



God's Covenant With America

Either A
Blessing

Or A Storm!

Rev. Charles E. Darnell, PhD

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Scripture quotations

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Throughout my works I have attempted to incorporate supporting scripture for the convenience of the reader. In doing such I may, or may not, follow the appropriate manuscript style as stated in the Fifth Edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA) or any other accepted manuscript guide. While acknowledging the authority of the APA there is a clause used in the stated manual which needs to be inserted herein:

The Publication Manual presents explicit style requirements but acknowledges that alternatives are sometimes necessary; authors should balance the rules of the Publication Manual with good judgment. Preface: p. xx.

America's Covenant With Their God

It is difficult for me to understand the viewpoint of the Woke or LGBTQ crowd of today. None of the views I hear about, in either cause, is really a portion of my life. I'm now approaching my eightieth year, and after twenty-seven years of active military duty and being raised in a Christian home, I just don't understand the thought that those who are protesting and yelling the most seem to disregard the very concept of freedom or liberty. There seems to be this thought that a Marxist or socialist government would be more democratic than what we have as the basis for our form of government. One of the statements that I heard more than once during my youth was that of "throwing out the baby with the bath water" giving meaning to the idea that to make a change a person disregarded any potential solutions to a problem, instead everything was thrown out and you started over.

That's great, but where does all of this division between segments of society actually get us? Is the throwing out of our Declaration of Independence or the Constitution of the United States of America the answer? It seems that there are far too many people who are wanting to throw out the baby with the bath water. Here's a major problem that I have with all of this. Our schools of higher learning no longer agree with the logos and traditional thought of teaching an aspect of God's Holy Word. Harvard and Yale were both created to teach future preachers. They were not established to be the hot beds of protest over lies and misguided ideologies. There does not seem to be any great need to teach world history or even Anglo-Saxon history because that came down by our forefathers who were Pilgrims or Puritans. Why was there such a move in the 1600's for our ancestors to have a desire to leave all they knew in the countries of Europe and elect to forge ahead toward the formation of a new land in what was then called the colonies?

Even in my simple library of Bibles and other books, I can find one book with the title, *The Bible as History*, Second Revised Edition by Werner Keller and Copyrighted © 1980. The book is full of maps and statements from the Bible that match with archaeology and science evidence from the last 4,000 years of history. I also came across an article written by Paul Strand of CBN News entitled, *America's Explicit Covenant with God: How a Nation Pledged to God Can Save a World or Lose It!* Interesting title, let me add a little to that. God sent His Son, His Only Son to earth to illustrate to mankind the love and grace that God has poured out to mankind. God has understood since the beginning that mankind would rebel against His ways and rules. God understood that there was only one means for the atonement of sin and that was by a blood offering. For that reason, and that reason connected to His eternal love for His creation, did God require His Son to be the perfect lamb offering to atone for all of mankind's sins, past, present and future. Here are several verses spoken by Yeshua pertaining to unity. Matthew 12:25, ²⁵ *Knowing their thoughts, he said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. (ESV)* In Mark, we find a similar passage. Mark 3:24-25, ²⁴ *If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. (ESV)* Continuing, we find in Luke 11:17 the following. ¹⁷ *He knew their thoughts, so he said, "Any kingdom divided by civil war is doomed. A family splintered by feuding will fall apart. (NLT)* There is one more passage that I want you to understand. This passage also comes from the Gospel of Luke. It is recorded in Luke 12:49-53. ⁴⁹ *"I have come to set the world on fire, and I wish it were already burning! ⁵⁰ I have a terrible baptism of suffering ahead of me, and I am under a heavy burden until it is accomplished. ⁵¹ Do you think I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I have come to divide people against each other! ⁵² From now on families will be split apart, three in favor of me, and two against—or two in favor and three against. ⁵³ 'Father will be divided against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter*

against mother; and mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.’ “ (NLT) This is Yeshua speaking and this may seem to be a strange statement made by Him. If Yeshua came to cause division, it would have to be over the rebellion of mankind concerning God’s laws, rules and feasts that were not being correctly observed and followed. Let’s get one thing straight right now. To make Yeshua LORD of your life means you will be obedient to what He says. You are not a slave and neither God, nor Yeshua, are your taskmasters. Both, are only desiring that out of a loving relationship with Them you are blessed by Them in everything you do. Your mindset has rejected sin and any desire that you might have to be disobedient toward Their rules. The Ten Commandments, eleven if you count the one given by Yeshua, found in John 13:34-35. ³⁴ *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.* ³⁵ *By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*” (ESV) God has seven feasts over the course of a year, and in those feasts three times that all males must present themselves before God. Is that really that difficult to accomplish? When God blesses your endeavors and everything you need is provided to you, can’t you at least follow these 18 items. Your work, no matter what it may be, will be blessed. I really hate to blow up some people’s balloon, but during the thousand year reign of Christ, it appears that mankind will be an agrarian (farming) society once again. There will not be AI, computers, Internet connectivity and all that goes along with that. There will be no sexual perversion, no gender changing, no LGBTQ and no abortions. Now, return for a moment to the Gospel verses I gave you pertaining to a house divided. Can’t you look around you right now, today, and see the house divided? Who divided the house? It was not God, nor His Son Yeshua who divided the house. It was Satan and his band of demons and evil spirits that divided the house. That is a portion of the burden and baptism that Yeshua spoke of in Luke 12:50. ⁵⁰ *I have a terrible baptism of suffering ahead of me, and I am under a heavy burden until it is accomplished.* (NLT) The reason for the divided house is given in verse 52. ⁵² *From now on families will be split apart, three in favor of me, and two against—or two in favor and three against.* (NLT) There is the answer. You will either be for Yeshua, or you will be against Him.

