't restrict us like it used to do... **Which step is this?** (Losing the love for truth/ rejecting truth)

2) If gravity doesn't restrict me, then I can do what I want! **If I believe this, what step are we entering?** delusion has entered

3) **If I really believe the delusion (gravity doesn't affect me) then someday I will do what?** Act on that delusion. I heard a pastor say once – “We don't always believe what we say, but we always believe what we do...” If I go to sit in a chair, it demonstrates I believe the chair will hold me up or I wouldn't sit in it!

a. So If we believe the lie – someday we will ACT on the lie! In his example about gravity – he jumped off the building.

b. This leads to death

4) If we act on a lie – there will be high cost and consequences!

5) **What Lies are being told in society today that, if believed and acted upon, will hold big consequences?** (Lots of potential answers)

a. Any of the stats David quoted about many ways other than faith in Jesus



will get us to heaven

- b. How about – children can choose gender...
- c. Children can be raised just as well outside of traditional family environment
- d. Socialism preferred over capitalism (despite all evidence to the contrary), etc
- e. Many, many others!

Week 3 – Discussion Topic #3: Quote by John Jay

“Every member of the State ought diligently to read and to study the constitution of his country, and teach the rising generation to be free. By knowing their rights, they will sooner perceive when they are violated and be the better prepared to defend and assert them.” - John Jay, co-author of the Federalist Papers, and the Original Chief Justice of the Supreme Court

What are the 6 Verbs in this quote?

- 1) Read the Constitution
- 2) Study the Constitution
- 3) Teach the Constitution
- 4) Knowing their Rights
- 5) Defend your Rights
- 6) Assert your Rights

We need this!

This is the way we impact this country right now! Our form of government was designed to have the citizens know their rights, and defend & assert them when necessary. That has been removed from our educational institutions.

Week 3 – Discussion Topic #4: Freedoms protected in the First Amendment

- Rick was sitting in his Capitol office in Austin, TX and read a stat that half of Texans couldn't name 1 freedom found in the First Amendment
- 95% couldn't name 2...



How many can you name?

- 1) Freedom of Religion
- 2) Freedom of Speech
- 3) Freedom of Press
- 4) Freedom to Peaceably Assemble
- 5) Freedom to Petition government for redress of grievances



Biblical Citizenship - Week 4 of 8

Week 4 – Discussion Topic #1: Declaration & Constitution

Rick talked about when you form a corporation, there are what two things?

- Articles of incorporation – this states who we are, what is important to us, etc...
- By laws - which are the rules by which we operate.

In this line of thought, what document is the “Articles of Incorporation” for our country? (Declaration of Independence)

What document contains the by-laws for our nation, or the rules by which we operate? (Constitution)

So, if we really want to understand what our founders had in mind, we need to study both documents.

Week 4 – Discussion Topic #2: Founding Principles from the Declaration of independence

The Second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence begins like this:

“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”

What observations/truths can you find in these few lines about the beliefs of our founders – the “who we are, and what is important to us?” (a few examples...)

- 1) *There is a Creator* - Unanimous Declaration of the Original States starts with it... no way it can be a requirement to separate God from our official documents.
- 2) *The Creator endows rights upon people directly* (Rights come from God – not government! Not the Constitution!)
- 3) The purpose of government is to SECURE rights already given to us by God.



- Government's job is to protect our rights – not provide things to people
- The more it provides to us, the less creative we are

4) *There is a fixed moral law – "Laws of nature and of Nature's God"*

- *Laws of Nature*

- Imagine you're driving through Yellowstone National Park and you see a cute, cuddly, little bear cub – Is it ok to get out and pet it? NO! That Mama bear is close by and will defend her cub if you touch it! This instinct to defend her young is built-in by her Creator!

- Imagine you're stuck in the wilderness and it starts raining – you take shelter in a cave, but you hear a large mountain lion already in there... Is ok to sleep there? NO! Not unless you want to tangle with the mountain lion! It will defend its home! This instinct to defend its home is built-in by The Creator!

