

American Decency Association

PO Box 202, Fremont, MI 49412 231-924-4050 www.americandecency.org
Encouraging Christians to guard their hearts February 2021

Preamble to Love

By: Steve Huston



With February comes Valentine's Day and with that, for many, come thoughts of love for those we hold dear. Many Christians will be drawn to share John 3:16 or focus on I Corinthians chapter thirteen. For the true believer, God holds that dearest position in our heart; so, maybe our mind should find itself reflecting on Mark 12:30-31. *"And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."*

Our founders were lovers of liberty and knew that

following those two great commands was the only way for a nation to enjoy true freedom. It was John Adams who said, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." They understood that for a nation to chase after "autonomous freedom" – described by Francis Schaeffer as – "freedom from any restraint, and especially from God's truth and moral absolutes," would be a sure course for self-destruction. They understood that absolute power corrupts absolutely and that tyranny stunts a nation while freedom encourages growth and prosperity. They were grateful to the Hand of Providence and desired to bless God as He had blessed them. Our founders were wise enough to know that they couldn't control the heart of man, but they could continue to point men in the right direction, hoping to fix this nation's mind on higher principles that would slow its disintegration.

To love God with all that we are, we must first meet the most basic requirements that He has for us. In Micah 6:8 we read, "...what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

The following is the Preamble to our Constitution—the law of our land. It serves as the ideological blueprint for this great nation, given to us by its engineers.

"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

Somewhere along the way we've neglected this great gift instead of protecting it. Whenever a national decision is to be made, it should be run through the

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“Preamble Test.”

Does this establish justice? Will this decision erode or delay justice? One of the purposes of our Constitution is to protect its people and give every American citizen “equal justice under the law;” no one is to be above the law. Those holding positions of authority must not unilaterally, or with the help of others, make decisions that will bring the wheels of justice to a halt in order to better their position. It’s up to the American people to be a thinking people and insist that justice is established and carried out.

Does this insure domestic tranquility? Our government is to use its power to help keep America peaceful and orderly; it should also play a role (limited as it may be) in settling disputes justly between states. In the case of rebellion, government has the duty to enforce the laws of our land in order to protect the lives and property of

the people. Hebrews 12:14 calls us to “Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.”

Does this provide for the common defense or will it undermine and erode our endeavors to keep enemy nations from invading, conquering, and eventually taking our land and our lives?

Does this promote the general welfare of the American people? In other words, will this protect and promote the life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness that is endowed to us by our Creator? Does it protect the opportunities of prosperity for all who will work diligently for it?

Will this secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity? Are we protecting the freedoms we enjoy and the liberty that our founders fought for, so that we might pass it on to our children, grandchildren, and future generations? Or are we putting those blessings at jeopardy by the choices we make and that which we allow those in government to do? The blessings secured are those God-given inalienable rights;

the Constitution is set in place to protect America and Americans from enemies of those liberties both foreign and domestic. The Constitution is put in place to keep us from being governed unjustly by other Americans who may attempt to seize the government, stealing our liberty and the ability to be self-governed.

If anything that is put before us, as American citizens, fails the “Preamble Test” we must reject the offer, regardless of how enticing it is to our current situation. America has a unique form of government and the Christian citizen should use his rights, freedoms, and liberties to the glory of God. Sometimes that means disobedience to man while obeying the Constitution; and obedience to God always trumps what man commands. In this way we show that we love God with all that we are and our neighbor as ourselves.

Pray that our government will return to our Constitution, churches will return to the Bible as its sole authority, and that we will truly become “One nation under God, with liberty and justice for all.”



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