Let’s take this down one step to state level instead of national level. Did you know that out of our fifty states there is one state that uses the motto *United We Stand, Divided We Fall*? As we, this entire nation, travel down the road toward the Presidential election in November, we are currently a mess when it comes to being divided. In my youth, most of my kin, dad, mom, aunts and uncles were all Democrats. When I reached the age of 18, I registered as a Democrat. During those days in the 40’s, 50’s and early 60’s the Democratic Party stood for the working class of Christian society in America. At the age of 19, I joined the Air Force and was still registered as a Democrat. Probably within two years on active duty, I changed my voting status to Independent. With that change, I could no longer vote in Kentucky State Elections but could only vote on matters of national elections. Probably by mid 70’s, I once again changed my voter registration to Republican. By this time, the Democrats were well on their way to becoming the party of the left agenda, as opposed to the conservative party on the right. My Christian upbringing had not changed, my Biblical principals had not changed, but the political party of my youth had most certainly changed. The sudden change of concept was that freedom and liberty no longer meant the freedom of speech, of religion and the right to bear arms. It had become a concept that freedom was a right to do whatever you personally thought was okay in your mind was to be okay in everyone’s mind. And if the others did not go along with your thought, they were the ones who were intolerant and against freedom and liberty. To change society as a whole, there was the push to separate what the left thought was a church state religion, if there was any mention of God on, or in, any public building it had to be removed to separate the church from the state. We removed the Ten Commandments from government buildings and from every classroom. We then took on the abortion issue, and Roe vs Wade became the law of the land. Never mind the fact that what was being done was

the murdering of another life. This nation has now killed over three million unborn children under the heading of 'Women's Health Issues'. Over this past weekend our current President, Joe Biden, dropped out of the race for reelection and turned over the lead for the Democrat Party to his Vice-President, Kamala Harris. Talk about being divided. The current Vice-President is most likely the strongest ally for the abortion issue, the same sex marriage issue and the LGBTQ and transgender issue. There will be no, I repeat, NO! freedom or liberty as established by our forefathers when they penned the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States of America if the Democratic Party wins the Presidential election this coming November!

To strengthen my presentation, I return to yesteryear and ask you to think about the following statements. You are now an adult. You have graduated from college and have a good, well-paying job. You make the claim that you are a New Testament believer of the Bible. Because of that fact you believe that the stories and facts of the Old Testament no longer apply. You accept that was all changed under new rules that the Ten Commandments are no longer required to be followed. Where did you come up with all of this? Surely the factor of education has not changed to such an extent as to do away with facts and common sense. Surely the facts of the two most important documents to the American people have not been done away with. Let me ask you this one simple question pertaining to these two documents. Have you ever sat down and read these two documents? Have you ever reviewed historical facts in the history books pertaining to the almost 250 years that this nation has stood as the great storehouse of God's truth? It is an absolute shame that the United States has turned into a society directly from the Biblical book of Judges.

Let's look at the book of Judges. There are six major features characterized in the book of Judges. (1) It records events in Israel's dark history during the time between the conquest of the region of Palestine and the beginning of the monarchy. (2) It highlights three simple, but important, truths: (a) Being God's people means accepting God as King and Lord, the absolute authority and Leader of one's life. (b) Sin is always destructive to God's people. (c) When God's people humble themselves, pray and turn from wickedness, He will respond by restoring their relationship with Him. In addition, He will renew righteousness in their land. (3) It emphasizes that whenever Israel lost sight of their identity as a chosen people under God's kingship, the nation quickly returned to the repeated cycles of spiritual darkness, moral decline and social unrest. The Bible calls these cycles a time when "everyone did what was right in his own eyes". (4) It reveals several repeated patterns in the history of God's people under both the Old and New Covenants. (a) Unless God's people wholeheartedly love and obey Him, they become spiritually hardened, unresponsive and rebellious toward God. (b) God is extremely patient. Whenever His people truly turn from their sinful ways and turn to Him for help, He responds in mercy. By His Spirit, God calls and guides individuals to rescue them from the oppression caused by their sin. (c) There were risks for these Spirit led leaders if they did not stay close to God. The ones who began to stand in their own pride often became corrupt. They could no longer be used as a blessing for the people. (5) The six major cycles in the book of Judges involves rebellion, oppression, distress, all of which, began in the same way. "the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD". (6) The book reveals that God used foreign nations that were more evil than His own people in order to judge the Israelites for their sins. God desired them to turn back to Him for mercy, help and spiritual revival. The Lord's intervention was the only thing that kept the Israelites from completely being conquered and lost into the wickedness all around them.

Do you see the parallels between ancient Israel and the present day United States? Do you see the risk factor that Spirit-led leaders could face? Do you see the elements of the dark cycles? Do you see the rebellion, oppression, and distress prior to the rescued deliverance by God? Look very closely at what is said in feature three (3), **"everyone did what was right in his own eyes"**. Isn't that where the United States is today? Isn't everyone in the Woke, LGBTQ crowd doing what is right in their own

eyes? Where is the law of the land? Where is common sense? Can you also take those who are running for President, on both sides, and see them in this extraction from Judges? Can't we find both sides in this?