- Defending your children, and defending your home are included in the laws of nature – God built them into people and animals.

- *Laws of Nature's God*

- **Are all laws seen in nature good?** NO – children don't have to be taught to steal, lie, covet, etc. They naturally do these things – they have a sinful nature.

- When natural tendencies cross God's law, then we need to go with Laws of Nature's God instead of Laws of nature.

- *Can't change moral law* – for example – we can't decide it is ok to steal or murder

5) *The just power of government is derived from the consent of the governed*

- People delegate specific tasks to the government for specific purpose
- Example – people have an unquestionable right to defend their homes against



intruders or fire. We create Police and Fire Departments to help with this task.

6) *People's right to change government* – This is what our founders did. They had the right, and recorded in the Declaration that people have the right to alter or abolish their government, and institute new government.

- People have charge over government – not the other way around.

Week 4 – Discussion Topic #3: French Revolution vs American Revolution

Discussion of differences between French Revolution and the American Revolution

- French – everyone determined their own right & wrong. Liberty without God

- American – Judeo-Christian Biblical ethics – what is right and wrong. Liberty under God...

- We were following the “American” model at our founding. - **Which do you think we are more like now?** (French – and that is Dangerous!!)

Week 4 – Discussion Topic #4: Socialism Fails every time!

Governor William Bradford of the colony of Pilgrims at Plymouth, Massachusetts... tried Socialism

- **Did it work?** (No-it never works)

- **What problems did they run into?** (no incentive to be productive – people faking illness etc)

“Community of property was found to breed much confusion and discontent” - Governor William Bradford

- **How did he fix the problem?** (Implemented free enterprise and private property)



"This had very good success; for it made all hands very industrious, so as much more corn was planted, than otherwise would have been; by any means the Governor or any other could devise, and saved him a great deal of trouble, and gave far better satisfaction." - Governor William Bradford

Week 4 – Discussion Topic #5: Secular Government is not limited

Amazing – conversation between Rick and David Barton

You CANNOT have a secular government that is limited!

There has to be something BIGGER than government, or government will become the biggest thing.

Makes HUGE sense to me

Why has the enemy been so diligent to remove God from the equation of our country? (If God is out of the way, something else can be the standard. We need to reclaim it all – don't accept "secular only" version of government being advocated in the world)



Constitution Alive - Week 5 of 8

Week 5 – Discussion Topic #1: "Limited" govt vs "Small" government

- (Can be limited to specific roles but does not mean it will be small – example State Dept, military, etc.)
 - Limited means only exercising enumerated powers
 - Many times, if you are talking to folks about limited government, you will find they are scared of small government... Doesn't have to be small to be limited...
 - Many will equate "small" with "ineffective" government

Week 5 – Discussion Topic #2: Secular Marriage?

Grigsby vs Reib, 1913 – Texas Supreme Court – Wow

Trying to answer the question, **"Can we have secular marriage?"**

- Marriage was not originated by human law... not our jurisdiction to change!
- Civil government has grown out of marriage...
- Wow
- It would be sacrilegious to change the designation to "civil contract" Wow
- We have lost that line of thinking in our society today. Proper understanding of jurisdiction
 - Civil government didn't create marriage – marriage belongs to God
 - Wow – we need national repentance...

Week 5 – Discussion Topic #3: Legislative Powers herein granted...

Look at Article 1, Section 1 – the first few words... "All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives."



- All legislative (law making) powers! That means to be a legit law, it must go through Congress!
- **Does the President have the power to make a law?** NO! President doesn't have power to make a law... Not an exec branch function
- (Executive Department Agencies- Congress passes a law giving them authority and then they pass countless regulations, etc) BUT... it's not the way that's supposed to work.
- We use the term "Legalize" in context of Supreme Court – **Does the Supreme Court have legislative authority?** No! They have no legislative authority!

Week 5 – Discussion Topic #4: Enumerated Powers (Jason's favorite topic!)

One VERY IMPORTANT Thing! Enumerated Powers!

