



GLC Weekly

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Remember Your True History America (#7): What did Americans Believe about Freedom of Mind, Conscience & Religion?

Thomas W. Jacobson, Founder, Global Life Campaign

Why is the Global Life Campaign focusing on this Remember series? Because the United States was founded upon the Bible and Judeo-Christian faith from which we cherished human life as a gift and unalienable human right from GOD the Creator. Without restoring our spiritual and moral foundations we cannot restore a culture of life. Without restoring a culture of life, we cannot end abortion nationwide.

What did Americans believe about freedom of mind, conscience and 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.

The American colonists firmly believed that freedom of thought, conscience, and religion are inalienable human rights bestowed by God the Creator on every person. They cherished these divine gifts more than life itself. Because the Creator writes His Law upon the hearts and minds of every person (Psalm 40:8; Jeremiah 31:33; Acts 10:34-35; Romans 1:18-20; 2:1-16; Hebrews 8:10; 10:16), freedom of conscience is essential to live in right relationship and obedience to Him, and in right relationship to one another (*Fire At The Founding (FAF)*, chapter 5, p. 46).

In 1762, Rev. Abraham Williams delivered *An Election Sermon* before the Governor and General Court of Massachusetts in Boston. Rev. Williams conveyed the dominant views on the rights of conscience and religion held in the Colonies during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

“Human Laws can’t control the Mind. — The Rights of Conscience, are unalienable; inseparable from our Nature; — they ought not — they cannot possibly be given up to Society. Therefore *Religion, as it consists in right Sentiments, Affections, and Behaviour* towards God, — as it is chiefly *internal* and *private*, can be regulated only by God Himself” (*FAF*, p. 47).

Rev. William Gordon, in his sermon at the Boston Lecture in 1774, commented on the “favorable circumstances” that prepared Americans for the responsible use of freedom.

“Here allow me to run through a brief summary of those favorable circumstances . . . the increasing acquaintance with the rights of conscience in matters of religion, as belonging equally alike to men of all parties and denominations, while they conduct as good members of civil society, without endeavoring to injure their neighbors of different or opposite

sentiments . . . The rights of conscience are too sacred for any civil power on earth to interdict . . . (It is) necessary and essential, to guard against . . . unnatural alliances between church and state, the sword of the Spirit and the sword of the magistrate” (FAF, p. 47-48).

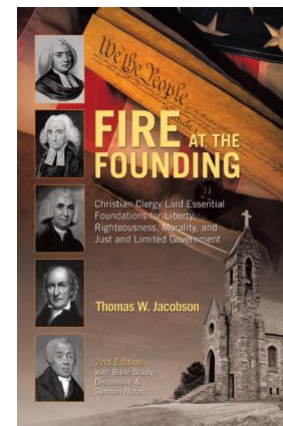
In 1794, writing under the pen name of Jack Nips, Rev. John Leland said this in *The Yankee Spy*:

“Should a man refuse to pay his tribute for the support of government, or any wise disturb the peace and good order of civil (society), he should be punished according to his crime, let his religion be what it will; but when a man is a peaceable subject of state, he should be protected in worshipping the Deity according to the dictates of his own conscience. . . . The rights of conscience should always be considered inalienable—religious opinions are not the objects of civil government, nor any way under its jurisdiction. Laws should only respect civil society; then if men are disturbers they ought to be punished” (FAF, p. 52).

America was settled as a sanctuary for freedom of mind, conscience and religion, but if we do not cherish these God-given gifts, and return to GOD as a nation, we may lose these gifts.

PRAY that the Holy Spirit would inspire pastors, Christians, and all Americans to return fully to faith in and deep reverence toward Almighty GOD, and to read and 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 what is necessary to protect and restore our nation as a sanctuary for freedom of mind, conscience and religion, with righteousness and justice.

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,

Thomas W. Jacobson
Founder & Executive Director, Global Life Campaign
TJacobson@GLClife.org ; www.GLClife.org ; www.GLCPublications.com

*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.*