Now, let's turn over to those two major documents of the United States. These are not extremely long lengthy documents to record, or to set down and read. I'll turn first to The Declaration of Independence. If you haven't read these, are you sure you would be happy about the way our government applies and uses these two documents by today's standards?

The Declaration of Independence

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces (reveals) a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of governments. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his assent to laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature, a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the Depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise; the state remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these states; for that purpose obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and

raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice by refusing his assent to law for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the military independent of and superior to the civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these states:

For cutting off our trade with other parts of the world:

For imposing taxes on us without our consent:

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury:

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies:

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering fundamentally the forms of our governments:

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the work of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow citizens taken captive on the high seas to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction, of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions, we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in

the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace, friends.

We, therefore, the representatives of the United States of America, in general congress, assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

Now, let's view our other national document.

The Constitution of the United States of America

Preamble

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, 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.

Article 1

The Legislative Department

Section 1. All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives. (There must have been some disagreement between the state legislatures. The smaller states favored the New Jersey plan and the larger states supported the Virginia plan. Under the New Jersey plan, there would be an equal number of representatives. Under the Virginia plan, the number of representatives would be based upon the total population of the state. A compromise was agreed upon that the lower house members would be based upon population and the upper house would be set to two senators to represent each state.)

The House of Representatives

Section 2. (1) The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature. (There is the question of who shall be allowed to vote for state legislators. That is entirely up to the state. Amendment 19 made a change to this section.)

(2) No person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been seven years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen. (Each state decides for itself who is an 'inhabitant,' by setting

up requirements for legal residence. A representative usually lives not only in the state from which he is chosen, but also in the Congressional district which he represents. English of 250 years ago causes me to question the verbage "who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen." Shouldn't that read "shall be", instead of "shall not be?")

(3) Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other persons. The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each state shall have at least one representative, and until such enumeration shall be made. The State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to choose 3, Massachusetts 8, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations 1, Connecticut 5, New York 6, New Jersey 4, Pennsylvania 8, Delaware 1, Maryland 6, Virginia 10, North Carolina 5, South Carolina 5, and Georgia 3. (Stop for a moment and think about this, the original House of Representatives had 65 members. We should also recall that there is a 2 Senator limit imposed upon each state, therefore there were only 26 Senators originally. Additionally, this paragraph has been changed by amendment and conditions. Currently, there are only three items (a) the number of representatives allotted to each state shall be based on its population; (b) Congress must see that the people of the United States are counted every ten years; (c) each state gets at least one representative.

The words "and direct taxes" mean poll and property taxes. The 16th Amendment gives Congress the right to tax income.

In the reference to "three fifths of all other persons," the "other persons" meant Negro slaves. This part of the paragraph no longer has any meaning since we no longer have slaves.

In 1929 Congress fixed the total number of representatives at 435, and this number still holds today.)

(4) When vacancies happen in the representation from any state, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies. (The Constitution allows each state to decide how the vacancy shall be filled. Most states require the governor to call a special election for this purpose.)

(5) The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker and other officers, and shall have the sole power of impeachment. (The Speaker of the House is its presiding officer. The power of impeachment means the power to bring charges against an official. These charges are tried by the Senate.)

The United States Senate

Section 3. (1) The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each state, chosen by the legislature thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. (The Constitution at first provided that each state legislature should pick two Senators. Amendment 17 changed this by allowing the voters in each state to choose their own Senators.)

(2) Immediately after, they shall be assembled in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three classes. The seats of the Senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, of the second class at the expiration of the fourth year, and of the third class at the expiration of the sixth year, and if vacancies happen by resignation, or otherwise, during the recess of the legislature of any state, the Executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies. (Except in the first two Congresses, all Senators have been elected for a six-year term. This means that at least two-thirds of the Senators in each Congress will ordinarily be experienced in the job. The method of filling vacancies is now set forth in the 17th Amendment.)

(3) No person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state for which he shall be chosen. (Henry Clay of Kentucky was the first person under 30 to be elected to the Senate. He reached the required age by the time he took office. In 1793, Albert Gallatin, who won fame as Secretary of the Treasury, was elected Senator from Pennsylvania. He was barred from taking office because he had not been a citizen for nine years. In similar fashion to my question for a Representative, I question the verbage of the phrase "shall not be an inhabitant," shouldn't that read "shall be" instead?)

(4) The Vice-President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote, unless they be equally divided. (The power of the Vice-President to break a tie vote in the Senate has often been important. Did you happen to notice the speech given to a joint session of Congress by the Prime Minister of Israel on July 24, 2024 that the President of the Senate, Kamala Harris, didn't show up to fill her chair next to the Speaker of the House. It was more important for her to make a trip to Indianapolis. Guess that showed the nation her personal feeling pertaining to the nation of Israel.)

(5) The Senate shall choose their other officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the absence of the Vice-President, or when he shall exercise the office of President of the United States.

(6) The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose, they shall be on oath or affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members present. (The provision that the Chief Justice, rather than the Vice-President, shall preside over the Senate when a President is on trial probably grows out of the fact that a conviction would make the Vice-President the President. The phrase "on oath or affirmation" means that Senators are placed under oath when trying impeachment cases, just as jurors are in a regular trial.)

