



GLC Weekly

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Remember Your True History America (#10): What Did Americans Believe about No Establishment of Religion?

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What did Americans believe about no “establishment of religion”? Let us consider this question as we prepare for the May 17 Celebration and Rededication as “one nation under God,” and July 4 celebration of our 250th Anniversary. Also, consider that to restore a culture of life and end abortion, we must regain a correct understanding of the freedom of religion given by GOD, and the vital role of the Bible and Christians in building a culture, government and nation with righteousness and justice that cherishes and protects human life. The following is excerpted from chapter 8 of *Fire At The Founding* (see information below).

The first guarantee in the First Amendment to the *United States Constitution* is: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion.” Most of the people who settled the American Colonies were Christians from various denominations. In each colony, one denomination usually became dominant. The public officials in some colonies approved the predominant denomination as the “established church.” They raised taxes to pay the salaries of the established church clergy, and prevented or hindered other denominations from developing churches in their colony. This was particularly offensive to members of non-established churches (and other citizens) who were forced to pay taxes for clergy and staff salaries, administration and building costs of the state-sanctioned churches.

The movement to prohibit “an establishment of religion” was to prevent government sponsorship of a particular church denomination, because such sponsorship would exclude or discriminate against other denominations. The First Amendment provision was designed to prevent the government from interfering in church affairs, not to prevent the influence of true religion upon civil government.

Rev. Abraham Williams delivered an election day sermon before the Governor and General Court of Massachusetts in 1762, saying:

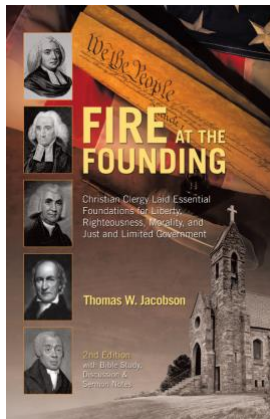
“(C)ivil Societies have a right, it is their Duty, to encourage and maintain social public Worship of the Deity, and Instructions in Righteousness; for without social Virtues, Societies can’t subsist; and these Virtues can’t be expected, or depended on, without a belief in, and regard to, the Supreme Being, and a future World: Consequently, a religious Fear and Regard to God, ought to be encouraged in every Society, and with this View, publick social Worship and Instructions in social Virtues, maintained. This is consistent with the entire

Liberty of Conscience . . . [and all should] practice that Piety and Virtue, which the Nature and Ends of civil Society require.”

During the 1600s and 1700s, Americans knew that virtue was necessary to maintain a peaceful and well-ordered civil society. To encourage people to be virtuous, they believed it was appropriate to have public worship of God and “instructions in social virtues.” The civil authorities did not dictate how they were to worship God, what they were to preach, or the profession of certain doctrines. In this way, the errors made by the Established Church and civil authorities in England were not, for the most part, repeated. Even so, Americans gradually realized it was not proper to use civil authority and taxes to maintain clergy, public worship or religious instruction.

Both those in government and the people, in churches and public forums, were instructed in Biblical truth and “social virtues.” Without the Bible, Judeo-Christian truth, Christian virtues, and the freedom of religion exercised by clergy and Christians, there would have been no United States of America with liberty and justice for all. So also, without restoring these good foundations, and being unified in our beliefs about the same, we cannot restore the nation.

PRAY that the Holy Spirit would inspire pastors, Christians, and all Americans to return fully to GOD, with faith, humility, genuine repentance, and deep reverence, and to rediscover the truth about our origins as a nation. Pray also for the restoration of the spiritual, moral and governmental foundations of the United States that were consistent with the Bible and Judeo-Christian faith, and restoration of a correct understanding of no “establishment of religion.”



BUY THE BOOK: *Fire At The Founding: Christian Clergy Laid Essential Foundations for Liberty, Righteousness, Morality, and Just and Limited Government.* Available through [GLC Publications](#), [Westbow Press](#), Amazon, Barnes & Noble, etc. The audiobook will be published soon.

For the LORD, the sacred gifts of life and liberty, and remembrance of the babies,

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*The purpose of the Global Life Campaign is to **call and equip trustworthy disciples inspired by the Holy Spirit**, to be a catalyst movement to establish principles and practices in nations that align with the Word of God and respect human life.*