



GLC Weekly

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Remember Your True History America (#9): What Did Americans Believe about Religion & Government?

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What did Americans believe about religion and government, and their unique God-given purposes and roles? 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, let us consider that to restore a culture of life and end abortion, we must regain a correct understanding of the God-given roles and responsibilities of the Church and the State. The following is excerpted from *Fire At The Founding* (see information below).

Great confusion exists today regarding the role of religion in civil government, between the spheres of church and state. A proper understanding of the distinct spheres took generations, even centuries, to develop. The clergy, colonists, and Founding Fathers of the United States of America finally discerned that anything pertaining to religion, beliefs, the mind, freedom of thought, conscience, freedom of speech, and the church itself, were entirely outside the jurisdiction of civil government. They also recognized the necessity of true religion and liberty to cultivating good citizens and leaders, and establishing free forms of government. They defined true religion as the Judeo-Christian religion and worldview.

In 1771, Rev. John Tucker, in an *Election Day Sermon*, identified several characteristics necessary to producing good citizens and good public officials.

“True religion:—A sacred reverence of the Deity:—The love of virtue and goodness, are as necessary to make good subjects, as good Rulers: And a spirit of liberty is requisite, to render obedience true and genuine both to God and man.”

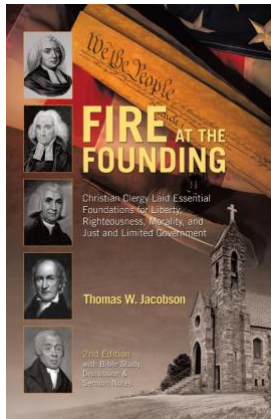
True religion brings good order to society as it requires virtue and encourages goodness and voluntary obedience to Almighty God and lawful human authorities. Rev. Tucker recognized that obedience must be voluntary to be genuine. When people choose to obey human authorities out of reverence for God and “love of virtue and goodness,” then they can establish and maintain a free form of government. They must first be self-governing, and be virtuous enough to do what is right without coercion.

Rev. Samuel West, in a 1776 sermon to public officials, explained why civil government is needed.

“The Great Creator, having designed the human race for society, has made us dependent on one another for happiness. He has so constituted us that it becomes both our duty and interest to seek the public good . . . The necessity of forming ourselves into politic bodies, and granting to our rulers a power to enact laws for the public safety, and to enforce them by proper penalties, arises from our being in a fallen and degenerate state . . . (C)ivil government is absolutely necessary for the peace and safety of mankind; and, consequently, that all good magistrates, while they faithfully discharge the trust reposed in them, ought to be religiously and conscientiously obeyed.”

There are many other unique and complementary aspects of true religion and government revealed in chapter 7, and other chapters, in *Fire At The Founding*.

PRAY that the Holy Spirit would inspire pastors, Christians, and all Americans to return fully to GOD, with faith, humility, and deep reverence, 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 a correct understanding of the unique God-given purposes and complementary roles of religion and government.



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.*