(7) Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under the United States: but the party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment, according to law. (Three Presidents have been impeached in the history of the nation, however, all were found not guilty.)

Organization of Congress

Section 4. (1) The times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each state by the Legislature thereof; but the congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing Senators. (Changes made in the 17th Amendment.)

(2) The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day. (20th Amendment changed the date to January 3rd.)

Section 5. (1) Each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties as each House may provide. (In judging the qualifications of its members, each House may consider only the age, citizenship, and residence requirements set forth in the Constitution. In acting on motions to expel a member, however, either House of Congress may consider other matters bearing on that member's fitness for office.)

(2) Each House may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member. (The rights of each house to make its rules has had important results. For example, the House of Representatives puts strict limits on debate, so as to speed up the transaction of necessary business. In the Senate, debate can go on as long as anyone wishes to speak, and any member may speak as long as he likes. This often delays Senate business.)

(3) Each House shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may in their judgment require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either House on any question shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal. (A member of either house can get leave to insert a speech in the Congressional Record without going to the trouble of delivering it. He can thus give the people at home the impression that he is speaking up in their interests, when he actually has not addressed Congress on any subject important to the people back home.)

(4) Neither House, during the session of Congress, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

Section 6. (1) The Senators and Representatives shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all cases, except treason, felony and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other place. (The reason for the provision that congressmen cannot be arrested was that kings had sometimes ordered the arrest of legislators who opposed their policies. Such legislators could be held on trumped-up charges until the legislative session was over. The framers of the Constitution wanted to avoid any risk that a President might do the same thing.)

The reason for the provision that a member of Congress shall not be questioned in any other place for any speech or debate in either house is that he may execute his duties without fear of a civil suit or a criminal prosecution for slander, libel, or other cause. **Immunity extends to anything said in debate, a report, or a vote. Whoa, let's look at these words just a little deeper. If this is the provision established for Senators and Representatives in the performance of their duties, what happened to the two positions over these members of Congress? Isn't the President and Vice-President over and above these members of Congress? If so, and these members of Congress have immunity over anything said in debate, a report or a vote, why wouldn't that also apply to the Vice-President and the President. If such is the case, than wasn't President Trump correct to state that he had immunity over anything said on January 6th, 2021? Also, look at the first sentence in this paragraph. How is it that the one political party can question a President over any official act? Doesn't this sentence state that any member of Congress shall not be questioned in any other place over any speech or debate in order to allow the person to execute his duties without fear of a civil suit or a criminal prosecution for slander, libel, or other cause. Hasn't Donald J. Trump already been sued twice for slander or some other trumped-up charge outside of the criminal trial that found him guilty of business dealing fraud. What happened to the equality of the law? What happened to the interpretation of this section of the Constitution? Is this what you call justice? Think about what you are reading!)**

(2) No Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no person holding any office under the United States, shall be a member of either House during his continuance in office. (These provisions keep congressmen from creating jobs to which they can later be appointed, or from raising salaries of jobs they hope to hold in the future.)

Section 7. (1) All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills. (The tradition that tax bills should start in the House was brought over from England. It now has less meaning, because the Senate can "amend" a money bill by rewriting the whole measure.)

(2) Every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it becomes a law, be presented to the President of the United States; if he approves he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such reconsideration two-thirds of that House shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of that House, it shall become a law. But in all such cases the votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each House respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the President within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law. (If the President disapproves of a bill that is sent to him near the close of a session, he will usually hold it for the full 10 days to see if Congress will not adjourn and spare him the trouble of a veto message. If Congress adjourns within 10 days, the bill is killed. This device is known as a "pocket veto.")

(3) Every order, resolution, or vote to which the concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of adjournment) shall be presented to the

President of the United States, and before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two-thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

Powers Vested in Congress

Section 8. The Congress shall have power:

(1) To lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States. (*Duties* are customs taxes on goods brought into the United States. *Excises* are taxes upon sales, use, or production, and sometimes on business procedures or privileges. For example, corporation taxes, cigarette taxes, and amusement taxes are excises. *Imposts* is a general tax term including both duties and excises.)

(2) To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

(3) To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes;

(4) To establish an uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States;

(5) To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures; (From this provision, along with the provision which allows the Congress to regulate commerce and to borrow money, Congress gets its right to charter national banks and to establish the Federal Reserve System.)

(6) To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States;

(7) To establish post offices and post roads;

(8) To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries;

(9) To constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court;

(10) To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations;

(11) To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water;

(12) To raise and support armies, but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years; (I'm at a loss in understanding the intent. Under item 12 Congress can raise and support armies, however the wording would indicate that the maximum time the nation could have an army would be two years, then you would have to raise another army. However, in the very next item (13) they have the power to provide and maintain a navy. Wouldn't that mean that the naval force of the United States is for everlasting, as long as we have a nation abiding under this Constitution?)

(13) To provide and maintain a navy; (The Epoch Times, Opinion page A16, July 17-23, 2024. The article headline reads, "All Hands on Deck: U S Navy Desperately Needs More Shipyards". The article reads, in part: The United States no longer has the capability, and the Navy estimates that there is a 20 year backlog of maintenance and repair work that has left much of our fleet undeployable. Furthermore, the article states that: A 2023 Navy report revealed that we are more than 400 months behind in building the Virginia class attack subs that will be replacing our near-end-of-life Los Angeles-class attack subs that have been so critical to maintaining our national security. From this reporting, it would seem that both, Congress and our current Commander in Chief, have failed to keep and provide for this section of our Constitution.)