The Constitution is an "Express Powers" Document – the only powers government possesses are those expressly listed there.

The 10th Amendment clarifies this fact.

"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

- Does everyone understand this?? This is HUGE and we need to all understand it.
- So, the document that all these tyrants have sworn to support LIMITS their power to what is expressly listed.
- I believe that is our best chance to get things back to where they should be.
- Very easy to ask elected officials– "Where in the Constitution do you find authority for that?"
- Politicians are ready to debate on why something like masks or shutdowns are worth the cost. Much easier to ask, "Where in the Constitution do you find authorization to deal with masks, shutdowns, vaccinations, etc?"
- #EnumeratedPowers (Jason actually has the t-shirt!)

"Constitution is a limited one, possessing no power not actually given..."

– James Madison



Week 5 – Discussion Topic #5: General Welfare

General Welfare – It is important to understand the use of the term - **where is the term "General Welfare" mentioned in the Constitution?** (Listed below:)

- Preamble – “promote the general welfare” – **Does this grant new power to Congress?** (No – preamble does not have force of law & it is talking in very general terms of the purpose of why the Constitution is being established)
- Article 1, Section 8 – “provide for the general welfare” – **Does this grant a new power to Congress?** (No - Read it again – it is discussing reasons Congress may need to tax to pay debts, etc; It is not giving a new power to do something, or removing the limitations clarified in the 10th Amendment)

If you remember the Constitution was a contract written and agreed to by the States, the States were the parties to the contract. Then, it makes sense that “General Welfare” means it is in the best interest and for the good of the States.

Remember the example of the 18th and 21st Amendments. If Congress can just do anything that is for the “general welfare” in the sense we think of today, then prohibition would not have required an Amendment to the Constitution.



Biblical Citizenship - Week 6 of 8

Week 6 – Discussion Topic #1: Electoral College

ELECTORAL COLLEGE - Vote of the people... Also the proper distribution ...

My thoughts on when folks talk about doing away with the Electoral College and going with popular vote goes something like this: "Our founders were brilliant – let's not be quick to undo what they put in place".

- The system they put in place rolls in voice of: People, States, Congress, the number of votes and the distribution of votes

I am not an expert in the Electoral College – but if you have specific questions, I can work to chase down answers for you... I know I don't want to lose it – that has been enough for me. 😊

- The founders were experts in building systems that allow for influence from different parts to make up the whole – i.e. giving states and people a voice in the federal government.
 - Electoral College is one of the many ways they accounted for this
- **Can you think of other ways the Founding Fathers allowed for influence from different parts to make up the whole?** (Probably lots of examples – Best one I can think of is the Bicameral Congress – House represents people – Senate represents States)
- Electoral College is a creation of our founders and we had remarkable founders. It is a great thing and we need to keep it.
- Here is the short video (under 5 minutes) on the Electoral College if you want to see it again. <https://www.prageru.com/video/do-you-understand-the-electoral-college>

Week 6 – Discussion Topic #2: Democracy vs Republic

Did our founders like the idea of a democracy? (NO! They did not!)

Quotes from the Founding Fathers on democracy.



"Pure democracy cannot subsist long nor be carried far into the departments of state – it is very subject to caprice and the madness of popular rage."

– John Witherspoon, Signer of the Declaration of Independence

"Remember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself. There never was a democracy yet that did not commit suicide." – John Adams

And my favorite...

"A simple democracy is one of the greatest of evils. A democracy is a mobocracy."
– Benjamin Rush, Signer of the Declaration of Independence

- Funny illustration of the difference was included in the Prager U video <https://www.prageru.com/video/do-you-understand-the-electoral-college>
- Democracy is 2 Wolves and 1 Sheep voting on what's for dinner
- I've heard an addition to that – it wasn't on the video but I've heard that in a Republic: Eating sheep is against the law and the sheep are armed... 😊

This is a great place where we can educate and hold accountable our elected officials sworn to support the Constitution. The government described in our Constitution is not a democracy – it is a republic. The Constitution also (in Article 4 Section 4) guarantees each state will be a republic, "The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government..."

