

Constitution Sunday: Faith of the Framers September 17, 2017

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On this date 230 years ago, Fifty-Five Founding Fathers produced the United States Constitution. Despite the efforts of revisionists to recast it as a “godless Constitution,” the people who framed it and the text itself argue otherwise. Every Framer had a Christian upbringing, displayed varying evidence of a biblical worldview, and most expressed their faith publicly. Not surprisingly, several provisions in the Constitution have parallels with biblical principles, even though chapters and verses are not cited. For example, compare the following:



- Art. I, II, III (3 Branches of Government) with Isaiah 33:22: “For the LORD is our judge (Judicial - Art. III), the LORD is our lawgiver (Legislative - Art. I), the LORD is our king (Executive - Art. II); it is he who will save us.”
- Art. I, Sec. 7, par. 2 (No Business on Sunday) with Exod. 20:8.
- Art. I, Sec. 8, par. 4 (Uniform Immigration Law) with Lev. 19:34.
- Art. I, Sec 8, par. 8 (Tribunals, i.e., Courts under the Supreme Court) with Deut. 16:18-20; 17:8-10.
- Art. II, Sec. 1, par. 4 (President must be a Natural Born Citizen) with Deut. 17:15.
- Art. III, Sec. 1, par. 1 (Courts) with Deut. 16:18-20; 17:8-10.
- Art. III, Sec. 3, par. 1-2, (Witnesses and Capital Punishment) with Deut. 17:6.
- Art. III, Sec. 3, par. 1 (Provision against Attainder, i.e., punishing a group without due process) with Ezek. 18:20.
- Art. IV, Sec. 4, par. 1 (Representative Government) with Exod. 18:21.

Finally, the document is signed “...in the year of our Lord,” an overt reference to Jesus Christ. So much for a “godless” Constitution!

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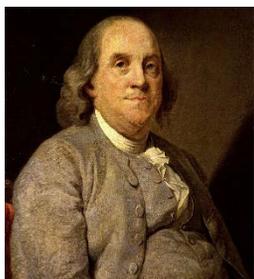
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Elder statesman Ben Franklin had an encounter with a Mrs. Powel outside Independence Hall as the Constitutional Convention ended. “Well Doctor what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?” she asked. He quipped: “A republic, if you can keep it.” Wise old Ben Franklin knew that republics are not easy to keep. How can we keep this constitutional republic handed to us by the Founding Fathers and preserved for us by brave souls who have given their very lives?

Action Steps:

1. Keep it by *Praying* for it. Dr. Franklin knew the importance of prayer, declaring to the Convention: “In the beginning of the Contest with Great Britain... we had daily prayer in this room for Divine protection. Our prayers, Sir, were heard, & they were graciously answered... I ... move that henceforth prayers imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessing on our deliberations, be held in this Assembly every morning before we proceed to business...” If they needed prayer then, we need to pray for our nation now (see 1 Tim. 2:1-4). Visit Call2Fall.com.

2. Keep it by *Preparing* to Defend it. The only way to do that is to know it and understand it. Rick Green and David Barton created a video driven study called: Constitution Alive, filmed in Independence Hall. Visit ConstitutionAlive.com. Consider hosting a small group study.

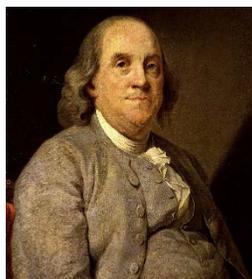
3. Keep it by *Participating* in the Political Process. Start by registering to vote, voting your values, and voicing your constitutional convictions to elected officials. Visit FRCAction.org, sign up, and get started.

4. Keep it by *Passing* it on to the Next Generation. We have an obligation to teach our children (Ps. 78:3-4). Generation Joshua, Patriot Academy, and Teen Pact all provide training for students that respects the Founders’ philosophy of constitutional government. Look them up.

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