(14) To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces;

(15) To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions; (Recall that these notes are what is written in the 1973 version of the World Book Encyclopedia, along with my notes and questions that seem to jump out at me because of what is going on in the day-to-day daily news of 2024? Here is the original note for item 15. The militia is separate from the army and is partly controlled by the states. Congress has given to the President the power to decide when a state of invasion or insurrection exists. Boy, there seems to be a great difference of what is written and what has been going on since 2020. President Joe Biden has not followed this

rule in any truthful manner. Since 2020, we have now had over 8 million individuals who have illegally crossed our border in full violation of our immigration laws. Governor Abbot of Texas appears to be correct in calling out the President that there was an invasion going on along our southern border. Instead of taking any action to secure our southern border, President Biden instead called the incident at the Capital Building on January 6, 2021 an insurrection against then President Trump. The only legislative body that could call or charge President Trump with insurrection was the House and they would have to work with the Senate to have an impeachment trial. That trial would have to had been officiated over by the Chief Justice. While I still do not like what happened at the Capital on January 6, 2021, I really think there was a mastermind over the whole thing and it wasn't Donald J. Trump.)

(16) To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the states respectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress. (Until 1916, the militia was really operated by the states. In that year, the National Defense Act provided for drafting the National Guard into United States service under certain circumstances.)

(17) To exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, over such district (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular States, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like authority over all places purchased by the consent of the legislature of the State in which the same shall be for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dockyards, and other needful buildings,—And (This section makes Congress the legislative body not only for the District of Columbia, but for federal property on which forts, naval bases, arsenals, and other federal works or buildings are located.)

(18) To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof. (The famous “necessary and proper” clause allows Congress to exercise many powers not granted to it in so many words. As a result, the powers of Congress change with changing times. This fact may help to explain why the Constitution of the United States has outlasted any other written constitution in the world.)

Restraints, Federal and State

Section 9. (1) The migration or importation of such persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person. (This paragraph refers to the slave trade. Dealers in slaves, as well as some slaveholders, wanted to make sure that Congress could not stop anyone from bringing African slaves into the country before the year 1808.)

(2) The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

(3) No bill of attainder or ex post facto law shall be passed.

(4) No capitation, (or other direct) tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken. (The Supreme Court once held that this clause barred the income tax. The decision was wiped out by Amendment 16, which allows Congress to levy taxes on income.)

(5) No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any State. (“Exported” means sent out to other states or to foreign countries. One of the chief reasons for calling the Constitutional Convention together was to pass this provision and thus get rid of tariff barriers between the states.)

(6) No preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one State over those of another; nor shall vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

(7) No money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time. (It would take forever to authorize every item of government expenditure separately.)

Congress generally passes appropriations for government funds in lump sums. The Office of Management and Budget accounts for funds after they are spent, and suggests how much should be appropriated for government activities.)

(8) No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no person holding any office of profit or trust under them, shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign State. (This provision has not always been enforced strictly, for fear of offending the heads of other governments. Presidents accepted gifts from foreign rulers almost from the beginning of the nation. Return gifts have also been made, although Congress could not openly appropriate funds for this purpose. Knightly orders have often been conferred by foreign rulers on high-ranking officers in the armed services of the United States.)

Section 10. (1) No State shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; pass any bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility. (There has to be an amendment to this section someplace, otherwise the nation is in violation of its own rule that requires only gold and silver as tender in payment of debts. Someplace within the writing of this document we will find by whom and when this nation was taken off the gold standard. If that isn't found, then we are all dealing with counterfeit money, even our coinage is now a sandwich of metals, we have no silver or gold coins as common coin of the realm. No such amendment was found in the preparing of this booklet.)

(2) No State shall, without the consent of the Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws; and the net produce of all duties and imposts, laid by any State on imports or exports, shall be for the use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of the Congress.

(3) No State shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops, or ships of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another State, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay. (Here's a question: In the case of engaging in war, if actually invaded, wasn't Governor Abbot of Texas correct in calling up the Texas National Guard to defend the Texas border from the invasion of hundreds of thousands of illegal aliens crossing the southern border of the United States? Did President Biden respond to Governor Abbot's request for assistance to defer and repel this invasion? You be the judge to the actions that have been taken.)

Article II

The Executive Department

Section 1. (1) The executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the Vice-President, chosen for the same term, be elected, as follows:

(2) Each State shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress but no Senator or Representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector. (Do these electors take an oath to faithfully represent the numbers of the overall popular vote?)

(3) The electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by ballot for two persons, of whom one at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a list of all the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of

electors appointed; and if there be more than one who has such majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately choose by ballot one of them for President; and if no person has a majority, then from the five highest on the list the said House shall in like manner choose the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by States, the representation from each State having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the States, and a majority of all the States shall be necessary to a choice. In every case, after the choice of the President, the person having the greatest number of votes of the electors shall be the Vice-President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal votes, the Senate shall choose from them by ballot the Vice-President. (Why is there such a difference made between the position of the President and the Vice-President? In the case of the President, it appears to be the House of Representatives, by ballot vote, who determine who will become the President. On the other hand, in the situation of the selection of Vice-President and there be an equal vote count, it is the Senate, by ballot vote, that chooses the Vice-President. Under these guidelines wouldn't it be possible that you could end up with the President being of one party and the Vice-President being of a different party. Boy! What a mess that would cause! I have another question. Where in the Constitution does it state that a person must be a citizen of the United States to vote in any election for any principal official position of the government of the United States. With the invasion across our southern border shouldn't there be such a rule of law?)

