

## The Truth of America's Founding - Your Heritage and Mine

## A Four Lesson Seminar - Syllabus

<u>Mission Statement</u>: Demonstrating the role of God and the Bible in the establishment of the United States of America and how our American and Christian heritage is intertwined.

<u>Lesson-1</u>: The United States of America was founded on Biblical principles, an undeniable fact based on primary source documents:

- 1492 Christopher Columbus's real reason for sailing west from Spain, writings from his own diary, written in 1502.
- 1620 The Pilgrims and the Mayflower Compact, America's first government document.
- 1740-1760 The first Great Awakening and how it impacted some of our key Founders.
- 1776 The Declaration of Independence paving the way for the U.S. Constitution both of which are based on Biblical principles!
- Modern-day applications What would it look like today if the Church and State worked side-byside in politics? (Webster's 1828 Dictionary definition of "Politics.")

<u>Lesson-2</u>: Introduction to the U.S. Constitution – arguably the most successful government document in the history of the world.

- The Founders' Biblical World View and the form of government they established for us (A Constitutional Republic, not a pure Democracy!)
- The Preamble to the Constitution.
- Separation of government powers: Where the idea came from and how it separates us from every other nation in world history!
- Article I The Legislative Branch
  - 1. How Article I limits the power to the federal government
  - 2. Slavery and the Constitution. Is the Constitution a "pro slavery document?"
- Article II The Executive Branch
- Modern-day applications What would it look like today if the Church and State worked side-byside to protect life?

Lesson-3: The Constitution, Separation of Powers, and the Bill of Rights

- Article III The Judicial Branch
- The Myth of 3 "Co-Equal" Branches of Government.
- Bill of Rights (First 10 Amendments) with main focus on the First Amendment.
- A discussion of Church, State, and the REAL First Amendment.
- The Changing View of Absolute Standards and Truth When and how did the United States of America change from the Founders Biblical view of law and government to what we have today?
- Modern-day applications What would it look like today if the Church and State worked side-byside to protect liberty?

## Lesson-4: Modern-Day Applications - A Game Plan for Action

- Should Christians be involved in Civil (Earthly) Government? What does the Bible say?
- 4 Walls of Godly Jurisdiction from the scriptures.
- What should concerned citizens do? What can we do? A game plan for action!
- What would it look like today if the Church and State worked side-by-side to protect property?