

Church Constitution Faith Bible Church Online

One of the fundamental rights granted in the United States is religious freedom, but does this mean that religion should be entirely removed from politics or that all religious voices should be considered equally? The separation of church and state was established in the Constitution, but the fact that as of 2015, 84 percent of Americans hold some sort of religious belief means that this is easier said than done.

Religious morality frequently colors debates surrounding various policy issues, ranging from reproductive rights to education. This volume exposes readers to the ways in which religion inflects policymaking and the varying perspectives about religion's role in politics.

With forewords by both Joel Beeke and John MacArthur, you would be right to expect something special from this book. It is the result of decades of study and teaching. It provides a comprehensive overview of Calvinism in two sections: the "History" surveys the Reformed theologians and preachers, the development of the theology and the major controversies. The "Theology" section discusses doctrines related to the sovereignty of God, the five points of Calvinism and the distinctive contributions of Calvinism in other areas.

Using the writings of the founders and records of their conversations and activities, John Eidsmoe demonstrates the influence of Christianity on the political convictions of the founding fathers.

Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation
The Individualists in Church and State
Profit and Punishment

Independent Or Democratic Church Government

The Constitution of the Bible Presbyterian Church

In Profit and Punishment, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist exposes the tragedy of modern-day debtors prisons, and how they destroy the lives of poor Americans swept up in a system designed to penalize the most impoverished. "Intimate, raw, and utterly scathing" – Heather Ann Thompson, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of Blood in the Water "Crucial evidence that the justice system is broken and has to be fixed. Please read this book." –James Patterson, #1 New York Times bestselling author
As a columnist for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Tony Messenger has spent years in county and municipal courthouses documenting how poor Americans are convicted of minor crimes and then saddled with exorbitant fines and fees. If they are unable to pay, they are often sent to prison, where they are then charged a pay-to-stay bill, in a cycle that soon creates a mountain of debt that can take years to pay off. These insidious penalties are used to raise money for broken local and state budgets, often overseen by for-profit companies, and it is one of the central issues of the criminal justice reform movement. In the tradition of Evicted and The New Jim Crow, Messenger has written a call to arms, shining a light on a two-tiered system invisible to most Americans. He introduces readers to three single mothers caught up in this system: living in poverty in Missouri, Oklahoma, and South Carolina, whose lives are upended when minor offenses become monumental financial and personal catastrophes. As these women struggle to clear their debt and move on with their lives, readers meet the dogged civil rights advocates and lawmakers fighting by their side to create a more equitable and fair court of justice. In this remarkable feat of reporting, Tony Messenger exposes injustice that is agonizing and infuriating in its mundane cruelty, as he champions the rights and dignity of some of the most vulnerable Americans.

This book came because I wanted to be a notary public. I met the lady in charge. She asked me to raise my right hand and swear to uphold the Constitution. My answer was, "I do not know what it says." Her answer was what caused me to study more and then do much intensive studying. She said, "That is okay. We don't know it either. This is the courthouse. That is okay. We do not need to know it." But God, He made me go back to my Church office, find a copy of the United States Constitution, and study others. The Declaration of Independence, the Olivette Petition, and then our Constitution are documenting what men wrote, wanting a nation where men can serve God freely. "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable [that cannot be taken away or given away] rights." I began learning that Matthew 22:15-22 and Romans 13 had so many different meanings from other preachers. It was confusing. "That whenever any form of government becomes destructive to these ends it is the right of the people to alter [we try that at our polls] or to abolish it." We the people have the right under God and government to abolish bad government. Exercise it. You will learn the twenty-five reasons they gave for their freedom from tyranny. Today you will see that eleven of those reasons of separations are in our America today. "To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understand shall attain unto wise counsels" (Prov. 1:2, 5).