(4) The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

(5) No person except a natural-born citizen, or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.

(6) In case of the removal of the President from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve in the Vice-President, and the Congress may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation or inability, both of the President and Vice-President, declaring what officer shall then act as President, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

(7) The President shall, at stated times, receive for his services, a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

(8) Before he enter on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Section 2. (1) The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several States, when called into the actual service of the United States; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices, and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.

(2) He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law: but the Congress may by law vest the appointment of such inferior officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments. (Where is the authority for the President to make, sign and to take effect "Executive Orders"?)

(3) The President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their next session.

Section 3. He shall from time to time give to the Congress information of the state of the union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in case of disagreement between them, with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper; he shall receive Ambassadors and other public ministers; he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and shall commission all the officers of the United States.

Section 4. The President, Vice-President and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

Article III

The Judicial Department

Section 1. The judicial power of the United States, shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The judges, both of the Supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behavior, and shall, at stated times, receive for their services, a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office. (The term "good behavior" means for a lifetime. Now, President Biden wants to set term limits of 18 years of tenure for judges. If we go to that extent, why not term limits of either 12 or 18 years for Senators and Representatives?)

Section 2. (1) The judicial power shall extend to all cases, in law and equity, arising under this Constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority; to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls; to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, to controversies to which the United States shall be a party; to controversies between two or more States; [between a State and citizens of another State;] between citizens of different States; between citizens of the same State claiming lands under grants of different States, and between a State, or the citizens thereof, and foreign states, [citizens or subjects].

(2) In all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, and those in which a State shall be party, the Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction, in all the other cases before mentioned, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations as the Congress shall make.

(3) The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury; and such trial shall be held in the State where the said crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the trial shall be at such place or places as the Congress may by law have directed. (That's a good one! Where, other than Washington D.C., can you commit a crime and it not be in any State? I guess a territory or possessions if the United States would count as outside a State.)

Section 3. (1) Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

(2) The Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason, but no attainder (dishonor) of treason shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture except during the life of the person attainted (accused).

Article IV

Relation of the States to Each Other

Section 1. Full faith and credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records, and judicial proceeding of every other State. And the Congress may by general laws prescribe the manner in which such acts, records and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

Section 2. (1) The citizens of each State shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States.

(2) A person charged in any State with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another State, shall on demand of the executive authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having jurisdiction of the crime.

(3) No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due. (A "person held to service or labor" was a slave or an indentured servant. No one is now bound to servitude in the United States, so this part of the Constitution no longer has any force.)

Relation of the United States to States and Territories

Section 3. (1) New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the junction of two or more States, or parts of States, without the consent of the legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

(2) The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

Section 4. The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion; and on application of the legislature, or of the executive, when the legislature cannot be convened, against domestic violence. (It appears that this section has been completely overlooked by the current administration of President Biden. Within the last 4 years we have seen over 8 million illegal aliens cross over the border and into the United States. Without following the written rules for immigration the administration turned a blind eye to the invasion and has no idea where all these people are. We have seen an increase in drug trafficking, of sex trade activity and of general crime in many cities. Even when the Governors of our southern border states requested aid and assistance from this invasion, no action has been taken by our elected officials to resolve the problem. This has even gone down to the level of mayors in New York City, Chicago and other cities begging for assistance from the federal level. The expense of such action has greatly increased the national debt, for no apparent good reason! Why is there such a push to destroy this great nation?)

Article V

Provision for Amending the Constitution

The Congress, whenever two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several States, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all

intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; provided that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first Article; and that no State, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

Article VI

National Debts

(1) All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

Supremacy of the National Government

(2) This Constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof; and all treaties made, or shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby, anything in the constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding.

(3) The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the members of the several State legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by oath or affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.

Article VII

The ratification of the conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the same.

Done in Convention by the unanimous consent of the States present the seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven and of the independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names,

Amendments to the United States Constitution

The first 10 Amendments, which are known as “The Bill of Rights,” were proposed on Sept. 25, 1789, and have been in force since Dec. 15, 1791, Two other amendments proposed at the same time were rejected. All other amendments have been proposed separately. One amendment repealed another one.

Amendment 1

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances. (None of the rights protected in Amendment I can be considered as absolute. For example, Congress cannot prohibit the free exercise of religion, but it could pass legislation against any sect which practiced customs contrary to morality. In today’s context, we should ask, “to whose morality?” The framers of our Constitution based the principles for the Constitution within God’s Word, the Bible. Under this Amendment do we now throw out those principles and ideals? That is what is wrong now! Satan, the god of this world, has pushed the concept that tolerance must be observed, no matter what. That’s how we got to this immoral LGBTQ sexual perversion and even PRIDE month. We have forgotten God and His Ten Commandments as the focus upon which our Constitution was based. We vowed to obey a covenant with our God and He has blessed this nation, and through this nation the world as a whole. The Woke left, the Marxist, the socialist, the media and all who desire to rebel and practice immoral acts need to learn our history and find the truth. It is not in this nonsense that is going around today that is going to provide this nation with a blessing. Wake up people, you are marching to destruction by your own actions!)