Is America a Democracy?

No! We are a Republic! We are not a democracy and should correct those officials who call us one.

Week 6 – Discussion Topic #3: Executive Orders

"Executive Order" not specifically listed in the Constitution...

When do you think use of an Executive Order would be appropriate vs inappropriate? (When consistent with a Constitutional and lawful duty, etc)

- I always use the example of the day after Thanksgiving... Constitution makes President Commander in Chief of military – if President wants to give military folks the day off on Friday after Thanksgiving – I am ok with that... Go ahead



and send out the Exec order. He balances the workload and defense of the nation with the morale of the troops and makes good decisions. That's the kind of thing the Commander does...

- If those Exec orders are to replace law – or make law – then they are unconstitutional
- Review question – good reminder - **What Branch of government makes law?** (Congress)

Where is it found in the Constitution that Congress makes law? (Opening line (right after Preamble) in Article 1 Section 1) It reads, " All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives."

- "All legislative powers" - So Congress is the ONLY part of government that can make law...
- Exec Orders are NOT Law
- Supreme Court does not legalize anything – can't make law.
- Only Congress can make legitimate law

Week 6 – Discussion Topic #4: Myths of the Judiciary

Myths of the Judiciary – Video only includes the first 2 – **all 4 recorded here for convenience:**

- 1) Myth #1- 3 Branches of Government are co-equal – **Are the 3 Branches of Government co-equal?** (NO! They are NOT equal)
 - a. **Which Branch of Government is the strongest?** (Legislative Branch - Legislative Branch "Necessarily Predominates" – Federalist Papers – James Madison, Federalist #51)
 - b. Judiciary has neither Sword nor the Purse
- 2) Myth #2 Federal Judges hold lifetime appointments
 - a. **Do Federal Judges hold lifetime appointments? If not, how long do they serve?** (NO! Not lifetime appointments - Actually they serve during time of "Good Behavior" (Art 3, Sec 1) - not lifetime!)
 - b. Can be impeached for bad behavior
 - c. House impeaches (grand Jury – whether or not it goes to trial) & Senate will try impeachments (Jury – decides guilt/innocence)



- d. Senate if they are guilty can remove from office and/or ban from future office
- 3) Myth #3 Primary responsibility of judiciary is to protect minority from majority
- a. I honestly haven't heard this one much but I guess it is common...
 - b. How we get some of the Court decisions that keep alive things like abortion, opposition to school prayer, etc
 - c. Majority should prevail
 - d. But - Every person has equal protection under the law
 - i. Bill of Rights has to apply to everyone whether majority or minority
 - e. If we're offended by someone's expression of their religion etc – that is freedom – we don't run off to the government to make them comply with me.
- 4) Myth #4 Only judges are capable of determining constitutionality and their primary responsibility is judicial review
- a. Each Branch has say in the Constitution
 - b. James Madison quote...
 - i. he said, "The argument is that the Legislature itself has no right to expound the Constitution – that whenever its meaning is doubtful, you must leave it to take its course until the Judiciary is called upon to declare its meaning..."
 - ii. he continued, "...I beg to know upon what principle it can be contended that any one department draws from the Constitution greater powers than another in marking out Constitutionality?"
 - c. All branches are sworn to support the Constitution and have a right and a duty to call out what is unconstitutional

Week 6 – Discussion Topic #5:

When discussing Judicial Myth #1, Rick talked about examples of when the Congress took jurisdiction away from the Supreme Court.

- I love the idea of the Congress taking jurisdiction away from the Supreme Court!
- Also eliminating courts – Forming new courts



- Rick used the example of "One Nation Under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance and Congress
- **What issues can you think of that you'd like to see Congress take away jurisdiction from the Court?** (Congress declares abortion (for example) to be illegal and outside Supreme Court's jurisdiction)



Biblical Citizenship - Week 7 of 8

Week 7 – Discussion Topic #1:

They talked about unalienable rights – very important!