The Meridian Christian Church Leadership Manual has been prepared to as a help to the leaders of the church. In this book you will find our statement of faith, core values, mission and vision, policies and procedures approved by the elders of the church. The purpose of this manual is to give consistent guidance to our leaders as we carry out the mission of Meridian Christian Church. Generally, we give as much latitude and discretion as possible to our leaders in their respective areas of responsibility, however, there are some standards and values that we hold to as part of the Family of God. The leaders of the church are encouraged to boldly lead with creativity and passion. This document is designed to ensure that we adhere to the word of God as we minister to our church, community and world. The elders are publishing this to help our leaders and ministries as they make decisions for ministry within their own areas of responsibility. Our intention is not to "micro-manage" but to give guidance.The Leadership Manual of Meridian Christian Church is a living document. This book is a copy of the official manual. The official and updated copy will be kept at the offices of Meridian Christian Church. As a living document the elders may authorize changes to updated throughout the year (consistent with our constitution, bylaws, and the Bible). The Meridian Christian Church Leadership manual will be published and distributed to all Elders, Staff, Core Leaders, and Ministry Leaders annually at the January "All Leaders Meeting."Since this is the first year of publication we expect that there will be significant additions and improvements. If you have any questions or suggestions for improvement or changes to this document should be given to one of our elders, Senior Pastor, or Administrative Minister.

The Faith, Values, Mission, Vision, Policies, and Procedures of Meridian Christian Church

The Constitution of Congregational Churches Compared with the Institutions of Primitive Christianity, Etc

The Story of the Presbyterian Church in Cameroon

Sermon on the Right Constitution of the Church

Articles and Rules

The Faith of Our Founding Fathers

Whole church, for the sake of the world. A church informs about its faith through all that it is, says and does. This threefold way of telling determines what the recipient hears. Therefore, if a church wants to be true to its mission it must constantly ask itself two questions: What is the church's calling, and what is the message it sends? How do our churches deal with this challenge? The Church is not for its own sake, but for the world, one of the analyzed documents says. It is called to be an instrument for our loving God 's plan to heal a broken world. The basic pattern is found in the Holy Scriptures, but in every time and every cultural context the Church must seek relevant ways and forms. And why not do this in conversation and with open ears to the experiences of others, and with the courage to change, if necessary? The first part of the book is the result of such a listening. Perhaps it surprises someone that I turned to three American Catholics to listen to their experiences. Inspired by the radical message of the Second Vatican Council, they challenge their own church to a radical paradigm shift on the way of being a trustworthy church. Using the model they developed as a base, I turned to my own church, the United Church in Sweden, by asking the same question battery, and the same to an ecumenical document, The Church: Towards a Common Vision. And the result? Yet another reminder that every church that wants to be part of God's mission for the sake of the world must constantly test itself in the face of the critical questions of how it faithfully can pass on its message of joys and hope to the world.

More than the citizens of most countries, Americans are either religious or in jail--or both. But what does it mean when imprisonment and evangelization actually go hand in hand, or at least appear to? What do "faith-based" prison programs mean for the constitutional separation of church and state, particularly when prisoners who participate get special privileges? In Prison Religion, law and religion scholar Winnifred Fallers Sullivan takes up these and other important questions through a close examination of a 2005 lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of a faith-based residential rehabilitation program in an Iowa state prison. Americans United for the Separation of Church and State v. Prison Fellowship Ministries, a trial in which Sullivan served as an expert witness, centered on the constitutionality of allowing religious organizations to operate programs in state-run facilities. Using the trial as a case study, Sullivan argues that separation of church and state is no longer possible. Religious authority has shifted from institutions to individuals, making it difficult to define religion, let alone disentangle it from the state. Prison Religion casts new light on church-state law, the debate over government-funded faith-based programs, and the predicament of prisoners who have precious little choice about what kind of rehabilitation they receive, if they are offered any at all.

We live in a cynical age in which only one prejudice is tolerated--anti-Christian bigotry. Yet despite the unbridled slanders and attacks against the faith, one powerful truth is undeniable: if Christ had never been born, nearly every facet of human life would be much more miserable than it is today. Arranged topically and presenting compelling, little-known historical facts, What If Jesus Had Never Been Born? clearly demonstrates that an enormous array of benefits to humankind--from economics to art to government, science to civil liberties, morality to health, and beyond--would never have occurred had Jesus Christ not lived.

What if Jesus Had Never Been Born?

"Broadcast." (Short essays.) By the writer of "The Universal Church:" its faith, doctrine, and constitution [i.e. John Burley Waring].

Interpreting the Bible and the Constitution

The Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, the Form of Government, the Book of Discipline

The Unfinished Reformation

Whole Church

This volume offers patristic commentary edited by Gerald L. Bray on the first article of the Nicene Creed. Readers will gain insight into the history and substance of what the early church believed about God the Father.