Amendment 2

A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed. (I spent twenty-seven years in the uniform of this nation willing to give the ultimate sacrifice so the people of the United States would have the freedom that our Constitution provides to them. Look into our history, if those who have gone before were not willing to fight and defend our nation and our freedoms, we would not be the nation that we were. I say that in all seriousness. This nation has not walked, they have run, away from God. This nation was founded upon God’s Word and we honored our God and He blessed us for it. Turn around and observe what is going on today. There appears to be so much hatred and violence can anyone really find God any more? Read the text of 2 Chronicles 7:14 (ESV), *if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.* This nation needs to quickly, openly, and in all humility make a drastic change in their ideas and thoughts. God is not going to allow all this foolishness to go unnoticed! Please, for the sake of anything you hold as honorable, repent of your sins and change your ways!)

Amendment 3

No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law. (This Amendment grew directly out of an old grievance against the British, who had forced people to take soldiers into their homes.)

Amendment 4

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized. (This is an important guarantee of the right of privacy.)

Amendment 5

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, (Under the Uniform Code of Military Justice [UCMJ]) when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment 6

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right of a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Amendment 7

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law. (If we took the value of twenty dollars (at the time of original writing and that of today) any and all trials having a value in controversy over one-cent would require a jury trial! How do we continue to have trials over a set value when the value in question continues to inflate?)

Amendment 8

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted. (You mean that all these excessive and unusual fines, up to 3.5 million dollars, against Donald J. Trump, are somehow justified by this amendment. Even gag order fines in the thousands are also permitted. Sure sounds like biased judgement to me.)

Amendment 9

The enumeration in the Constitution , of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment 10

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

Amendment 11

The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another State, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign state. (This Amendment modifies Article III, Section 2 (1).

Amendment 12

The electors shall meet in their respective States and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same State with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice-President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice-President, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate; the President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted; the person having the greatest number of votes for President, shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed, and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by States, the representation from each State having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the States, and a majority of all the States shall be necessary to a choice. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice-President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President. The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice-President, shall be the Vice-President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed, and if no person has a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice-President, a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States. (This amendment makes changes to Article II, Section 1 (2) and (3).)

Amendment 13

Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment 14

Section 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Section 2. Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a State, or the members of the legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State. (Later changed by amendment 26 to age eighteen.)

Section 3. No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

Section 4. The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

Section 5. The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Amendment 15

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment 16

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

Amendment 17

(1) The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, elected by the people thereof for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislatures.

(2) When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the Senate, the executive authority of such State shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided, that the legislature of any State may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

(3) This Amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution.

Amendment 18

Section 1. After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

Section 2. The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Section 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

Amendment 19

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (Amendments giving women the right to vote were introduced in Congress one after another for more than 40 years before this one was finally passed. While that is a shame in its own right there remains women who are misguided in their decisions when it comes to voting and expressing their ideas. For example: Kamala Harris continues to accuse Donald Trump for masterminding the overturn of Roe vs Wade. She continues to stress to women that it is their right to have an abortion and the procedure is a medical treatment for women. Somehow, from the Vice-President on down, through the various women's groups that support the abortion cause, they all failed to read and understand two of the TEN COMMANDMENTS established by God in the book of Exodus. Commandment number 6, Exodus 20:13 (ESV), "*You shall not murder.*" Every time an unborn baby is aborted you have committed murder by taking an innocent life. God demands a

payment for the shedding of innocent blood. The second violation is the next verse, Commandment number 7, Exodus 20:14 (ESV), *"You shall not commit adultery."* You can add fornication as a portion of adultery. What this actually is, is a form of misguided birth control and it has nothing to do with a woman's health issues. If you are adamant about fornicating, go see your doctor and go on birth control pills. At least you will not be a murderer. However, even Jesus said if you violate one of these Commandments, you violated all of them. Matthew 5:17-20 (NKJV), ¹⁷ *"Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill."* ¹⁸ *For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.* ¹⁹ *Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.* ²⁰ *For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.* Mankind continues to march themselves to hell by their own decisions. Before this upcoming election stop and think, pray, repent and make a God given decision on the direction this nation is headed!)

Amendment 20

Section 1. The terms of the President and Vice-President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the third day of January; of the year in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

Section 2. The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the third day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Section 3. If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice-President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice-President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice-President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice-President shall have qualified.

Section 4. The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice-President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them.

Section 5. Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

Section 6. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission.

Amendment 21

Section 1. The Eighteenth Article of Amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

Section 2. The transportation or importation into any State, Territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited.

Section 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by conventions in the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress. (This Article simply repeals Amendment 18, Section 2 and promises federal help to “dry” states in enforcing their own prohibition laws.)

Amendment 22

Section 1. No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once. But this article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this article was proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

Section 2. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the day of its submission to the States by the Congress.

Amendment 23

Section 1. The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct: A number of electors of President and Vice-President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District would be entitled if it were a State, but in no event more than the least populous State, they shall be in addition to those appointed by the States, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice-President, to be electors and perform such duties as provided by the twelfth article of amendment.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment 24

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice-President, for electors for President or Vice-President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Amendment 25

Section 1. In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice-President shall become President.

