

# Our Founding Fathers

A compilation of quotes from the founding fathers of our nation, this study identifies America as a Christian nation and includes statistics based on post-1962 withdrawal from the basic principles of truth and morality.

## THEIR FOUNDATION

It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians.

Not on religions, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. –Patrick Henry

The highest glory of the American Revolution was this; it connected, in one indissoluble bond, the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity. –John Quincy Adams

Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers and it is the duty as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers. –John Jay (1st Chief Justice of U.S. Supreme Court)

Everyone appointed to public office must say: "I do profess faith in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ His only Son, and in the Holy Ghost; One God and blessed forevermore; and I do acknowledge the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by divine inspiration. –Delaware Constitution 1776

Of all the habits and dispositions, which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars. –George Washington (Farewell Address)

By our form of government, the Christian religion is the established religion and all denominations of Christian are placed upon the same equal footing.

–U.S. Supreme Court 1796 (Ruggles v. Winemiller)

Had the people, during the revolution, had any suspicion of any attempt to war against Christianity, that revolution would have been strangled in its cradle...

At the time of the adoption of the constitution and the amendments; the universal sentiment was that Christianity should be encouraged, not any one sect...

In this age, there can be no substitution for Christianity...

That was the religion of the founders of the republic and they expected it to remain the religion of their descendants...

The great vital and conservative element in our system is the belief of our people in the pure doctrines and divine truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ. –House Judiciary Committee March 27, 1854

He who shall introduce into public affairs the principles of Christianity; will change the face of the world. –Benjamin Franklin

## **THEIR LEGAL STANDARD**

Our laws and our institutions must necessarily be based upon and embody the teachings of the Redeemer of mankind. It is impossible that it should be otherwise; and in this sense and to this extent our civilization and our institutions are emphatically Christian. –U.S. Supreme Court 1892 (Church of Holy Trinity v. U.S.)

Why may not the Bible and especially the New Testament, be read and taught as a divine revelation in the schools? Where can the purest principles of morality be learned so clearly or so perfectly as from the New Testament?

–U.S. Supreme Court 1844 (Vidal v. Girard)

We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We have staked the future of all of our political institutions upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God. -James Madison

What ever strikes at the root of Christianity tends manifestly to the dissolution of civil government. –U.S. Supreme Court 1811 (People v. Ruggles)

Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in the exclusion of religious principle. -George Washington

Believing with you that religion is a matter which lies solely between man and his God; that he owes account to none other for his worship; that the legislative powers of the government reach actions only and not opinions— I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should "make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof" thus building a wall of separation between church and state. Adhering to this expression of the supreme will of the nation in behalf of the rights of conscience, I shall see with sincere satisfaction the progress of the sentiments which tend to restore man to all his natural rights, convinced he has no natural right in opposition to his social duties.

–Thomas Jefferson: Letter to Danberry Baptist Association 8 id 112. Jan. 21, 1802

## **THE PERVERSION**

The first amendment has erected a wall between church and state. That wall must be kept high and impregnable.

– Misapplication of Jefferson's letter (above) to the DBA 1/21/1802 by Supreme Court (Everson v. Board of Education) 1947

Supreme Court (Engel v. Vitale) June 25, 1962 ~ The first separation of religious principles from public education.<sup>1</sup>

– World Book Encyclopedia 1963 (First action based on above misinterpretation of Jefferson.)

If portions of the New Testament were read without explanation, they could be, and had been, psychologically harmful to the child.

– Supreme Court (Abington v. Shemp) June 17, 1963

It is unconstitutional for a student to pray aloud.

– Supreme Court ruling (Murray v. Curlett) 1965

If the posted copies of the Ten Commandments are to have any effect at all it will induce the school children to read, meditate upon, perhaps to venerate and obey the commandments; this is not a permissible objective.

– Supreme Court (Stone v. Graham) 1980

The term "under God" makes the pledge of allegiance "a profession of a religious belief, namely, a belief in monotheism."

– Ninth Circuit Court-Sacramento (Elk Grove Unified School District v. Newdow, No. 02-1624) 2003

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<sup>1</sup> Non-founder doctrine; no legal precedents; no quote from previous legal cases or historical incidents

## THE OUTCOME

### Post-1962 Supreme Court Ruling - Social Statistics

- 1962 - Prayer removed from public schools (Engel v. Vitale)
- 1963 - Bible removed from public schools (Abington v. Shemp)
- 1963 - Pregnancy of students from 15–19 years of age begins landmark rise from 15,000 to 30,000 over 20 year period.
- 1963 - Sexually transmitted diseases among students 15–19 years of age begin landmark rise of 400 to 1,200 per 100,000 persons.
- 1963 - Divorce rate begins landmark rise from 2.3 to 5.2 per 1,000 persons.
- 1963 - Unmarried couples begin landmark rise from 430,000 to 1,800,000.
- 1963 - SAT scores begin landmark decline from 970 to 890 over 20-year period.
- 1963 - Violent crime begins landmark increase from 200,000 to 1,400,000 (up 544%).
- 1963 - America leads in violent crime, divorce, teen pregnancy, voluntary abortion, illegal drugs and illiteracy in the industrial world.

We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. -John Adams

As nations cannot be rewarded or punished in the next world; they must be in this— by an inevitable chain of causes and effects. Providence punishes national sins by national calamities. -George Mason

We need God to be our friend, not our enemy. We need Him to be our ally, not our adversary. We need to make sure that we keep God's concurring aid.

—Benjamin Franklin (Speech at the Constitutional Convention)

Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other. -John Adams

Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just— that His justice cannot sleep forever. -Thomas Jefferson Memorial inscription

## FINAL QUOTE

It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord.

We know that by His divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world. May we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people?

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwells in the heavens.

—Abraham Lincoln (1863 Thanksgiving Proclamation)

Gleaned from the video "Our American Heritage" and other sources.

Personal research and verification is recommended.