What are unalienable rights? (rights God gives to us – not government! No inferior power has right to take away, etc)

- Quotes given in the course are perfect for describing what is meant by unalienable rights... let's look at a few...

"[Human governments] could not give the rights essential to happiness... We claim them from a higher source – from the King of kings and Lord of all the earth. They are not annexed to us by parchments and seals. They are created in us by the decrees of Providence, which establish the laws of our nature. They are born with us; exist with us; and cannot be taken from us by any human power, without taking our lives." – John Dickinson, Constitution Signer

Inalienable rights are:

- "not to be rummaged for, among old parchments, or musty records. They are written, as with a sun beam, in the whole volume of human nature, by the hand of the divinity itself; and can never be erased or obscured by mortal power." - Alexander Hamilton, Constitution Signer & coauthor of the Federalist Papers
- "imprinted by the finger of God on the heart of man." - Samuel Adams, Signer of the Declaration
- "antecedent to all earthly government; rights that cannot be repealed or restrained by human law; rights derived from the great Legislator of the Universe." - John Adams, Signer of the Declaration

** Since "Unalienable" rights come to us from God and not government – that is a good reason why discussion of these rights can happen in Church and not just in a civil government meeting.

All kinds of things get called "rights" nowadays... Be careful we understand what is and what is not a right! **We can't claim anything we want as an unalienable right. God gives unalienable rights... therefore** (this wasn't in the film but these are my additions):

- God does not give rights to things He says are abomination – ex homosexuality
- God does not give rights that would violate the rights of others and/or His own law. **What would examples of this be?** (theft, homosexuality, "right" to abortion, etc.)
- Healthcare – there a lot of stuff in that – capital investments, people's time & labor. Some politicians say healthcare is a "right". But these things cost money



and cannot be a "right" because to take them without paying for them would be theft of the many in the medical community that contributed to it.

- Eviction moratorium – there is no "Right" to let someone live in a house owned by someone else with no rent! That landlord has big expenses to maintain that property. This has recently been referred to as a "right" by some politicians.

We hear things like this referred to as "rights" but they are not and cannot be rights. Rights come from God, therefore they must line up with God's standard.

Week 7 – Discussion Topic #2: 1st Amendment to the Constitution

First Amendment to the Constitution – Review question

What are the 5 unalienable rights protected in the First Amendment?

- 1) Freedom of Religion
- 2) Freedom of speech
- 3) Freedom of press
- 4) Freedom to peaceably assemble
- 5) Petition Government for redress of grievances

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

** Notice the first few words... Congress shall make no law...

- **** Who is restricted by the First Amendment, the government or the people?** (First Amendment limitation is on– the GOVERNMENT - not on individuals!)
- When people try to use the first amendment to limit the rights of citizens – like a valedictorian speech at a high school, for example – what a gross misapplication!
- Trey Green mentioned in the class that these are "Not freedoms the Founding Fathers believed they were giving us... these are freedoms the founders said we were given directly by God. The purpose of the First Amendment was to make sure our government could never take them away." - Trey Green



Week 7 – Discussion Topic #3: Separation of Church and State

“Separation of church and state” is not in the First amendment. This phrase has been morphed and twisted into people believing the meaning of the First Amendment is opposite of what it was originally written to mean.

- If someone tries to tell us some of these new, unAmerican ideas are in the intent of a part of the Constitution – **what could we do to determine “Legislative Intent”?** (Consult the Journals of Congress – Look in the debates of the founders, read the Federalist Papers, etc)
- ** We don’t have to listen to some self-proclaimed “expert” tell us what our documents mean – we can consult the notes of the founders themselves!
- *None of the founders used the term “Separation of Church and State” to mean how it is abused today.*
- Quite the opposite is true – Many, many of those same founders when they were in places of government position, made declarations of prayer, repentance, etc, etc.
- Rick covered many of the contributions of the founders
- Separation of church and state (in the way it is commonly used today) is a lie.

