



“Faith Of Our Founders”

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I. The Life & Faith Of George Washington

II. The Declaration Of Independence

It begins with God:

“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.”

It ends with God:

“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.”

III. The Revolution

What was “providential” about the evacuation from New York?

Washington in his 1st Inaugural Address:

“No people can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible hand, which conducts the affairs of men more than the people of the United States. Every step, by which they have advanced to [becoming] an independent nation, seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency.”

It’s said that the Founders were “nothing but Deists”. Does this sound like a deist?

IV. God’s Hand At The Constitutional Convention

Benjamin Franklin’s plea:

“In the beginning of the contest with Britain, when we were sensible of danger, we had daily prayers in this room for divine protection! Our prayers, sir, were heard; and they were graciously answered. All of us who were engaged in the struggle must have observed frequent instances of a superintending providence in our favor. I have lived, sir, a long time; and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth, that God governs in the affairs of men. And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without his notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid? We have been assured, sir, in the sacred writings, that except the lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. I firmly believe this...”

V. Thomas Jefferson and the ‘Separation of Church & State’

What were the Founders concerned about when it came to church & state?

What were they not concerned about?

Why did the Founders want faith – especially Christianity – taught?

“Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports...And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion.” ~ George Washington

“Without religion, this world would be something not fit to be mentioned in polite company.” ~ John Adams

VI. God’s Role In The Shaping Of The Nation’s History...And Yours (Acts 17:26-30)