

Americans need to know more about the Constitution

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by [Randy Bright](#)



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When I returned home from a recent trip, I turned on the television and one of the Fox pundits was complaining that people justify their political beliefs based on the Constitution, but that the U.S. Supreme Court justices couldn't agree on their own interpretations of the Constitution.

The truth is that we need to know more about our Constitution. The knowledge of what our Founders went through to write it, and why they wrote it as they did is a complete mystery to most Americans.

But that knowledge is not lost. It is available in a book that I have mentioned numerous times in my column, *The 5000 Year Leap*.

When the settlers of Jamestown set foot on what was to become American soil, the standard of living was not much different than it had been for the previous 50 centuries. Socialism was attempted, but it nearly wiped them out.

By the time the Constitution and the Bill of Rights had been adopted, the Founders had developed 28 principles that would guarantee the survival of our country, and the impact of those principles over the next 200 years led to the most advances in standard of living and technology than had been done in the previous 5,000 years.

Here are those principles, but without much explanation due to the brevity of this article:

1. The only reliable basis for sound government and just human relations is Natural Law.
2. A free people cannot survive under a republican Constitution unless they remain virtuous and morally strong.
3. The most promising method of securing a virtuous and morally stable people is to elect virtuous leaders.
4. Without religion, the government of a free people cannot be maintained.
5. All things were created by God, therefore upon Him all mankind are equally dependent, and to Him they are equally responsible.
6. All men are created equal.
7. The proper role of government is to protect equal rights, not provide equal things.

8. Men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights.
9. To protect man's rights, God has revealed certain principles of divine law.
10. The God-given right to govern is vested in the sovereign authority of the whole people.
11. The majority of the people may alter or abolish a government which has become tyrannical.
12. The United States of America shall be a republic.
13. A Constitution should be structured to permanently protect the people from the human frailties of their rulers.
14. Life and liberty are secure only so long as the right to property is secure.
15. The highest level of prosperity occurs when there is a free-market economy and a minimum of government regulations.
16. The government should be separated into three branches-legislative, executive and judicial.
17. A system of checks and balances should be adopted to prevent the abuse of power.
18. The unalienable rights of the people are most likely to be preserved if the principles of government are set forth in a written Constitution.
19. Only limited and carefully defined powers should be delegated to government, all others being retained in the People.
20. Efficiency and dispatch require government to operate according to the will of the majority, but constitutional provisions must be made to protect the rights of the minority.
21. Strong local self-government is the keystone to preserving human freedom.
22. A free People should be governed by law and not by the whims of men.
23. A free society cannot survive as a republic without a broad program of general education.
24. A free people will not survive unless they are strong.
25. Peace, commerce and honest friendship with all nations – entangling alliances with none.
26. The core unit which determines the strength of any society is the family; therefore, government should foster and protect its integrity.
27. The burden of debt is as destructive to freedom as subjugation by conquest.
28. The United States has a manifest destiny to be an example and blessing to the entire human race.

Sound like today's America?

More next week.

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