Week 7 – Discussion Topic #4: Laws of Nature and Nature’s God

“Laws of Nature and Nature’s God”

Any questions on this?

- Laws of Nature examples include: Right to defend home, children, self
 - **What are some things we see in nature which demonstrate these laws of nature?** (Mama animal (Horse, Bear, etc) protecting her young, animals protecting their home, etc)
- Laws of Nature’s God: Monogamy, no stealing, etc
 - These sound familiar to the 10 Commandments... don’t kill, don’t steal, etc.
 - These make the difference between wild animals and civilized society
- Does everyone understand this? Any questions?

Week 7 – Discussion Topic #5: Founding Fathers and Slavery

What the percentage of founding fathers that were against slavery? (About 70%); Much different than the narrative of the lies we are told in society today

- In the Biblical Citizenship class done by Patriot Academy, the second week of the class is all about the history of slavery in our country
- Things that were wrong – are wrong, but there is some good info there as well. Check out that class if you get the chance.
- George Mason wanted to free his slaves but it was against the law... wow.



- This is an area where it is very important to go back and see what the founders' actual position was – can't lump them all together and make an across the board judgment.
- To learn more, here's a great article from WallBuilders. <https://wallbuilders.com/founding-fathers-slavery/>

Week 7 – Discussion Topic #6: The Second Amendment

They didn't really get to Second Amendment, but it fits in this class if you want to address it: "Right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed..."

- This is a right of the people
- "Shall not be infringed" – there is no jurisdiction to legislate gun control!!!
- Not only is it NOT in the enumerated powers – it ALSO is specifically PROHIBITED
- So if someone wants to debate gun control – they need to understand their side HAS to start with a constitutional amendment to repeal the second AND give jurisdiction to be legit

Gun control is DOUBLY unconstitutional – doesn't matter what we think about it – "Do you really need a... whatever gun?" – just doesn't matter – there is no authority to infringe, in fact it is specifically prohibited.



Biblical Citizenship - Week 8 of 8

Week 8 – Discussion Topic #1: Get Involved

Our First Responsibility: Voting! We have to vote!

- Need to research the candidates – ivoter guide, etc. Learn where the candidates stand and VOTE!
- We need to find the principled candidates to elect – use knowledge you now have about things like:
 - Source of Rights (God)
 - Purpose of government (Secure God-given rights)
 - Enumerated Powers (Government can only do what is listed in the Constitution)
 - Use things like this you have learned to ask questions – find candidates who understand these things!

“Let it be impressed on your mind that God commands you to choose for rulers just men who will rule in the fear of God.... [I]f the citizens neglect their duty and place unprincipled men in office, the government will soon be corrupted ... If [our] government fails to secure public prosperity and happiness, it must be because the citizens neglect the Divine commands, and elect bad men to make and administer the laws.” – Noah Webster

- I have been amazed at how easy it is to get involved – go to your party meeting – you will hear from candidates...
- Go to some events: County Commissioner Court Meetings, City Council Meetings, School Board meetings, town hall meetings, it won't take long to figure out which folks in office you like, and which ones you don't.
- Get involved before elections
 - Knowledge of candidates – *do they know the Constitution and Principles we have been discussing?*
 - Pool of Candidates – Encouraging good people to get involved, run for office, etc.
 - Actions of Citizens: knocking on doors – making calls – hosting classes... wherever you have opportunity
- **What is the difference between a Patriot and a Politician?**
 - Politician – worried about the next election
 - Patriot – worried about the next generation
 - We want Patriots in office – Not politicians!



Week 8 – Discussion Topic #2: What if we need to change it?

* People will tell you it needs to be a “Living, Breathing Document”...