Section 2. Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice-President, the President shall nominate a Vice-President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

Section 3. Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice-President as Acting President.

Section 4. Whenever the Vice-President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive department or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice-President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

Thereafter, when the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that no inability exist, he shall resume the powers and duties of his office unless the Vice-President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive department or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit within four days to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office. Thereupon Congress shall decide the issue, assembling within forty-eight hours for that purpose if not in session. If the Congress, within twenty-one days after receipt of the latter written declaration, or, if Congress is not in session, within twenty-one days after Congress is required to assemble, determines by two-thirds vote of both Houses that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice-President shall continue to discharge the same as Acting President; otherwise, the President shall resume the powers and duties of his office.

Amendment 26

Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (In all cases where the term "he, him or his" is used for President or Vice-President in these amendments should be gender neutral to mean he/her, etc.)

That concludes our joint view of the two most important documents of the United States of America. We have viewed the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States of America. In many cases, we have to look to other places and other documents to see the Covenant that our early forefathers established with our living and loving God. Let's extract some quotes from learned men to see what they feel is America's covenant with their God.

Christian author Dutch Sheets in his book *Giants Will Fall* said, "It's even what He based our salvation on: 'I'm coming to bring a new covenant through Jesus. The shedding of His blood ratifies this covenant.' It is a binding together that in Him is unbreakable." Sheets went on to explain that the makeup of the government was shaped by Biblical passages like Isaiah 33:22, writing, "Our nation's form of government was actually taken from scripture. 'The Lord is our Judge (Judicial Branch) . . . Lawgiver (Legislative Branch) . . . and King (Executive Branch).'"

Early English settlers also wanted their new land to share such a binding covenant with God. Christian historian Eddie Hyatt, the author of *The Great Prayer Awakening of 1857-58*, said those who came to Jamestown starting in 1607 put it in their Virginia Compact. "To propagate, to expand the Gospel to people who were 'lying in darkness and had no knowledge of the one true God.' They said

that was the reason they had come,” Hyatt stated. Hyatt went on to say that John Winthrop, leading 700 Puritans to Massachusetts in 1631, said it like this: “Others may come to the New World for wealth and furs. ‘He said, “We have another goal, another end. We have entered into an explicit covenant with God to be His people in this New World.’ And they wanted to be that city on a hill. They wanted to be a model of Christianity for the rest of the world to see.”

Jerry Newcombe, the author of *The Book That Made America*, paraphrased what the Pilgrims wrote down in 1620, saying, they wrote down: “Having undertaken a voyage for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith.”

Some of these early documents became the guidelines for the framers of our Constitution. These early covenants pledged the signers to each other and to obeying the laws they’d form with God’s guidance. As Newcombe put it, “This was something that would bind each man and each person to the whole community as an agreement under God.” God blessed this nation because of these documents and the resultant covenant. Through that covenant, the world, as a whole, has also been blessed.

There is also a dire consequence of deserting our covenant with God. First, and foremost God removes His blessing from the United States. From that point, Satan becomes the God of this world and begins his free reign of the earth. Dictators run freely to overthrow and enslave people. Axis powers join forces to build even stronger ties against the United States and our way of life. But, more than anything else, terrorist run amuck to set up newer dictatorships in the name of religion or culture. Look around at the college campuses and the rhetoric that is being screamed. It has been proven that much of the support for the financing and the leadership of those in charge of these riots (protests) are backed by Iran, the head of the terrorist snake throughout the Middle East.

Think about this! Our Constitution says our form of government is: Of the people, by the people and for the people. Therefore it is, we the people that elect our leaders to govern over us. The articles of the Constitution will prescribe an age and a number of years that our leaders must be citizens to hold an elected office. Most everyone knows that Rashida Tlaib, and other members of the squad are Moslem believing citizens elected by members of certain communities. These members, of the House of Representatives, seem to have very different ideas of what it is to be an American. Did you see the little sign Rashida Tlaib displayed at the joint session of Congress to hear Prime Minister Netanyahu’s address to the joint House? At least she had more guts to show up than Kamala Harris, the President of the Senate, or the other Moslem members of the squad. Do you fully understand that she is Anti-Semitic, she sides with the Hamas Terrorists, she is anti-Second Amendment, she supports the socialist, Marxist, Woke left, and she has been censured by the House of Representatives.

Now, I would really like for all of the young people across this nation who are protesting against Israel and the present conflict with Hamas to consider the following scenario: Iran puts pressure on the leaders of these protest riots to begin enforcing Sharia Law. Additionally, they activate their sleeper cells here in the United States. Government offices are overrun and many people in government jobs are killed. Under Sharia Law, all women are forced to wear either a full Burka or at the very least a Hijab. If you are caught outside not wearing the Hijab properly, you are subject to physical punishment or prison time. If you are LGBTQ, you will be subject to brutal beatings and even death for the simple reason that, that particular lifestyle is not tolerated in Islamic countries. In the case of gender mutilation, all young women are subject to having their genitals mutilated by the circumcision of the clitoris. Is this really what all your protesting is about? Is this really what you think this nation should be accepting as a grand way of life? You really need to get your head out of the hot debate in a college classroom and place it in a position of viewing books to learn what the truth really is. It is up to you to vote and seek what you feel is the best for yourself and the nation. Be wise, repent of your sins and ask God to lead you in the decision you make, as you vote on November 5th, 2024.



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