The Role of Faith and Religion in the Life of African-Americans by Florence Ray Van Liew Crain African-Americans who are highly involved in religion have fewer family problems than those who are not involved. The youths in these families have better emotional control and greater involvement in positive, productive activities. This book is a discussion of the history of African-Americans--through hundreds of years of cruelty and brutality in slavery, war, and segregation--and the role of Christian faith and churches in helping black people survive and overcome such enormous challenges. These facts offer powerful testament to the role of faith and religion in the lives of African-Americans. Encouragement, hope, faith, and determination will help us receive what God has for us if we serve Him! Author Florence Van Liew Crain hopes and prays that those who think they cannot make it will be able to get up, brush themselves off, and move forward.

Examines the ways in which the gospel is contradicted by the American dream and challenges Christians to join in a one-year experiment in authentic discipleship that promises spiritual transformation through the word of God.

Ordination Questions

Perspectives on Our Religious Heritage

Journey in Faith

The Early Church, Its Faith and Constitution, Anterior ... to the New Testament Scriptures; a Letter to the ... Dean of Carlisle, by a Curate of the Diocese (F. F.). With the Dean's Reply

Faith-Based Reform and the Constitution

The Origin and Character of the Church of Christ, and the Gospel Ministry. Being a Complete Refutation of All Strange Notions and Sectarian Heresies on the Subject of the Church and Ministry

The church steadily weakens; the state, filling the void, steadily strengthens. Unbelief runs rampant; faith withers. The morality of the barnyard triumphs; decency and honour vanish in the mists. What lies behind the dominance of secular degradation, our cultural sickness unto death? Could it be the individualist mind-set infecting the church? In this sprightly work, the 19th century Swiss statesman Frédéric de Rougemont explores just this issue, right at the point of origin. His conclusion: revivalist movements spread individualism into the church, which went from there to society at large. In turn, this led to the radical separation of church and state and the consequent triumph of unbelief in and through the state. Rougemont's exposé leads us right to the present day. He reminds us that through the church's negligence, this miserable condition was allowed to arise. This means that that through the church's faithfulness, it can be overcome. If only she would be faithful to her calling to the nations. This book is required reading for Christians who wish to understand the imperatives of the Christian life and the task of the church in modern society.

A point-counterpoint discussion about Christianity's proper social and political relation to the United States-whether the nation is distinctly Christian, distinctly secular, essentially Christian, or partly Christian.

The Constitution of the Bible Presbyterian ChurchThe Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, the Form of Government, the Book of DisciplineThe History and Theology of Calvinism

God Betrayed

Proclaim Itself Christian : a Sermon Preached to the First Parish in Brookline, on February 25, 1872

The History and Theology of Calvinism

Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers

Dei Verbum

Christian America?

Although many refer to the American South as the "Bible Belt", the region was not always characterized by a powerful religious culture. In the seventeenth century and early eighteenth century, religion-in terms both of church membership and personal piety--was virtually absent from southern culture. The late eighteenth century and early nineteenth century, however, witnessed the astonishingly rapid rise of evangelical religion in the Upper South. Within just a few years, evangelicals had spread their beliefs and their fervor, gaining converts and building churches throughout Virginia and North Carolina and into the western regions. But what was it that made evangelicalism so attractive to a region previously uninterested in religion? Monica Najar argues that early evangelicals successfully negotiated the various challenges of the eighteenth-century landscape by creating churches that functioned as civil as well as religious bodies. The evangelical church of the late eighteenth century was the cornerstone of its community, regulating marriages, monitoring prices, arbitrating business, and settling disputes. As the era experienced substantial rifts in the relationship between church and state, the disestablishment of colonial churches paved the way for new formulations of church-state relations. The evangelical churches were well-positioned to provide guidance in uncertain times, and their multiple functions allowed them to reshape many of the central elements of authority in southern society. They assisted in reformulating the lines between the "religious" and "secular" realms, with significant consequences for both religion and the emerging nation-state. Touching on the creation of a distinctive southern culture, the position of women in the private and public arenas, family life in the Old South, the relationship between religion and slavery, and the political culture of the early republic, Najar reveals the history behind a religious heritage that remains a distinguishing mark of American society.

This document's purpose is to spell out the Church's understanding of the nature of revelation--the process whereby God communicates with human beings. It touches upon questions about Scripture, tradition, and the teaching authority of the Church. The major concern of the document is to proclaim a Catholic understanding of the Bible as the "word of God." Key elements include: Trinitarian structure, roles of apostles and bishops, and biblical reading in a historical context.

