



church and state





Classic model



**Democratic
Republic**





Classic model



Enlightenment



**Democratic
Republic**



Pluralism





Classic model



Enlightenment



Puritan Christian values



**Democratic
Republic**



Pluralism



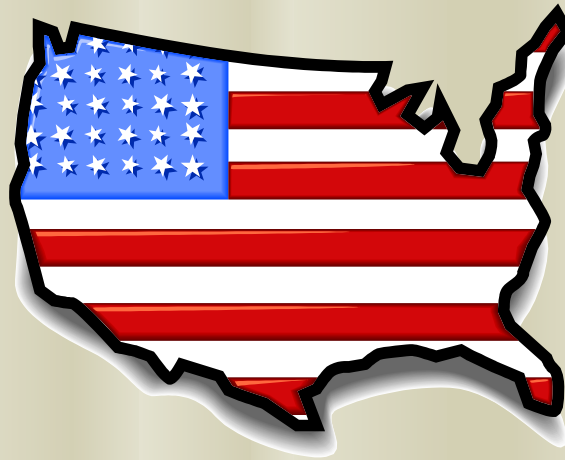
**Biblical
moral vision**

The American model

(Between England and France)



**Union of one
Religious sect
and State**



**Separation of
Generic religion
from Public life**

Americans are to recognize that

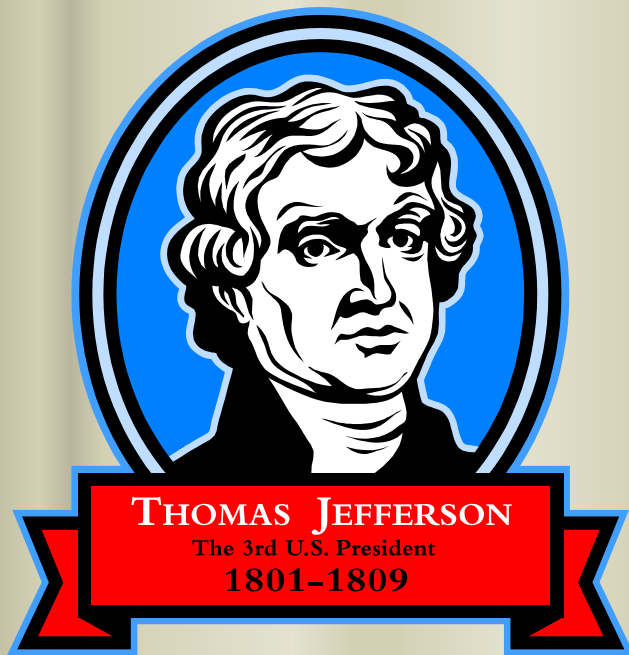
*“Our constitution was made
only for a moral and
a religious people.
It is wholly inadequate
for the government
of any other.”*



JOHN ADAMS
The 2nd U.S. President
1797–1801

Americans need to consider

“Can the liberties of a nation be sure when we remove their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people, that these liberties are the gift of God?”



The East entrance to The Supreme Court Building depicts Moses as the supreme law giver.





On the doors (both inner and outer) of the Supreme Court and above the Bench of the Chief Justice, are displays of the Ten Commandments!





**On the chamber of the U.S. House or
Representatives**



**The Ten Commandments on the floor
of the National Archives**

There are Bible verses etched in stone on numerous Federal Buildings and Monuments in Washington, D.C. At the top of the Washington monument are the Latin words Laus Deo (Praise be to God). When the cornerstone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4th, 1848 deposited within it were many items including the Holy Bible presented by the Bible Society.

Every session of Congress begins with a prayer by a paid preacher, whose salary has been paid by the taxpayer since 1777.

“No person who shall deny the being of God, or the truth of the Christian religion shall be capable of holding any office or place of trust or pulpit.”