- **What do they usually mean by this?** It often seems they mean to just let it go!
- **What is the right way for it to change?** Amendments – as provided for in Article 5
- The way to kill the document is to just allow it to morph into something it isn't – the way to keep it alive and relevant is to:
 - Hold officials accountable to it.
 - Use the Amendment process when changes need to be made.
- Article 5 – defines two methods for proposing amendments to the Constitution:
 - 1) 2/3 of both houses of Congress propose
 - 2) Legislators of 2/3 of States to call the Convention

Under **EITHER WAY** – 3/4 of states have to ratify for Amendment to actually change the Constitution

- We've talked about the book The Liberty Amendments by Mark Levin
- Also Convention of States – Effort to get States to use Article 5 Convention of States to change the Constitution to limit federal government without needing support of Congress!
 - Balanced Budget
 - Term Limits
 - Etc – has to be things both parties can agree on – otherwise it won't get the needed support.
- **What amendments would you think are good ideas to be considered in convention?** Things like term limits, balanced budget, etc.

As we wrap up the class tonight, and as we talk about Constitutional Amendments, one GREAT place to get involved is Convention of States. They have a strong network of volunteers so you can plug into wherever best suits your strengths and get busy!

- Visit COSAction (<https://conventionofstates.com/>) to sign the petition
- Click “Take Action” to see different volunteer opportunities.

Week 8 – Discussion Topic #3: Panel

Panel featured 3 people who have gotten involved in different ways... what did you learn or take away from that conversation?

They talked about hosting classes as a Patriot Academy Constitution Coach...



lots of fun! I would love to help you with that! You can see Coach Options here. PS the first option is FREE! <https://www.patriotacademy.com/coach/subscriptions/1?af=Nzc1MQ%3D%3D>

- We have a "Coach Zone" at our website, www.PatriotsHope.com where we post lots of resources to help you.
- Scarlett talked on the panel about sharing those "jaw dropping" moments with your friends, on your social media page, etc
 - Even if you aren't a coach – you can share what you learned in this class!

They also talked about running for office – specifically School Board –

- I loved the comments about the School Boards – fighting the use of sexually explicit curriculum and books in our schools – he talked about parents getting involved – we are seeing parents getting involved!
 - Go to your school board meetings
 - Run for a School Board seat!
 - He talked also about preventing Marxism/ Socialism in our schools – gotta take over the school boards.

Rick said this is all about:

- 1) Seeking Truth
- 2) Speaking Truth
- 3) Fighting for Truth

Different people will plug into different parts of the fight – but find a spot and get busy!

Don't forget what John Quincy Adams said, "Duty is ours, results are God's."

Week 8 – Discussion Topic #4: Plug for Patriot's Hope

On our website, Patriot's Hope (<https://www.patriotshope.com/>), we have listed several different ways to get involved... (<https://www.patriotshope.com/take-action/>)

- Constitution Coach
- Convention of States
- Heritage Action Sentinel Program
- iVoter Guide
- **COACHES, this one is for you-** We have an entire list of Take Action steps in our exclusive Coach Zone for coaches only. Sign up or sign in at <https://www.patriotshope.com/coach-login/> The Take Action document is found in the Quick Start Guides tab.



Don't let our beloved nation die!

"Other misfortunes may be borne or their effects overcome. If disastrous war should sweep our commerce from the ocean, another generation may renew it; if it exhaust our treasury, future industry may replenish it; if it desolate and lay waste our fields, still, under a new cultivation, they will grow green again, and ripen to future harvests. It were but a trifle if the walls of yonder capitol were to crumble, if its lofty pillars should fall, and its gorgeous decorations be all covered by the dust of the valley. All these might be rebuilt. But, who shall reconstruct the fabric of demolished government? Who shall rear again the well-proportioned columns of constitutional liberty? Who shall frame together the skillful architecture which unites national sovereignty with the state rights, individual security and public prosperity? No, if these columns fall, they will be raised not again. Like the Coliseum and the Parthenon, they will be destined to a mournful, a melancholy immortality. Bitterer tears, however, will flow over them, than were ever shed over the monuments of Roman or Grecian art; for they will be the remnants of a more glorious edifice than Greece or Rome ever saw, the edifice of constitutional American liberty." - Daniel Webster, The Works of Daniel Webster, vol 1