The central document of the Second Vatican Council, Lumen Gentium was promulgated by Pope Paul VI on November 21, 1964. This document is "the keystone" of the Councils whole Magisterium. It focuses on the whole Church as a communion of charity. With it, according to John Paul II, the Second Vatican Council wished to shed light on the Churchs reality: a wonderful but complex reality consisting of human and divine elements, visible and invisible.

The Original Constitution of the Christian Church. A Sermon, Etc

Lumen Gentium

Evangelizing the South

A Social History of Church and State in Early America

The Role of Religion in Public Policy

How America Criminalizes the Poor in the Name of Justice

Both the Bible and the Constitution have the status of "Great Code," but each of these important texts is controversial as well as enigmatic. They are asked to speak to situations that their authors could not have anticipated on their own. In this book, one of our greatest religious historians brings his vast knowledge of the history of biblical interpretation to bear on the question of constitutional interpretation. Jaroslav Pelikan compares the methods by which the official interpreters of the Bible and the Constitution--the Christian Church and the Supreme Court, respectively--have approached the necessity of interpreting, and reinterpreting, their important texts. In spite of obvious differences, both texts require close, word-by-word exegesis, an awareness of opinions that have gone before, and a willingness to ask new questions of old codes. Pelikan observes. He probes for answers to the question of what makes something authentically "constitutional" or "biblical," and he demonstrates how an understanding of either biblical interpretation or constitutional interpretation can illuminate the other in important ways.

God Betrayed explains: (1) the biblical principles concerning government, church, and separation of church and state which one needs to know in order to understand the First Amendment and why it was adopted; (2) the history of the theological warfare in the colonies that eventually resulted in the adoption of the Constitution and the First Amendment, many churches subjected themselves to the state; (4) how the Supreme Court has used the First Amendment religion clause to remove God from practically all civil government affairs; (5) how civil government entices many churches to abandon their Supernatural and First Amendment freedoms; and (6) how churches in America can operate totally under God and free from any control by civil government. After graduating from college in 1970 and serving as an army officer in the Viet Nam conflict, Jerald Finney worked for the railroad and then started and operated a photography studio in Fort Worth, Texas. He was saved in 1982. God called him to enter the legal profession. He entered the University of Texas School of Law in 1990, and was licensed to practice law in 1993. Since that time, the Lord has guided his career. In 2005, he became lead counsel for the Biblical Law Center. This book is the result of his in depth studies of the issue of separation of church and state, the main issue which is addressed by the Biblical Law Center.

The purpose of this booklet is to help newly elected elders and deacons of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) prepare for the offices and responsibilities to which they have been elected. This study is divided into eight sessions, covering the ordination questions. Each session includes a commentary on the question(s) and suggestions for reflection and action. Each participant should have a copy of this book, theBook of Order, theBook of Confessions, and the Bible.

The Role of Faith and Religion in the Life of African-Americans

The Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, the Form of Government, the Book of Discipline

Meridian Christian Church Leadership Manual

Taking Back Your Faith from the American Dream

Radical

The Church and Faith of Armenia

No book was more accessible or familiar to the American founders than the Bible, and no book was more frequently alluded to or quoted from in the political discourse of the age. How and for what purposes did the founding generation use the Bible? How did the Bible influence their political culture? Shedding new light on some of the most familiar rhetoric of the founding era, Daniel Dreisbach analyzes the founders' diverse use of scripture, ranging from the literary to the theological. He shows that they looked to the Bible for insights on human nature, civic virtue, political authority, and the rights and duties of citizens, as well as for political and legal models to emulate. They quoted scripture to authorize civil resistance, to invoke divine blessings for righteous nations, and to provide the language of liberty that would be appreciated by patriotic Americans. Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers broaches the perennial question of whether the American founding was, to some extent, informed by religious--specifically Christian--ideas. In the sense that the founding generation were members of a biblically literate society that placed the Bible at the center of culture and discourse, the answer to that question is clearly "yes." Ignoring the Bible's influence on the founders, Dreisbach warns, produces a distorted image of the American political experiment, and of the concept of self-government on which America is built.

Faith Or Fact

We Believe in One God

for the sake of the world

Shall the Nation, by a Change in Its Constitution

Save Yourself Some Pain

The Scriptural Constitution of Christian Churches, Being the Substance of a Discourse, Etc