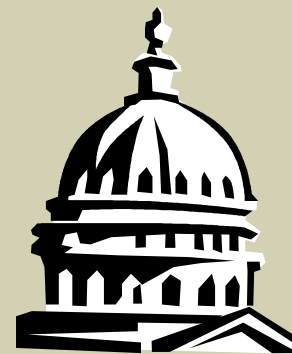
N.C Constitution 1836

American civil religion with its recognition of the structure of ultimate reality, was, up until the 20th century, described as **“Progressive Patriotic Protestantism.”**

Sacred Canopy - A generic god



Sectarian faiths



Public policies

In what sense was America founded as a “Christian Nation.”

- ✓ **Under a sacred canopy.**
- ✓ **Ethics shaped by Biblical moral law.**
- ✓ **Moral accountability to God.**
- ✓ **Divine calling and favor.**
- ✓ **Dignity and depravity of humanity.**

Matthew 22:21

**“Render unto Caesar the things
that are Caesar’s and unto God
the things that are God’s.”**

Support

Submit



Matthew 22:21

“Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and unto God the things that are God’s.”

Support

Submit



Separate

Scrutinize

Our National Motto

E PLURIBUS

Diversity
Enlightenment ideals
Freedom
Individuality
Personal choice
Personal rights
A democracy
The Bill of Rights
The House

UNUM

Unity
Classic & **Biblical values**
Order
Community
Common good
Social responsibility
A republic
The Constitution
The Senate

Individuality

E PLURIBUS

UNUM?



Individuality



Diversity



Rights

E PLURIBUS



Competition

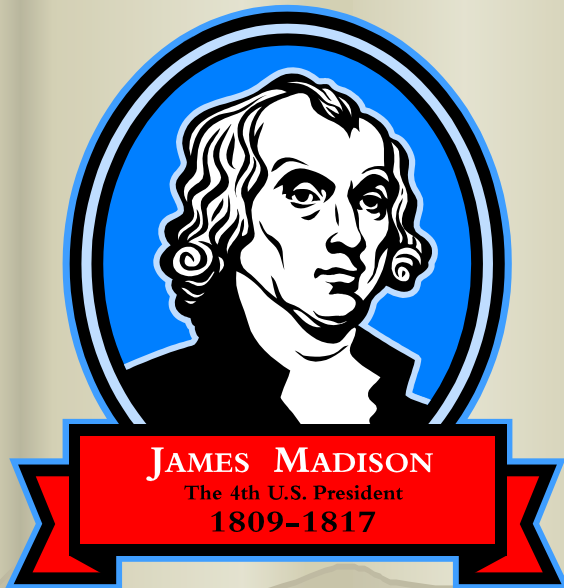


Freedom

UNUM?

The first amendment was adopted because

“people feared one sect might obtain a preeminence, or two combine together, and establish a religion to which they would compel others to conform.”



First Amendment

“Congress shall make no law
respecting
an establishment of religion,

or prohibiting
the free exercise thereof.”

H. Richard Niebuhr's Five postures of the church

Christ against culture - Anabaptists

Christ of culture - Liberals

Christ above culture - Orthodox

Christ and culture in paradox - New Evangelicals

Christ transforming culture - Reconstructionists

Four political philosophies

	Personal Moral issues	Public Economic issues
<i>Socialist</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Control</i>
<i>Liberal</i>	<i>Freedom</i>	<i>Control</i>
<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Control</i>	<i>Freedom</i>
<i>Libertarian</i>	<i>Freedom</i>	<i>Freedom</i>

Disputes between Christians and those outside the faith are the responsibility of the state.

Acts 25

“¹⁰ Paul answered: “I am now standing before Caesar’s court, where I ought to be tried. I have not done any wrong to the Jews, as you yourself know very well. ¹¹ If, however, I am guilty of doing anything deserving death, I do not refuse to die. But if the charges brought against me by these Jews are not true, no one has the right to hand me over to them. I appeal to Caesar!” ¹² After Festus had conferred with his council, he declared: “You have appealed to Caesar. To Caesar you will go!”

Two challenges in applying Biblical ethics - for both the left and the right.



**Private
ethics**

**Within the
community
of faith**



**Public
ethics**

**Outside the
Community
of faith**

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