

America at 250: The Biblical Foundation That Made a Nation Strong

As America approaches the 250th anniversary of its founding, it is worth asking a simple but profound question: What made America great in the first place?

No nation is perfect. America certainly is not.

Our history contains both remarkable victories and painful failures. But one of the undeniable realities woven into the foundation of this nation is that America was deeply shaped by biblical truth and a worldview that recognized God as the ultimate authority over man.

That matters.

A nation that believes it answers to God will govern differently than a nation that believes government is god.

One produces liberty. The other eventually produces tyranny.

Our founders understood this principle, even if they differed in their personal theology. Some were committed Christians. Others leaned more toward deism. But together they built a nation rooted in the conviction that human rights come not from government, but from God Himself.

That idea changed the world.

The influence of Scripture can be seen throughout America's founding documents.

The Mayflower Compact of 1620 began with the words, "In the Name of God, Amen," and declared its purpose was "for the Glory of God, and Advancement of the Christian Faith."

The Declaration of Independence repeatedly appeals to divine authority: “the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God,” “endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights,” “appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world,” and “with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence.”

These are not accidental references. They reveal a people who believed liberty was sacred because mankind was created by God.



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Even the Liberty Bell bears the inscription from Leviticus 25:10: “Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.”

Jesus Himself said in John 8:32, “You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

The Founders understood that freedom cannot survive without truth, morality, and virtue.

The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 stated, “Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged.”

Notice that phrase carefully: Good government depends upon morality.

Why? Because self-government only works when people possess self-control. A free people must also be a moral people.

George Washington understood this clearly. In his first inaugural address, he referred to “that Almighty Being who rules over the universe, who presides in the councils of nations.” He later warned that national morality could not prevail apart from religious principle.

Even the Constitution itself closes with the phrase, “in the Year of our Lord.”

Now, critics are quick to point out that not every founder was an orthodox Christian. That is true. Thomas Jefferson rejected miracles. Benjamin Franklin questioned the divinity of Christ. John Adams leaned Unitarian. Others, like John Jay and later Alexander Hamilton, held far more traditional Christian convictions.

But here is the larger historical reality: Whether deist, theist, or orthodox Christian, the overwhelming majority of America’s founders operated within a biblical moral framework shaped by Christianity, English common law, and Judeo-Christian ethics.

Human dignity.

The rule of law.

The value of life.

Personal responsibility.

Liberty of conscience.

Limited government.

These ideas did not emerge from atheism. They emerged from a culture saturated with biblical truth.

At the same time, America wisely rejected the establishment of a national church. The Constitution prohibited religious tests for office and protected religious liberty. The Founders understood the danger of state-controlled religion while still recognizing the importance of faith in public life.

That balance helped shape one of the freest and most prosperous nations in human history.

But freedom is never guaranteed.

Proverbs 11:14 warns: “For lack of guidance a nation falls.”

America does not need less truth. America needs more truth.

As Christians, we have a responsibility not only to vote our values, but to voice our values. We cannot remain silent while the moral foundations that built this nation are eroded. The next generation is depending on us to preserve truth, defend liberty, and pass down a godly legacy.

Psalm 78:4 says, “We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, and the wonders He has done.”

That begins in our homes. In our churches. In our communities.

Strong nations are built by strong families rooted in biblical truth.

America’s future will not ultimately be secured by politicians, parties, or government programs. It will be strengthened when men and women once again humble themselves under God, honor His Word, and build lives centered on faith, family, and freedom.

That is what made America exceptional.

And it is the only path that will keep her strong for generations to come.

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